



BALDWIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

April 1, 2025

1601 N Columbia St, Suite 220

6:00 PM

MINUTES

PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Carlos Tobar
Dawn Hudson
Brandon Palmer
Bo Danuser

CALL TO ORDER

Baldwin County Board of Commissioners Chairman Andrew Strickland called the April 1, 2025 regular commission meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

INVOCATION

Mr. Johnny Sanders of Flipper Chapel AME Church said a prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS

Certificate Recognition

No one was present for the Baldwin High School Braves and Bravettes Certificates of Recognition at the beginning of the meeting but would later be present to receive the certificates.

Proclamation

Chairman Strickland read the proclamation declaring the Month of April 2025 as Donate Life Month.

The proclamation was presented as follows:

PROCLAMATION

Baldwin County Board of Commissioners

WHEREAS, fact is often tragic, and the tragic fact is that men, women and children in America face the crippling uncertainty of good health and even life when they are betrayed by their own bodies as organs fail; and

WHEREAS, through decades of dedicated research, healthcare professionals have made organ, eye, and tissue donation a very real way for one person to continue their legacy on this Earth and to greatly enhance the life of others through an unparalleled act of generosity; and

WHEREAS, LifeLink of Georgia is this community's lifesaving doorway maximizing the gift of life with a vision dedicated to the recovery of organs and tissue that gives hope to patients and their families; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to highlight the valiant mission of LifeLink of Georgia and encourage each and every citizen in Baldwin County, in Georgia and in these United States, to acknowledge a precious gift they have and to consider giving that gift when they no longer need it.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Andrew Strickland, as Chairman of the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the Month of April, 2025 as

Donate Life Month

in Baldwin County, Georgia to exalt the deeds of those individuals brave enough to donate life with organ, eye, and tissue donations.

Signed and sealed this first day of April, 2025.

S/ _____

Andrew Strickland, Chairman

Baldwin County Board of Commissioners

Women's History Month

Latonya Howell was not present for the Women's History Month presentation at the beginning of the meeting but would later be present to give the presentation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Butts made a motion to adopt the March 18, 2025 regular commission and executive session minutes. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to adopt the March 24, 2025 called commission meeting and executive session minutes. Commissioner Butts seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE/FISCAL MATTERS

Resolution R-2025-29

Chairman Strickland read the caption of the resolution stating this was a resolution to authorize a mutual termination agreement with C & A Aviation, LLC for termination of the Operator's Agreement at the Baldwin County Airport.

The resolution was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-29

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE MUTUAL TERMINATION AGREEMENT WITH C & AVIATION, LLC FOR TERMINATION OF THE OPERATOR'S AGREEMENT DATED MAY 16, 2017 AS AMENDED

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners (County) and the C & A Aviation, LLC (Operator) now wish to terminate the Operator's Agreement, along with all amendments, for services related to the operation of the Baldwin County Regional Airport; and

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 the Mutual Termination of Agreement. The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Mutual Termination Agreement with C & A Aviation, LCC for services related to the operation of the Baldwin County Regional Airport dated May 16, 2017.
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 termination of the Baldwin County Regional Airport Operator's Agreement.
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 1ST day of April, 2025.

BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA

Honorable Andrew Strickland, Chairman
Baldwin County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Bo Danuser, County Clerk
Baldwin County Georgia

County Manager Carlos Tobar stated the old agreement was hard to follow and the new agreement had schedules and exhibits that would make amending the agreement easier; there was also a need to include more services, including mowing.

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

Resolution R-2025-30

Chairman Strickland read the resolution caption stating this resolution authorized an agreement with Wright Brother, Inc. to furnish and install a new VFR HVAC system in the Baldwin County Sheriff's Office Administration Building.

The resolution was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-30

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AN AGREEMENT WITH WRIGHT BROTHERS, INC.
TO FURNISH AND INSTALL A NEW VFR HVAC SYSTEM IN THE BALDWIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners have been informed of the dire need to replace the HVAC system in the Baldwin County Sheriff's Office administration building; and

WHEREAS, competitive bids were solicited with Wright Brothers, Inc. proposal deemed to have a superior design and high cooling capacity with their recommendation of a new Variable Refrigerant Flow HVAC system; and

WHEREAS, On March 18, 2025, during a commission meeting duly assembled and advertised, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners approved the acceptance of the bid proposal submitted by Wright Brothers, Inc. and authorized an agreement be prepared with Wright Brothers, Inc. to replace the current HVAC system in the law enforcement administrative offices, and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned agreement is hereby attached and by reference duly incorporated and made a part of this resolution.

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 Agreement. The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an agreement with Wright Brothers, Inc to replace the air handling system in the law enforcement administrative offices.
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 with Wright Brothers, Inc. 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 1st day of April, 2025.

BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA

Honorable Andrew Strickland, Chairman
Baldwin County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Bo Danuser, County Clerk
Baldwin County Georgia

County Manager Tobar stated the commissioners approved awarding the contract with Wright Brothers at the last meeting and the county attorney prepared the agreement.

Commissioner Little made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion.

Commissioner Butts asked for the time frame. County Manger Tobar responded that they had 45 to 60 days.

Chairman Strickland called for the vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Works Resurfacing Projects

Chairman Strickland stated this was to accept a bid from Pittman Construction Company for public works resurfacing projects.

Maurice Liggins addressed the commissioners asking for a list and order of the streets being repaved. Mr. Tobar responded they would know that after the pre-construction meeting.

There was a discussion about the roads being repaved; the order they would be done; publishing the roads and order to the public; the company was GDOT certified; and the beginning date would be around May 1st.

Commissioner Little made a motion to accept the bid from Pittman Construction Company to resurface streets throughout Baldwin County. Commissioner Butts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Little commended Commissioners Davis, Strickland, Hall and Butts for finding a solution for the track team transportation.

Commissioner Butts asked County Manager Tobar for an update on a water flow problem at the end of Mammie Hall Manson's driveway. Mr. Tobar responded that he made the request.

Commissioner Butts alerted Mr. Tobar that the dirt at 105 Forest Hill that had been packed on the side of the roadway was being washed away and he was concerned that the road might be damaged.

Commissioner Strickland stated that the Baldwin County Board of Education was very helpful with the track team transportation.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Little discussed complaints he had gotten regarding solid waste and asked the Commission to start exploring the county's options.

There was a discussion about improving the customer service of Waste Management.

Participants for the Certificates of Recognition entered the meeting.

Commissioner Davis read the Certificates of Recognition for Baldwin Bravettes and the Baldwin Braves into the minutes as follows:

Certificate of Recognition
Baldwin County Board of Commissioners
Presented to

Baldwin Bravettes

In recognition of the Baldwin High School Bravettes being the 2025 Georgia High School Association AAA Basketball State Runner Ups.

S/ _____
Emily C. Davis, Baldwin County
Board of Commissioners

Certificate of Recognition
Baldwin County Board of Commissioners
Presented to

Baldwin Braves

In recognition of the Baldwin High School Braves competing in the Georgia High School Associations AAA Elite 8 Tournament.

S/ _____
Emily C. Davis, Baldwin County
Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Davis presented the Certificates of Recognition to Baldwin High School Coach Kizzy Walker and Assistant Coach Cain.

The Commissioners went to the podium as Commissioner Davis presented the certificates.

Latonya Howell came into the meeting and was recognized to give a presentation for Women's History Month. Ms. Howell shared information about several women who made a mark on history including Mother Matilda Beasley who ran a secret school in Savannah for enslaved and free black children, opened an orphanage for African American orphans and founded the first community of African American nuns in Georgia; Susan King Taylor who escaped slavery and at 14 years of age became the first black teacher to openly educate African Americans in Georgia, she served as a nurse and laundress for the 33rd US Colored Infantry Regiment, she moved to Boston and worked for the Women's Release Corp becoming president, she published her memoirs and was the only African American woman who published experiences of the Civil War.

Ms. Howell also presented information about local women including Susan Myrick who attended and then taught physical education at the local Milledgeville College which became known as Georgia College and State University and she was a technical advisor for *Gone With the Wind*; Julia Flish who was an advocate for women's rights, education and independence, she encouraged southern women step out of stereotypes, she worked to establish an industrial college for women in Baldwin County known as Georgia Normal and Industrial College which became GCSU, She was awarded a degree from UGA and served as the Dean of Women and professor of history at the Junior College of Augusta; and Dixie Haywood who perfected her vaudeville magic act and traveled the world as Annie Abbott.

NEW BUSINESS - Continued

Commissioner Butts asked about the closing of the recreation department gym. He stated that he didn't know about it being and asked that the board be notified when county facilities were closed. Mr. Tobar stated the gym was not closed, it just closed early to ensure everyone's safety and that there was now a law enforcement presence at the gym.

There was a discussion about closing the gym early, comments that were attributed to the County Manager, coexisting at the park, and notifying the commissioners when police were called to any county facility.

There was a discussion about the incident at the gym where law enforcement was called, the incident happened in the parking lot, not the gym; closing county facilities because of a fight between two individuals; being proactive; having a deputy presence and the gym; and if there would be a law enforcement presence at all athletic facilities.

There was a discussion about a gun being involved in the incident and Georgia being a right to carry state.

Col. Scott Deason, deputy with the Sheriff's Department, addressed the commission regarding deputies being in the parking lot; expressing his concerns with traffic, high speed, loud music, narcotics and the potential for fighting. Col. Deason discussed the Sheriff's Office plans for having a presence at the recreation department - hoping Deputy presence would be a deterrence, the park needed to be a safe place.

There was a discussion about having a Deputy presence at the recreation department and law enforcement using grace, gun carrying laws, and being proactive in providing safety on county property.

Commissioner Butts asked that the commissioners be made aware whenever a county facility was closed and why it was closed.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manager Carlos Tobar gave his Manager's Report where he discussed selecting a company to design the library at the Collins P. Lee Center; the pickle ball courts should be completed by May 31st; the county did not receive the 2024 HUD PRO Housing grant, the big cities got the grants, he would resubmit to Sen. Ossoff's Office for congressionally directed spending.

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

James Hicks addressed the commission regarding closing the gym at the recreation department including the outside traffic was not the kids using the gym; renting the gym was expensive.

Eric Morgan addressed the commission regarding closing the gym and being told to go to other parks. People in the parking lot started the commotion not those in the gym.

Ulysses Foston addressed commission regarding Greater Flipper Chapel Church on Wolverine Street. Mr. Foston complimented the Sheriff's Department on helping them when they had church activities.

Larry Charleston addressed to commission stating he was the Chairman of the Trustee Committee (Greater Flipper Chapel Church). He discussed a problem with motorist not stopping at the stop sign, he asked the commissioners to take action to slow motorist, requested pedestrian and speed limit signs be installed, and a sidewalk be built to make the areas safer.

Clarence Hall addressed the commission regarding closing of the gym asking the commission to not play the race card and not to care about one side of town more than the other side of town; and if they were not going to be equal, be fair. He requested the project on Green Street be finished. He thanked Commissioners Butts and Davis for all they did.

Barney Young addressed the commission expressing concern about getting information from the Human Resources department. He stated that he asked for information and was told to email; that was not acceptable. He requested his W-2.

Barry Havior stated that all the sports needed to be supported with law enforcement. He expressed his concern about not being supported by the recreation department and the Director. Commissioner Little asked for a Point of Order because individual employees should not be disparaged. Mr. Havior asked for better support from the recreation department. He praised Commissioner Davis for contacting him every day and thanked the commissioners for getting him a bus and driver.

Maurice Liggins addressed the commission regarding improving communication and everyone should know when closing facilities. He also stated now was the time get procedures in place to prevent future incidents so everyone feels confident that this organization can run the county efficiently. Mr. Liggins announced that the 4-H camp spots had been filled.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Davis made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel and litigation. Commissioner Little seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioners went into closed session at 7:25 PM.

Commissioner Little made a motion to adjourn the executive session. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The commissioners returned to open session at 8:25 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Little made a motion to adjourn the April 1, 2025 commission meeting. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrew Strickland", written over a horizontal line.

Andrew Strickland, Chairman
Baldwin County Board of Commissioners

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bo Danuser", written over a horizontal line.

Bo Danuser, County Clerk
Baldwin County