DAWSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
VOTING SESSION MINUTES – THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025
DAWSON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER ASSEMBLY ROOM
25 JUSTICE WAY, DAWSONVILLE, GEORGIA 30534
FOLLOWING THE 5:00 PM WORK SESSION BUT BEGINNING
NO EARLIER THAN 6:00 PM

Motion passed 3-0 to come out of Executive Session at 6 p.m. Stowers/Bruce

ROLL CALL: Those present were Chairman Billy Thurmond; Commissioner Seth Stowers, District 1; Commissioner Alexa Bruce, District 3; Commissioner Chad Turkett, District 4; County Manager Joey Leverette; County Attorney Angela Davis; County Clerk Kristen Cloud; and interested citizens of Dawson County. District 2 Commissioner Chris Gaines was not present.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chairman Thurmond

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Motion passed 3-0 to approve the Minutes of the Work Session held on October 2, 2025. Stowers/Bruce

Motion passed 3-0 to approve the Minutes of the Voting Session held on October 2, 2025. Bruce/Stowers

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
Motion passed 3-0 to approve the agenda as presented. Stowers/Bruce

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Amanda Yenerall, Dawsonville, Georgia, said she is one of the part-time Magistrate judges in Dawson County. "The reason that I'm here today speaking is because I understand there is a proposal, some discussion, about cutting our salaries based on opinion as to on-call work hours." She argued against cases justifying the change. Yenerall also listed the demands of the job, including the items she has to have with her all weekend (laptop, router, cell phone, etc.), being unable to take nighttime medications that cause drowsiness, travel restrictions and other restrictions, etc. "We are very restricted on the weekend," she said. "We have to act a certain way in public. We have to present ourselves a certain way. It's a fulltime weekend job." Yenerall added, "I would just ask that the board at this point at least just pause any consideration of this decision and further vet and do due diligence on the issue."

ALCOHOL LICENSE:

New Alcohol License (Consumption on Premises of Beer, Wine and Distilled Spirits) – Applebee's Mid-Atlantic LLC doing business as Applebee's No. 99035 at 31 Bethel Drive, Dawsonville, GA 30534.

Dawson County Alcohol Licensing Administrator Kathryn Massey presented an alcohol license application for Applebee's No. 99035.

Motion passed 3-0 to approve a New Alcohol License (Consumption on Premises of Beer, Wine and Distilled Spirits) – Applebee's Mid-Atlantic LLC doing business as Applebee's No. 99035 at 31 Bethel Drive, Dawsonville, GA 30534. Stowers/Bruce

PUBLIC HEARING:

Possible Extension of a Moratorium on the Acceptance of Residential Rezoning Applications (1st of 1 hearing)

Chairman Thurmond opened the hearing by asking if there was anyone present who wished to be heard on a Possible Extension of a Moratorium on the Acceptance of Residential Rezoning Applications and, hearing none, closed the hearing.

Motion passed 3-1 to lift a Moratorium on the Acceptance of Residential Rezoning Applications. Stowers/Turkett- Commissioner Bruce opposed the motion

ZONING:

ZA 25-06 - Jonathan White on behalf of Brown Haven Homes has submitted a request to the proper authorities seeking a Land Use Amendment to zone 2.5 acres of property from RA (Residential Agriculture) to RS (Residential Suburban). This property is located at 57 Harry Sosebee Road, Dawsonville, GA 30534 (Parcel: 107011).

Chairman Thurmond announced that if anyone contributed more than $250 to the commissioners or chairman in the past two years and wished to speak, they would have to fill out a disclosure form, which would be made available to them. Under the normal program, 10 minutes is given to those who wish to speak in favor of or opposition to with some redirect, time permitting.

Community Development Director Richard Osborne said the property is at the corner of Harry Sosebee Road and Blacks Mill Road. "There's an existing house on the property," said Osborne, adding that the request involves "a basic proposal to rezone so that the property can be subdivided to create a new, vacant lot where a new proposed house would be built." Osborne said the zoning request is consistent with the future land use map and character area map of the comprehensive plan. He said the Planning Commission recommended approval of the application.

Nick Pesola of Davis Engineering & Surveying, representing the applicant, said, "As far as the land use goes, we're meeting the current comp plan and, in any case, the RA zoning only allows for 5-acre minimums so I think, even if there wasn't another parcel to be subdivided here, the property should be RS."

Chairman Thurmond opened the hearing by asking if there was anyone present who wished to speak either for or against the application and, hearing none, closed the hearing.

Motion passed 3-0 to approve ZA 25-06. Stowers/Bruce

NEW BUSINESS:

Consideration of Resolution Concerning COLAs and Supplements for Elected Officials

Motion passed 3-0 to table a Resolution Concerning COLAs and Supplements for Elected Officials until November 6, 2025. Bruce/Stowers

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

APPROVE:

Billy Thurmond, Chairman

ATTEST:

Kristen Cloud, County Clerk