

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Lee Hearn, Chairman
Edward Gibbons, Vice Chairman
Eric K. Maxwell
Charles D. Rousseau
Charles W. Oddo



FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

Steve Rapson, County Administrator
Dennis A. Davenport, County Attorney
Tameca P. Smith, County Clerk
Marlena Edwards, Chief Deputy County Clerk

140 Stonewall Avenue West
Public Meeting Room
Fayetteville, GA 30214



MINUTES

April 10, 2025
5:00 p.m.

Welcome to the meeting of your Fayette County Board of Commissioners. Your participation in County government is appreciated. All regularly scheduled Board meetings are open to the public and are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

OFFICIAL SESSION:

Call to Order

Chairman Lee Hearn called the April 10, 2025 Board of Commissioners meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. A quorum of the Board was present.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by Chairman Lee Hearn

Chairman Hearn offered the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Acceptance of Agenda

Commissioner Charles Oddo moved to accept the agenda as written. Vice Chairman Edward Gibbons seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

PROCLAMATION/RECOGNITION:

1. Proclamation to recognize April as Safe Digging Month in Fayette County.

Chairman Hearn, on behalf of the Board, presented a Safe Digging Month proclamation, recognizing April as Safe Digging Month in Fayette County encouraging citizens to call 811 before digging.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chealsea Williby of Fayetteville expressed her concern regarding the rising creek levels and stormwater runoff/drainage in her neighborhood, specifically on her property because she was positioned downstream in the area and was being negatively affected.

Mark Brelsford of Fayetteville asked for an update on the soccer facility construction.

Chairman Hearn advised both commenters to reach out the County Administrator, Steve Rapson, for guidance and information regarding their concerns.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Oddo moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Gibbons seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

- 2 Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Town of Woolsey allowing for the Fayette County Board of Elections to act as Superintendent of Elections for all elections held in Town of Woolsey in 2025.**
- 3 Approval of March 27, 2025, Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes.**

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:

- 4 Request to close McCurry Park North on November 8, 2025, from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for the TJ Thomas Jefferson Foundation 5K to raise awareness regarding Prostrate Cancer and raise funds for their foundation to continue servicing the communities of Fayette and Coweta.**

Parks and Recreation Director, Anita Godbee, advised the Board that this request was to close McCurry Park North on November 8, 2025, from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for the TJ Thomas Jefferson Foundation 5K. She noted that this was a repeat event successfully held last year and in memory of one of the founding charter members who unfortunately passed away due to complications of cancer and to raise awareness regarding Prostrate Cancer and prevention. Mrs. Godbee stated that any funds raised during the event would be utilized to offer scholarships to Fayette County High School. Mrs. Godbee outlined details of the event including the 5K course. She noted that the organization was in communication with Georgia Department of Transportation, local law enforcement, and Fire and Emergency Management Services and were aware of all the process, procedures and required fees associated with this event.

Vice Chairman Gibbons moved to approve to close McCurry Park North on November 8, 2025, from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for the TJ Thomas Jefferson Foundation 5K to raise awareness regarding Prostrate Cancer and raise funds for their foundation to continue servicing the communities of Fayette and Coweta. Commissioner Rousseau seconded.

Commissioner Oddo asked how traffic would work during this event, specifically on Highway 54.

Mrs. Godbee stated that there would be a combination of barricades, signage, and law enforcement in place for traffic mitigation. She noted that one lane on Highway 54 would be closed to road traffic.

Vice Chairman Gibbons moved to approve to close McCurry Park North on November 8, 2025, from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for the TJ Thomas Jefferson Foundation 5K to raise awareness regarding Prostrate Cancer and raise funds for their foundation to continue servicing the communities of Fayette and Coweta. Commissioner Rousseau seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

- 5. Request to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Fayetteville for a permanent easement and connection into City sanitary sewer lines for the Multi-Use Recreation Center project.**

Project Manager, Tim Symonds, stated that this item was seeking approval of an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the City of Fayetteville for a permanent easement and connection into City sanitary sewer lines for the Multi-Use Recreation Center project. He stated that the design of the sanitary sewer lines called for a connection into the City of Fayetteville sewer which serves the subdivision behind Patriot Park. Mr. Symonds stated that the IGA had already been reviewed by both agencies' legal and executed by the City of Fayetteville.

Vice Chairman Gibbons moved to approve to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Fayetteville for a permanent easement and connection into City sanitary sewer lines for the Multi-Use Recreation Center project. Commissioner Oddo seconded.

Commissioner Maxwell stated that from his recollection there was a Parks and Recreation restroom facility on a septic system at this same field. He noted that there had been an issue with that system years ago. He asked if there had been any recent problems with this restroom and if this restroom facility could also be added to this connection request.

Mrs. Godbee stated that fortunately there had not been any recent issues or concerns related to the restroom facilities' septic system. The restroom facility in question was too far away to be added to this connection, there was a closer sewer connection, if needed in the future.

Vice Chairman Gibbons moved to approve to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Fayetteville for a permanent easement and connection into City sanitary sewer lines for the Multi-Use Recreation Center project. Commissioner Oddo seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

6. Request to award Contract #2018-P, Task Order #51 to Pond & Company for a Not to Exceed (NTE) amount of \$228,907.00 for full design and engineering of Phase II Building and site plans for the Animal Shelter (R23AF).

County Administrator Steve Rapson stated that this request was seeking approval to award Contract #2018-P, Task Order #51 to Pond & Company for a Not to Exceed (NTE) amount of \$228,907.00 for full design and engineering of Phase II Building and site plans for the Animal Shelter (R23AF).

Vice Chairman Gibbons moved to award Contract #2018-P, Task Order #51 to Pond & Company for a Not to Exceed (NTE) amount of \$228,907.00 for full design and engineering of Phase II Building and site plans for the Animal Shelter (R23AF). Commissioner Oddo seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS:

- A: Contract #2468-B: Brooks Baseball Fields #1 and #3 Fencing**
- B: Contract #2491-A: FY25 Roadside Tree Pruning**
- C: Contract #2502-A: FY25 Crack Sealing Project**
- D: Contract #2504-S Starr's Mill School Tunnel CEI Services**

Mr. Rapson advised the Board that they had received notice from the Georgia Emergency Management Homeland Security Agency, stating that Fayette County had received certification for standards outlined in the Georgia Emergency Management Homeland Security federal/local disaster match policy, which qualified the County to receive specific discounts. He also stated that the Fayette County Health Facility held its grand opening/ribbon cutting this afternoon and was a huge success and well attended.

ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:

Notice of Executive Session: County Attorney Dennis Davenport stated that there were eight items for Executive Session. Seven items involving threatened litigation, and the review of the March 13, 2025 Executive Session Minutes.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Commissioner Maxwell extended his congratulations and kudos for the Fayette County Health Facility ribbon cutting and grand opening. He noted that although he did not vote for or against this project, he was happy to say it was a job well done, a beautiful building and even came in under budget. Commissioner Maxwell also stated that considering the frequency of major weather

events he urged all to take note of proper safety procedures in place to ensure everyone remains safe during an incident. He commended County staff for their efforts and acknowledged the consistency of County sirens advising pending danger. He encouraged community awareness and education so that when things happen citizens know what to do.

Commissioner Rousseau echoed Commissioner Maxwell's sentiments, thanking County staff for their efforts in maintaining equipment ensuring that the County sirens were working and ready when needed.

Commissioner Oddo noted that there was also an app available for citizens to get updates, alerts, and notices regarding weather events. He also stated that he was excited for the next phase of the Animal Shelter and felt it would be a beautiful facility.

Commissioner Oddo stated that the new Department of Health facility was a beautiful building. He stated that he was absent from the last Board meeting due to feeling ill and in an effort of not spreading germs, he stayed home but remained connected by watching the meeting via livestream.

Chairman Hearn stated that he would love to see an education initiative for citizens on how to install the weather alert app onto their phone. He stated that he appreciated the proactiveness of staff in keeping everyone informed about what was happening and where, to help keep us stay safe. He extended a thank you to all involved in these efforts.

Chairman Hearn stated that the Board had been invited to an inaugural regional assembly on June 26th at Cobb Galleria. He concluded that he had received an email from Anna Roach, Executive Director of the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) notifying the County of federal funding being directed to the County for two projects, one for \$800K for a roundabout/intersection improvement project and the second for over \$3M for a realignment project. He extended a thank you to Public Works Director Phil Mallon and his team and noted this was the reason the County was a part of the ARC; it had a huge impact on the citizens in the community.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Seven items involving threatened litigation, and the review of the March 13, 2025 Executive Session Minutes.

Commissioner Rousseau moved to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Oddo seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

The Board recessed into Executive Session at 5:26 p.m. and returned to Official Session at 5:41 p.m.

Return to Official Session: Commissioner Rousseau moved to return to Official Session. Commissioner Oddo seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Approval to Sign the Executive Session Affidavit: Commissioner Oddo moved for the Chairman to sign the Executive Session Affidavit. Vice Chairman Gibbons seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Approval of the March 13, 2025 Executive Session Minutes: Commissioner Oddo moved to approve March 13, 2025, Executive Session Minutes. Chairman Hearn seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Oddo moved to adjourn the April 10, 2025 Board of Commissioners meeting. Vice Chairman Gibbons seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

The April 10, 2025 Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, held on the 22nd day of April 2025. Attachments are available on request at the County Clerk's Office.

Marlena Edwards, Chief Deputy County Clerk