



**BALDWIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

April 21, 2026
1601 N Columbia St, Suite 220
6:00 PM

MINUTES

PRESENT

Kendrick B. Butts, Chairman
Andrew Little
Sammy Hall
Emily C. Davis

OTHERS

Carlos Tobar
Bo Danuser

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Butts called the April 21, 2026 Baldwin County Board of Commissioners meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

INVOCATION

Prophetess Ramona Franklin said the prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Hall led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Hall made a motion to adopt the March 17, 2026 regular meeting minutes and executive session minutes and the March 18, 2026 joint meeting with the Board of Tax Assessors meeting minutes. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion and the minutes were approved as official.

PRESENTATIONS

Commissioner Davis read a Certificate of Recognition to the coaches and team members of the Oak Hill Middle School Girls Basketball Team for winning the 2025 CRSA League

Championship. The Commissioners joined the coaches and team members at the podium for photos.

Chief Phillip Adams presented a Life Safety Award to the firefighters and paramedics who responded to a call in December of 2025 where they were dispatched to an unresponsive patient who went into cardiac arrest. The rapid response and treatment by the firefighters and paramedics made the difference in a life or death situation. Chief Adams reported that the patient was doing well today; the training, rapid response, and teamwork made the difference. The Commissioners joined Chief Adams, the firefighters and the paramedics at the podium for photos.

Latonya Howell gave a Women's History Month presentation. She opened her presentation with a poem about women and shared the history of how Women's History Week came into existence. She shared the stories of women making history, including Molly Williams who fought fires, and Gail Register who was the first female fire fighter at the Milledgeville Fire Department, and the story of first responder Heather Nations. Ms. Howell spoke of Ramond De La Roach who became the first female to get a pilot's license and of local pilot Makeria Murray who at the age of 14 became a pilot. She stated that Ms. Murray would be graduating Baldwin High School in May this year. The Commissioners went to the podium for pictures with Ms. Murray.

Joy Moten-Thomas shared information about April being Minority Health Care Month sponsored by the Department of Health and Human Services. She gave figures about minority health and that the figures should be improving but were not, Baldwin County fell at 112 of 159 counties for overall health outcomes driven by chronic disease and preventable diseases. Ms. Moten-Thomas listed leading diseases disproportionately found in people of color. She discussed the challenges in obtaining health care, child birth, the hospital's role in providing minority health care, and the cost of providing indigent care. Ms. Moten-Thomas shared programs available at Navicent Health Baldwin that were available to change the data around, including Lunch and Learn Program, Walk with a Doc and EMS providing care at events at no cost to the community. Ms. Moten-Thomas thanked the Commissioners.

Commissioner Strickland stated that Atrium had made tremendous strides in Baldwin County and that programs and equipment had been added. He informed his fellow commissioners that Atrium was one of the few places that carried whole blood in cases of emergency. He commended Atrium and thanked Ms. Moten-Thomas for her hard work.

Code Enforcement Officer Lisa Marks gave a presentation. She gave information about efforts put into demolishing over 300 structures and getting derelict properties cleaned up. She stated that they were now taking property owners to court stating the department was moving forward and 8 property owners had been sighted. She stated that no fines had been collected because their goal was to clean up the property, not to make money. Commissioner Hall confirmed that the goal was not to be unreasonable and thanked Ms. Marks for her effort.

County Manager Carlos Tobar presented Code Enforcement Officer Lisa Marks with her Level I Certificate.

ADMINISTRATIVE/FISCAL MATTERS

Knight Foundation Grant

Grant Manager Haly Hicks addressed the Commissioners explaining the Knight Cities Challenge Grant through the Knight Foundation stating she was pursuing a \$100,000 no match grant to complete the Harrisburg Community Center. The Grant would focus on places bringing people together.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to authorize the Knight Foundation grant application. Commissioner Strickland seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hall stated that there was no match, but did they have to front the money. Mr. Tobar responded that the county would get the money upfront.

There was a discussion about the Knight Foundation Grant and the work being done in the Harrisburg Community.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Butts asked if there would still be swimming lessons provided at the aquatic center. County Manager Tobar replied that swimming lessons were being coordinated through the Baldwin County School district Monday through Thursday in June K – 8th grade.

There was a discussion about extending swimming lessons to middle school and high school aged students because that age were more likely go swimming at the river and had as greater a chance of drowning than younger children who were more likely to be supervised.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

COUNTY MANAGERS REPORT

County Manager Carlos Tobar gave his Manager's Report. He gave updates on:

- One Georgia Grant for the Sibley Place was coming in May; the project had been delayed
- Rural Workforce Housing Initiative for 2.2 million, the developer would pay for the grant administration fees, this would not cost any cash out of the county pockets, the

developer would have a third-party inspector, this would be funded by the One Georgia Authority. This was an infrastructure grant.

Mr. Tobar introduced speakers:

Dr. Damian Francis addressed the commission stating the GHIC committee was in support of this initiative and the residents would be provided affordable housing and would be well benefited. He asked the Commissioners to support the affordable housing initiative.

County Manager Tobar stated that this was an 18-acre parcel located at 179 Frazier Drive, he also stated that a lot of county investment had gone into replacing the sewer line in the area. Mr. Tobar discussed the grants.

Mr. Hall questioned the contractor having a third-party inspector, and didn't think it was a good idea and would not be in favor of accepting that offer.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Danny Register addressed the Commissioners inviting them and the whole community to the Coopers Spring Festival on May 1st. He thanked those participating and announced there would be a free health fair.

Dr. Damian Francis addressed the Commissioners sharing information about the Mobile Health Unit it was a 40 foot screening clinic. He stated the Mobile Health Unit was making a difference in the community and asked anyone interested to invite them to their organization's functions. The services provided primary care, a pharmacy, and women's health. The unit enabled connections to care.

Desiree Liggins addressed the Commissioners thanking Commissioner Davis for her service. Ms. Liggins addressed the Commissioners regarding the excessive vape shops, liquor stores, the Commissioner bringing in jobs and houses. Ms. Liggins discussed the Central State Hospital exhibit at the Harriet Tubman Museum and asked what the Commissioners were going to do to make a memorial for the people that were left there and never came out. She stated that they were still waiting for the audit.

Chairman Butts stated they should have it next week.

Maurice Liggins addressed the Commissioners reading an email from County Manager regarding the surfacing on Sidney Butts Road being under warranty. He asked the Commissioners to follow up. Mr. Liggins discussed the Frazier Woods project stating the project was advertised with preferences for housing. He stated the project was presented under false pretenses.

Chairman Butts asked for an update on Sidney Butts Road. Mr. Tobar responded that both Sidney Butts and Covey Road needed work and that the streets were under warranty; Mr. Tobar stated he would follow up on the time frame of the warranty. Commissioner Davis stated that


they needed to check the other roads while they were under warranty to make sure they were not falling apart too.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hall made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

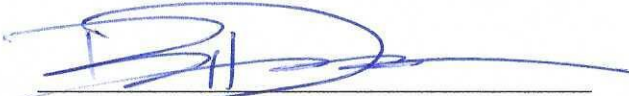
The April 21, 2026 Baldwin County Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 7:13 PM.

Submitted,



Kendrick B. Butts, Chairman
Baldwin County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:



Bo Danuser, County Clerk
Baldwin County, Georgia

