



BALDWIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

February 3, 2026

1601 N Columbia St, Suite 220

6:00 PM

MINUTES

PRESENT

Kendrick Butts, Chairman
Scott Little
Andrew Strickland
Sammy Hall
Emily Davis

OTHERS

Carlos Tobar
Brandon Palmer
Dana Lleras
Bo Danuser

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Butts called the February 3, 2026 Baldwin County Board of Commissioners meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

INVOCATION

Deacon Mike Hightower said a prayer and there was a moment of silence for Baldwin County Citizen Billy Hargrove who was recognized by the Commission for celebrating his 100th birthday and for University of Georgia Professor Stephen Ramos.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Elijah Langham led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Langham is a member of the Baldwin High School Football Team.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approval of January 20, 2026 regular meeting minutes, work session minutes and executive session minutes. Commissioner Strickland seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

Beverly Lundy Hill, founder of Lineage Preservation Foundation, had the goal of researching and preserving black history. Ms. Lundy Hill highlighted moments in Georgia and Baldwin County history regaling the story of the “Original 33” who in 1865 were emancipated and as a result of the 14th amendment were elected as representative and senators in the state legislature. Georgia Wallace was the first black senator and Peter O’Neil, William Harrison and Eli Barnes were representatives for Baldwin and Hancock Counties. A bill was passed to expel the Original 33 and some of the 33 lost their lives due to violence; the 14th amendment was upheld and the black elected officials were reinstated in 1870. The Jim Crow laws prevented black officials from being elected until 1962.

Ms. Lundy Hill shared that a monument would be placed inside the state capitol to honor these 33 men along with 33 banners that would hang in the rotunda of the capitol.

ADMINISTRATIVE/FISCAL MATTERS

Employee Handbook

Chairman Butts read the caption for Resolution R-2026-09 approving the revised employee handbook.

The resolution was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION R 2026-09

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE RULES AND REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO EMPLOYEES OF THE BALDWIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS KNOWN AS THE BALDWIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Baldwin County (the “County”) is a duly formed political subdivision of the State of Georgia;

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners (“Board of Commissioners”) has determined that various amendments to the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners Employee Handbook are desirable and necessary to enhance the operations of Baldwin County and the Baldwin County civil service system; and

WHEREAS, said amendments are further required to ensure compliance with all applicable local, state, and federal laws.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County, Georgia, and it is hereby resolved by authority of the same, as follows:

1. **Incorporation of Recitals.** The above stated recitals are true and correct and are incorporated as though fully set forth herein.

2. **Adoption of Amended Handbook.** The Board of Commissioners hereby adopt the amended Baldwin County Board of Commissioners Employee Handbook attached hereto as Exhibit "A".
3. **Severability.** In case any one or more of the provisions of this resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this resolution, but this resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had not been contained herein.
4. **Repeal of Conflicting Resolutions.** Any and all resolutions in conflict with this resolution this day passed be and they are hereby repealed.
5. **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

SO RESOLVED, this 3rd day of February, 2026.

BALDWIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Kendrick Butts
Chairman

Emily C. Davis
Commissioner

Sammy Hall
Commissioner

ATTEST:

Bo Danuser
Baldwin County Clerk

Andrew Strickland
Commissioner

Scott Little
Commissioner

DATE ADOPTED _____ [SEAL]

County Manager Carlos Tobar stated the amendments had been included and was ready for a vote.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to adopt the Employee Handbook. Commissioner Strickland seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Parks and Recreation

Chairman Butts read the caption for Resolution R-2026-10 adopting the revisions to the Parks and Recreation Policies and Procedures.

The resolution was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION 2026-10

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE RULES AND REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO THE BALDWIN COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION KNOWN AS THE BALDWIN COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Baldwin County (the "County") is a duly formed political subdivision of the State of Georgia;

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners ("Board of Commissioners") has determined that various amendments to the Baldwin County Parks and Recreation Policies and Procedures are desirable and necessary to enhance the operations of Baldwin County and the Recreation Department; and

WHEREAS, said amendments are further required to ensure compliance with all applicable local, state, and federal laws.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County, Georgia, and it is hereby resolved by authority of the same, as follows:

1. Incorporation of Recitals. The above stated recitals are true and correct and are incorporated as though fully set forth herein.
2. Adoption of Amended Parks and Recreation Policies and Procedures. The Board of Commissioners hereby adopt the amended Baldwin County Parks and Recreation Policies and Procedures attached hereto as Exhibit "A".
3. Severability. In case any one or more of the provisions of this resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this resolution, but this resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had not been contained herein.
4. Repeal of Conflicting Resolutions. Any and all resolutions in conflict with this resolution this day passed be and they are hereby repealed.
5. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

SO RESOLVED, this 3rd day of February, 2026.

BALDWIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Kendrick Butts
Chairman

Emily C. Davis
Commissioner

Sammy Hall
Commissioner

Andrew Strickland
Commissioner

Scott Little
Commissioner

ATTEST:

[SEAL]

Bo Danuser, County Clerk

Baldwin County, Georgia

DATE ADOPTED _____

County Manager Carlos Tobar stated that after discussions, this was the final version and ready for their vote.

Barry Havior addressed the commissioners regarding the Recreation Policy. Mr. Havior stated that he wanted to know what was really going on and to make sure there was nothing going on against track. Chairman Butts asked the County Manager to email Mr. Havior a copy of the policy.

Commissioner Little made a motion to approve the Recreation Policy. Commissioner Strickland seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

VOCA - Solicitor General

Chairman Butts read the caption for Resolution R-2026-11 accepting a Victims of Crime Assistance Grant for the Solicitor General.

The resolution was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION R-2026-11

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AN APPLICATION BE SUBMITTED TO THE VICTIMS OF CRIME ACTS ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR CONTINUED FUNDING FOR THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY SOLICITOR GENERAL; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners desire to continue to receive funding from the Victims of Crime Acts Assistance Grant ("Grant") for the Prosecuting Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the Grant provides funding of \$90,104 for the period October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the CJCC Sub Grant Number is AW-VOCA-25-071-12 and the Federal Grant Number is 15POVC-25-GG-00295-ASSI.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County, Georgia, and it hereby resolved by authority of the same, as follows:

- 1. Incorporation of Recitals.** The above stated recitals are true and correct and are incorporated as though fully set forth herein.
- 2. Authorization of Grant Application.** The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the preparation and submission of an Application for the Victims of Crime Acts Assistance Grant.

3. **Authorization of Chairman.** The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners to sign any documentation or take any other action necessary or reasonably required to carry out, give effect to, and consummate the application and administration of the Grant and to take all action necessary in conformity therewith.
4. **Severability.** In case any one or more of the provisions of this Resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Resolution, but this Resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had not been contained herein.
5. **Repeal of Conflicting Resolutions.** Any and all resolutions in conflict with this Resolution this day passed be and they are hereby repealed.
6. **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

SO RESOLVED, this 3rd day of February, 2026.

BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA

Honorable Kendrick Butts, Chairman
Baldwin County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

(SEAL)

Bo Danuser
Baldwin County Clerk

Mr. Tobar discussed the grant line items stating the general fund was subsidizing the Solicitor's Office budget by \$31,428. He stated that our Solicitor's office was the only one in this judicial circuit with a Victims Assistance Program. He suggested that the commissioners accept this grant because it dated back to October 2025 but then consider discontinuing.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to accept the grant. Commissioner Little seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

VOCA - District Attorney

Chairman Butts read the caption for Resolution R-2026-12 accepting the Victims of Crime Assistance Grant for the District Attorney.

The resolution was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION R-2025-12

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AN APPLICATION BE SUBMITTED TO THE VICTIMS OF CRIME ACTS ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR CONTINUED FUNDING FOR THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners desire to continue to receive funding from the Victims of Crime Acts Assistance Grant ("Grant") for the Prosecuting Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the Grant provides funding of \$170,340 for the period October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the CJCC Sub Grant Number is AW-VOCA-25-071-12 and the Federal Grant Number is 15POVC-25-GG-00295-ASSI.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County, Georgia, and it hereby resolved by authority of the same, as follows:

1. **Incorporation of Recitals.** The above stated recitals are true and correct and are incorporated as though fully set forth herein.
2. **Authorization of Grant Application.** The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the preparation and submission of an Application for the Victims of Crime Acts Assistance Grant.
3. **Authorization of Chairman.** The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners to sign any documentation or take any other action necessary or reasonably required to carry out, give effect to, and consummate the application and administration of the Grant and to take all action necessary in conformity therewith.
4. **Severability.** In case any one or more of the provisions of this Resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Resolution, but this Resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had not been contained herein.
5. **Repeal of Conflicting Resolutions.** Any and all resolutions in conflict with this Resolution this day passed be and they are hereby repealed.
6. **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

SO RESOLVED, this 3rd day of February, 2026.

BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA

Honorable Kendrick Butts, Chairman
Baldwin County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Bo Danuser
Baldwin County Clerk

Mr. Tobar stated that in this Judicial Circuit all counties had District Attorney Victims Assistance Program and fines are assessed in District Court. He recommended the commission approve the grant.

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

Sheriff's Office Training Center

Chairman Butts read the caption for Resolution R-2026-13 authorizing the purchase of 14.514 acres in Land Lot 238 in the first Land District in the 319th GMD for use as a training facility for the Baldwin County Sheriff's Office.

The resolution was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION R-2026-13

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE PROPERTY; AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF DOCUMENTS REQUIRED IN CONNECTION THEREWITH; AUTHORIZE THE TAKING OF ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO THE CONSUMMATION OF THE AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE PROPERTY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Baldwin County (the "County") is a duly formed political subdivision of the State of Georgia;

WHEREAS, Baldwin County is authorized by the laws of the State of Georgia to purchase, acquire, and hold real property for the benefit of Baldwin County and its citizens and to enter into contracts with respect thereto;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County, Georgia ("the Board of Commissioners") has determined that a true and real need exists for the acquisition of real property on which a training center can be built for the Baldwin County Sheriff's Office;

WHEREAS, the County's employees, agents, or both, have identified real property appropriate, sufficient, and necessary, to which a training center for the Baldwin County Sheriff's Office can be built;

WHEREAS, for purposes of this Resolution, the particular property that the County has determined is necessary to acquire is all that certain lot or parcel of land containing 14.514 acres, more or less, situate, lying, and being in Land Lot 238, 1st Land District, 319th G.M. District, Baldwin County Georgia, being more fully described or depicted in the Purchase and Sale Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit 1 (the "Property");

WHEREAS, good-faith negotiations with the Property's owner, the Development Authority of the City of Milledgeville and Baldwin County, has resulted in the drafting of the Purchase and Sale Agreement ("Agreement to Purchase Property") reflected in Exhibit 1.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has determined that the execution and entering into the Agreement to Purchase Property and subsequent purchase of the Property is in the best interest of the citizens of the County;

WHEREAS, the County, by and through its Board of Commissioners, hereby adopts the following Resolution and the attached Agreement to Purchase Property in the exercise of

its sound judgment and discretion after giving thorough consideration to all the implications involved and keeping in mind the public interest and welfare of the citizens of the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County, Georgia, and it is hereby resolved by authority of the same, as follows:

1. **Incorporation of Recitals.** The above stated recitals are true and correct and are incorporated as though fully set forth herein.
2. **Acceptance of Agreement to Purchase Property.** The County hereby approves the Agreement to Purchase Property attached hereto as Exhibit "1."
3. **Authorization to Pursue Purchase of the Property.** The County Manager, County Attorney, employees, agents, or a combination thereof, are hereby authorized and specifically directed to continue in good faith the diligent pursuit of purchasing the Property by the Agreement to Purchase Property reflected in Exhibit "1".
4. **Authorization of the Chairman and County Manager.** The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chairman or County Manager to sign, execute, and deliver the Agreement to Sell Property reflected in Exhibit "1."
5. **Other Actions Authorized.** The Chairman, County Attorney, and County Manager shall be authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient and to execute and/or attest and seal any additional documents which may be necessary or convenient to effectuate this Resolution or the transactions contemplated by this Resolution.
6. **Actions Ratified, Approved and Confirmed.** The signatures in the Agreement to Purchase Property from the Chairman or County Manager for the Board of Commissioners evidences the adoption by the Governing Body of this Resolution.
7. **Severability.** In case any one or more of the provisions of this resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this resolution, but this resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had not been contained herein.
8. **Repeal of Conflicting Resolutions.** Any and all resolutions in conflict with this resolution this day passed be and they are hereby repealed.
9. **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

SO RESOLVED, this 3rd day of February, 2026.

BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA

Honorable Kendrick Butts, Chairman
Baldwin County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Bo Danuser, County Clerk
Baldwin County, Georgia

County Manager Tobar stated the Development Authority owned 426 acres in the industrial park. There were 14.15 acres that was being recommended to purchase for the Sheriff's Office

training center. There was a discussion about the location, it that was a purchase not a land swap.

Cindy Humphrey questioned why the county was buying this land when the county owned property across from the store that they had already cleared. Commissioner Hall clarified that the Development Authority owned the referenced property and they cleared it. He also stated that this parcel is where the old gun range was. County Attorney Palmer explained the processes for purchasing the property from the Development Authority.

Desiree Liggins addressed the commission asking where the money to purchase the property was coming from, she understood it was coming from SPLOST and also understood that SPLOST and TSPLOST spending was frozen. Chairman Butts responded that the purchase was coming from SPLOST and that this was discussed before the freeze.

Ms. Liggins expressed her concern for the cost to purchase and maintain the property.

Commissioner Little made a motion to approve the resolution to purchase the property from the Development Authority. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Right of Entry Agreement

Chairman Butts read the caption for Resolution R-2026-14 authorizing the extension of the Right of Entry Agreement with the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia on behalf of Georgia College and State University leasing communications equipment space on the county owned tower on Highway 49.

The resolution was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION R-2026-14

A Resolution to Authorize the extension of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia on behalf of Georgia College to authorize the First Amendment to Reinstate the Agreement that Allows Access to a Telecommunications Tower on Highway 49 until July 31, 2026

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioner owns a certain real property in Baldwin County in State Highway 49 described as is described in a Right to Entry Agreement entered into with the Board of Regent of the University System on the 15th day of October, 2024; and

WHEREAS, both parties of the Right of Entry Agreement desire to extend the terms of the aforementioned agreement until July 31, 2026 through a Intergovernmental Agreement identified as a Reinstatement of and First Amendment to Right of Entry Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned Reinstatement of and First Amendment to the Right of Entry Agreement is hereby attached and by reference duly incorporated and made a part of this resolution as "Exhibit I"; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners, and it is hereby resolved by the authority of the same, that:

1. **Incorporation of Recitals.** The above stated recitals are true and correct and are incorporated as though fully set forth herein.
2. **Authorization of Agreement.** The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an agreement with the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia to extend the terms of Right of Entry Agreement.
3. **Authorization of Chairman.** The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners to sign any documentation or take any other action necessary reasonably required to carry out, give effect to, and consummate this agreement and to take all action necessary in conformity therewith.
4. **Severability.** In case any one or more of the provisions of this Resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Resolution, but this Resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had not been contained herein.
5. **Repeal of Conflicting Resolutions.** Any and all resolutions in conflict with this Resolution this day passed be and they are hereby repealed.
6. **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

SO RESOLVED, this 3rd day of February, 2026.

BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA

Kendrick Butts, Chairman
Baldwin County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Bo Danuser, County Clerk
Baldwin County, Georgia

Mr. Tobar stated this was a county owned tower on GCSU property, and that this agreement gave Motorola the ability to maintain the equipment and it ran through the end of July; GCSU was working on longer term intergovernmental agreement.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve the agreement. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Performance Review

Chairman Butts read the caption for Resolution R-2026-15 acknowledging the 2025 performance review and committing to corrective action.

The resolution was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION R-2026-15
A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE 2025 PERFORMANCE
REVIEW AND COMMITTING TO CORRECTIVE ACTION

WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Revenue conducted a Performance Review of the Baldwin County Board of Tax Assessors pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 48-5-295.1; and

WHEREAS, the Performance Review identified administrative, technical, and procedural deficiencies impacting assessment uniformity, compliance, and public confidence; and

WHEREAS, the review provides specific recommendations intended to restore lawful, fair, and uniform property assessments; and

WHEREAS, Baldwin County recognizes the importance of timely corrective action to protect taxpayers, county revenues, and state funding eligibility;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Baldwin County formally acknowledges the findings of the 2025 Performance Review; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Baldwin County commits to implementing corrective actions addressing training, appraisal procedures, governance practices, technology utilization, and specialized assessment administration; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that progress toward compliance shall be documented and monitored, with updates provided to the appropriate governing authority; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution affirms Baldwin County's commitment to fairness, transparency, and lawful administration of property taxation.

SO RESOLVED this 3rd day of February, 2026.

BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA

Kendrick Butts, Chairman
Baldwin County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Bo Danuser, County Clerk
Baldwin County, Georgia

Commissioner Hall made a motion to table the resolution. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.

Commissioner Strickland stated he was not ready to approve the resolution, he agreed with it, but there was a lot more to discuss and figure out; he wanted to do a lot more on this,

The motion passed unanimously.

Golf Course Construction Contract

Chairman Butts stated the agenda item was to accept bid for golf course construction and authorize County Attorney to prepare a contract.

Mr. Tobar stated the county received two bids with the low bidder being Kirkpatrick's Turf for \$1,550,320. The recommendation was to accept the low bid.

Mattias Newmann addressed the commission stating he wanted to address the commission on the performance review that was tabled. He stated that he asked for the performance review to be made public and he thanked the commission for making it public. He stated that he attended the Tax Assessor meetings and suggested Mr. Tobar and Ms. Settle attend the meeting. Mr. Newmann wanted to focus on the July 15th due date for the tax digest.

Desiree Liggins addressed the commissioners stating that she was not for the expenditure and asked how this would improve roads, clean up yards, empty lots and dilapidated building. She asked how it would help with feral cats or anything currently standing or needs attention in the county. She hoped that the commissioners would not vote on this and did not understand how they could spend money on a golf course when they couldn't provide affordable housing for the people in Baldwin County.

Maurice Liggins addressed the commissioners asking who would monitor the contractor and if the county had contacted any other agencies that would use the golf course to inquire if they would contribute to maintenance.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve the bid. Commissioner Strickland seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Davis reported that she had receive complaints from restaurant owners that the solid waste companies were not closing the gates around their dumpsters and the restaurants were losing points on their health department reports. Mr. Tobar responded that he would contact the solid waste companies.

Chairman Butts and Commissioner Davis asked for an update on the mud running in the driveways on Lake Laurel road as a result of the work done.

Commissioner Davis reported something in Mr. Snow's area. Commissioner Strickland stated that he emailed the County Manager. Mr. Tobar responded that the sheriff's office controlled that and they had been notified. Commissioner Davis asked Mr. Tobar to follow up.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Little asked for an update on the solid waste bid stating that any service that bid and maybe won it that wasn't Waste Management might need time to prepare to take over solid

waste management in the county. Mr. Tobar responded that he would work on putting out to bid by the middle of next week.

Commissioner Davis announced February 7th was National Black HIV and AIDS Day.

Commissioner Davis recognized AARP President, Ms. Barbara Jackson Vann was attending the meeting.

Commissioner Strickland asked for consensus on putting an RFP out to offer something on county owned property on Linda Drive. Commissioners Davis and Butts stated they were against it. There was a discussion about getting proposals for the use of that parcel including a proposal for a transfer station. Commissioner Davis asked that an RFP be put out for the land at the old landfill; Commissioner Butts concurred.

Commissioner Strickland made a motion to authorize a request for proposal to use the county owned parcel on Linda Drive as a transfer station.

Commissioners Strickland, Hall, and Little voted aye. Commissioners Butts and Davis voted no.

The motion carried.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to authorize and request for proposal to put a transfer station on the old landfill on Union Churchill Road. Chairman Butts seconded the motion and commissioners Hall, Butts, Davis and Little voted aye. Commissioner Strickland voted no. The motion carried.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Water Director Jason Kidd gave a report on the recent freezing storm stating the county fared well, but the tanks were lower because people were dripping faucets. He reported that there were fire hydrants opened to flush lines to maintain water quality.

There was a discussion about the county's water capacity, distribution, and storage.

Commissioner Davis asked about the City's water line breaks. He responded that there were breaks in the city's system on Central State Hospital Grounds and Bertram Forest.

The commissioners commended the efforts of Jason Kidd and his team for how hard they worked and thanked him for his report.

County Manager Tobar gave his report updating the commissioners on:

- Water park
- Collins P. Lee Community Center, the design was at 80% and were being reviewed by the Twin Lakes Library Board;
- Community Garden on Linda Drive was ongoing by the UGA Extension and 4H

- Galvanized water line inventory was continuing
- Villamar Lift Station repair bid package was being prepared
- SCADA was on hold
- Smith-Sibley Smith extension was waiting on environmental
- CDBG sewer line construction was underway
- Sewer line demolition was underway and Habitat for Humanity would begin construction on new homes this winter.
- 2026 grant target area had been selected and budget prepared, two homes had been assessed
- Road resurfacing punch list items was being worked on and there were triple surface treated roads needed repairs
- The road entrance into Sibley-Smith was being completed and would be ready for a contractor
- Oconee Heights Streetscape environmental work was being done and expected to be completed next month
- Roberts Road Bridge pylons were being driven this week
- Airport expansion environmental should be complete any day
- The golf course improvements were going well
- The metal building should be installed at the Harrisburg Community Center in the next few weeks
- The 2026 Rural Housing Initiative site visit took place last Thursday
- He was waiting to find out if the Congressionally Directed spending request was kept in the budget
- District Base Land Base codes needed to be finished and a decision on zoning needed to be made
- Code enforcement court dates were April 8th.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Tina Bene addressed the commissioner stating she felt the board was not transparent. She stated that communication was vital and felt getting the meeting streamed helped with transparency; she thanked Commissioner Butts for advocating for streaming the meetings. She discussed using social media during the meetings to get good and bad feedback in real time.

Susie Harper Marshall, President of NAACP Redress, addressed the commissioners reading from and email making derogatory remarks by county staff in reference to the length of last year's Black History Month presentation. She stated the NAACP was well knowledged in Baldwin County.

Cynthia W. Edward, President of NAACP, addressed the commissioners regarding the comments made by county staff in the previously referenced. She stated this was a terrible way to start Black History Month; Milledgeville and Baldwin County had worked hard for unity and the community worked together to bridge a gap and show how we are better together. She stated that 45 minutes of supposed torture did not compare to 400 years of oppression, in 2026 there were people who were trying to silence and erase black history; everyone that spoke and presented should be treated equally and have equal time and not erased. Ms. Edward asked that

NAACP meet with the County to clarify the comments made about black history and why it would be torture to listen to.

Desiree Liggins addressed the commissioners commenting that Dawn Hudson was on administrative leave when the County Manager was still there; she listed what she thought was the County Manager's shortfalls. She asked what the county was doing for the TNR program and when where they going to start addressing the concerns of Baldwin County. She discussed the properties the county owned. She encouraged the constituents of district 3, 4, and 5 to get out and vote if they were not happy with the direction the county was going.

Chairman Butts asked that comments be addressed to the Chairman and not to individual commissioners or staff.

Barry Havior addressed the commissioner requesting 2026 transportation for the track team. He requested that the track team banners he purchased be rehung in the gym. Chairman Butts asked Mr. Tobar to research and report back so that he could respond to Mr. Havior.

Maurice Liggins addressed the commission asking Chairman Butts to provide him with the process for writing checks. He stated that Mr. Havior should not have to beg for transportation. Mr. Liggins compared the bathrooms and the recreation department to third world conditions. Mr. Liggins addressed comments made about the Black History Month presentation being torture; history couldn't be taken away.

Chairman Butts made comments about celebrating history stating he wanted everyone to have a chance to share their heritage; it was not torture to hear someone's story and how they became a part of America.

Commissioner Little referenced the email stating it was his understanding the it was the length of the presentation that was torture, not the subject matter or the color of anyone's skin. Commissioner Davis responded that they never had such lengthy meetings until 2025 and once something is emailed or texted it was public record.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Davis made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel and litigation matters. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously.

The commissioners move into executive session at 7:19 PM.

Commissioner Strickland made a motion to adjourn the executive session and to return to open session. Commissioner Little seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The commissioners returned to open session at 8:30 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Strickland made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Little seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The February 3, 2026 regular Baldwin County Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Submitted,

Kendrick B. Butts

Kendrick Butts, Chairman
Baldwin County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Bo Danuser

Bo Danuser, County Clerk
Baldwin County, Georgia

