



BALDWIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

September 16, 2025

1601 N Columbia St, Suite 220

6:00 PM

MINUTES

PRESENT

Andrew Strickland, Chair
Kendrick Butts, Vice Chair
Sammy Hall
Emily Davis
Scott Little

OTHERS

Carlos Tobar
Dawn Hudson
Brandon Palmer
Bo Danuser

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Andrew Strickland called the September 16, 2025 commission meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

INVOCATION

Prophetess Jackie Ferralli of Christ Temple Refuge said a prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Butts let the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Little made a motion to approve the September 2, 2025 regular meeting minutes and the executive session minutes. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the September 2, 2025 work session minutes. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

Commissioner Davis presented a Certificate of Recognition to the Baldwin Lighting Jets Track Team for winning the Georgia Recreation and Parks Association district Championship in Track and Field. The commissioners took photos with the coach and participants.

Gregory Barnes, Executive Director of CREATE, Inc. and the ArtHealthy Festival gave a presentation to the commissioners. He stated the mission of CREATE, Inc. was to provide innovative responses to quality of life barriers by engaging youth in school and after school as well as engaging the community. He discussed art and healthy living month with the signature event being the ArtHealthy Festival. He partnering with Baldwin County to grow the art and healthy living brand. Mr. Barnes discussed entering into an agreement for non-financial contributions to support CREATE and the Art and Healthy Living Month with facilities, logistics, promotions, staff support and inter agency coordination.

There was a discussion about the County providing readily available facilities, promotion, and in-kind services. There was a discussion about the gratuities clause. There was also discussion about incorporating non-profit organizations into the recreation policy and using non-profit organizations to create resources and benefits for the community as economic development.

County Transportation Director and Management Analyst Charles Trumbo handed out information and gave a presentation and update on animal control. He reported on a \$6,000 donation; the number of Georgia College and State University volunteer "Shelter Buddies" had increased to 65 and counting; social media had been increased and helped get animals out of the shelter; there was a total of 50 animals in the shelter; the low cost or no cost spay and neutering program would help lower the number of animals in the shelter; the animal shelter was no longer on probation with the Georgia Department of Agriculture; animal stay lengths had shortened; and warnings and then citations would be issued.

Mr. Trumbo discussed a situation where two pigs that were being kept indoors as pets escaped and were attacked by wild animals; the pigs got rescued and were placed in homes. He stated the county needed an ordinance to address farm animals in residential areas and to define space requirements for housing animals.

There was a discussion about developing an animal control ordinance.

There was a discussion about answering calls and dispatching employees on the weekend and calling the Sheriff's Office for emergencies.

Desiree Liggins addressed the commission regarding animal control asking about submitting grants for T-N-R local cats. Mr. Trumbo responded that TNR had been proven to do well and an agreement with Paws for Georgia could help with that. Grants would be pursued.

Ms. Liggins asked who was keeping track of ordinance violations with pet owners and spaying and neutering and who was educating the public about the requirement to spay and neuter their pets. Mr. Trumbo responded by discussing the county citing violators and the steps being taken to educate the public on the animal ordinance, including using the newspaper, social media, and Instagram.

There was a discussion about the county communicating with the public to get information out.

Mr. Trumbo closed his presentation by stating the shelter was trending up, they had great staff, and were moving forward.

ADMINISTRATIVE/FISCAL MATTERS

IGA to Conduct City Elections

Commission Chairman Strickland read the caption for Resolution R-2025-73 to authorize an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Milledgeville and the Board of Elections and Registration for Baldwin County to conduct the municipal election in conjunction with county wide elections.

County Attorney Brandon Palmer discussed the details of the agreement including that the city would pay for their portion of conducting the election. The agreement largely reflected the agreement Mr. Blackwell would enter into with the city and would include that the city would pay for all costs and expenses attributable to the municipal election and fifty percent for the cost for the state-wide election for public service commissioner.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner David seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Naloxone Policies and Procedures

Chairman Strickland read the caption for Resolution R-2025-74 to adopt policies and procedures for Narcan (naloxone) administration protocols and to appoint a Naloxone coordinator.

Attorney Palmer discussed recent changes in the state law requiring counties to adopt policies for the treatment of opioid overdose on county property; the policy would address deploying treatments, employee training, and appointing fire and rescue chief of operations as the coordinator.

There was a discussion about the government center being included in the policy, Narcan cost, training, administering Narcan, and shelf life of Narcan.

There was a discussion about there being no liability for the county or staff when Narcan was administered in good faith.

Commissioner Little made a motion to adopt the Policies and Procedures for Narcan Administration Protocols. Commissioner Butts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

CJCC Victims of Crime Grant

Chairman Strickland read the caption for Resolution R-2025-75 that authorized acceptance of a CJCC Community Based Crime Act Grant awarded to the Georgia Professional Outreach and Resources Center for Healing.

Assistant County Manager Dawn Hudson stated the county had received a grant for the Victims Program through Georgia PORCH, that the county had received this grant for years, and based on the previous years was estimated at \$81,000; there was no match.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the adoption of the policies and procedures. Commissioner Little seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Little asked for an update on Col. Seagraves' request to inscribe the names of the African-American war veterans on the war monuments outside the courthouse. Mr. Tobar indicated that he would follow up.

Commissioner Davis asked if staff was checking the temporary striping on Lake Laurel Road to ensure it followed the Department of Transportation's specs. Carlos Tobar responded that he had referred it to Brian Wood who was checking with the contractor. He also stated that the road striping would begin the next day.

Commissioner Davis asked for an update on renaming streets. There was a brief discussion and Mr. Tobar was asked to follow up.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manager Carlos Tobar gave his Manager's Report updating the commissioners on:

- The SCADA system bid opening on October 2,
- Sewer line replacement on Vinson Highway pre-construction meeting was November 4,
- \$1.25 million grant for sewer line replacement and housing rehab kickoff would be November 4,
- Fishing Creek Trail construction began last Monday; concrete pouring concrete would begin soon for the first part of the trail,
- The Roberts Road Bridge repair was funded at \$465,000 by the Department of Transportation and the design would be going out to bid,
- Walter B. Williams Park trail phase 2 was complete and a ribbon cutting ceremony would be scheduled,
- Coopers Park Splashpad passed inspection for the pouring the concrete,
- The fifth home had been chosen for the 2024 CHIP Grant,
- 2026 CHIP grant was being worked on,
- A meeting to discuss the district-based land use was set for Wednesday,

Commissioner Butts asked for an update on the Aquatic Center. Mr. Tobar responded that the Water park slide should arrive next week.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Harriett Taylor addressed the commission regarding a water line burst in the front of her house in January. The repairs were made but the ditch had washed away; county employees looked at the problem but did not fix her yard and ditch adequately. She asked for her ditch and yard to be fixed.

There was discussion about the repairs that had been made. Mr. Tobar stated a team had been sent out three times; he would review and follow up with the commissioners.

Danny Register addressed the commission about the work that had been in the Coopers Community, he stated they did not ask for the improvements; the park was a disaster. He complained that people left trash carts on the curb, the carts were getting hit by cars; the cars were getting damaged and causing trash to be on the street.

There was a discussion about the hours trash cans could remain on the curb, bagging loose trash, and getting that information to the public.

Desiree Liggins addressed the commissioners concerning the neglect of Sidney Butts Road and here concerns about the lack of quality resurfacing work; she asked for quality assurance. She discussed animal control and calling 911 to report problems. She discussed data centers coming to Baldwin County.

There was a discussion about the triple surface treatment on Sidney Butts Road and that it would take time to settle down.

There was a discussion about the repaving of Lake Laurel.

Danny Blair addressed the commissioners discussing the poor quality of the mowing on Meriwether Road and that the litter was not being picked up prior to cutting the right of way. He stated the he has seen better work and suggested getting a trash patrol. He stated the entrance at the new Raceway had not been completed.

County Manager Carlos Tobar responded that the littering was non-stop and not all of the litter was run over by the mowers; people threw trash out even while they workers were mowing. There was a discussion about litter being picked up before the mowers, contracting for a prison crew to pick up litter and having probationers pick up litter.

Maurice Liggins addressed the commissioners regarding data centers being built around the Middle Georgia area and cautioned against letting data centers go into unwanted areas.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Davis made a motion to enter into a executive session to discuss acquisition of real estate, personnel, and litigation. Commissioner Little seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The commissioners went into closed session at 7:48 PM.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to adjourn the executive session. Commissioner Little seconded the motion and the executive session was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

The commissioners returned to the commission chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Little made a motion to adjourn the September 16, 2025 commission meeting at 9:17 PM. Commissioner Butts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

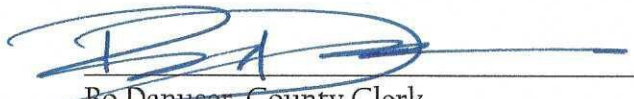
The September 16, 2025 commission meeting was adjourned at 9:17 PM.

Submitted



Andrew Strickland, Chairman
Baldwin County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:



Bo Danuser, County Clerk
Baldwin County, Georgia