REGULAR MEETING

September 21, 2026
10:00 AM

Albany-Dougherty Government Center
222 Pine Ave, Room 100, Albany, GA 31701

AGENDA

The public will also have access to the live meeting by accessing the Dougherty County Georgia Government Facebook page at facebook.com/Dougherty.ga.us or viewing the public government access channel (Channel 16).

1. Call the meeting to order by Vice Chairman Ed Newsome.

2. Roll Call.

3. Invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Minutes.

    a. Consider for action the Minutes of the August 31st Regular Meeting, August 31st Work Session, and August 31st Special Called Meeting. **ACTION:**

6. Delegations *(The Commission will hear comments on those items pertaining to Dougherty County for which a public hearing has not been held or scheduled. Please be brief, to the point, and considerate of time for others).*

    a. Kelly Wesselman, NAMI Walk Coordinator, is present to update the Commission on the upcoming event.

7. Zoning Public Hearing. ***(Those wishing to speak for or against this item should sign the Sign Up sheet located on the table in the rear of the Chamber).***

    a. Johnthan Yates (on behalf of Diamond Communications), applicant and Gillionville Forest Baptist Church, owner (26-056) request to rezone approximately 0.23 acres from R-1 (Single-Family Residential District) to C-3c (Commercial District, Conditional). The rezoning would allow for the construction of a telecommunications (cell) tower. The property is at 4614 Gillionville Road. The Planning Commission recommends approval. Angel Gray, Deputy Planning Director will address.

b. Johnthan Yates (on behalf of Diamond Communications), applicant and Gillionville Forest Baptist Church, owner (26-057) request Special Approval to permit a telecommunications (cell) tower. The property is at 4614 Gillionville Road. The Planning Commission recommends approval. Angel Gray, Deputy Planning Director will address.

8. Purchases.

a. Recommendation to purchase furniture for the Westtown Library from the State Contract Vendor Advent Business Interiors (Leesburg, Ga) in the amount of $156,890.49. Funding will be provided by State grants, SPLOST V, SPLOST VII, and SPLOST VIII funds. The Board of Commissioners approved funding for the purchase of the furniture in the December 15, 2025 Regular Meeting. **ACTION:**

b. Recommendation to accept two alternates for the Westtown Library Renovation in the amount of $55,836. To reduce the funding overage, the alternates were subtracted from the contractor's original bid. The final cost quoted for furniture will provide a cost savings to allow the desired work to be completed. Funding will be provided by State grants, SPLOST V, SPLOST VII, and SPLOST VIII funds. The Board of Commissioners approved funding for the renovation in the December 15, 2025 Regular Meeting. **ACTION:**

c. Recommendation to purchase six (6) new 2026 Ford Police Interceptor SUVs ($46,425 each) for a combined price of $278,550, and one new (1) 2026 Ford Police Interceptor Admin/Investigation SUV for $46,556 for a total expenditure of $325,106 from State Contract Vendor Wade Ford (Smyrna, GA) for the Dougherty County Police Department. Funding will be provided by SPLOST VIII. **ACTION:**

d. Recommendation to utilize Legion Public Safety (Temple, GA) to outfit six (6) new 2026 Ford Police Interceptors (SUVs) and one (1) new 2026 Ford Police Interceptor Admin Unit (SUV) for the Dougherty County Police Department in the amount of $131,926.05. Funding will be provided by SPLOST VIII. **ACTION:**

e. Consider for action the Resolution providing for the acceptance and execution of the contract for the Health Department HVAC from the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, SafeAire Heating and Cooling (Albany, GA) in the amount of $194,417, subject to execution by the County Administrator for Facilities Management. Funding will be provided by SPLOST VII. **ACTION:**

f. Consider for action the recommendation from Solid Waste to upgrade the GPS Equipment at the Landfill from single source vendor, SITECH South, (Smyrna, GA) in the amount of $100,896.50. Funding will be provided by Solid Waste Machinery Capital. **ACTION:**

g. Consider for action the recommendation from Solid Waste to accept the quote from Yancey (Albany, GA) to rebuild the existing Caterpillar 730 Articulated Offroad Dump Truck in the amount of $350,545.94. A rebuild offers significant savings compared to purchasing a new Articulated Offroad Dump Truck. Funding will be provided by the Solid Waste Machinery Capital Fund. **ACTION:**

9. Additional Business.

a. Consider for action the recommendation to accept the Resolution authorizing the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission to execute and file the renewal of the annual application on behalf of Dougherty County with the Georgia Department of Transportation and the United States Department of Transportation for a grant for public transportation assistance under Section 5311 Regional Transit Program. **ACTION:**

b. Consider for action the acceptance of the Resolution declaring a 2024 Ford Explorer (from Dougherty County Police) and a 2015 Dodge Charger (from SIU) as surplus and authorize the sale through Charles Taylor TPA. **ACTION:**

c. Consider for action the recommendation to approve the revised FY 2027 Contract between the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia on behalf of the UGA Cooperative Extension Service and Dougherty County Board of Commissioners. The Commission approved the original contract in the May 18, 2026 Regular Meeting. The contract is being revised to allow the 3% COLA to apply to the County portion of the pay for Extension employees that the Board approved for the fiscal year. **ACTION:**

d. Consider for action the Zoning Consideration of Johnthan Yates (on behalf of Diamond Communications), applicant and Gillionville Forest Baptist Church, owner (26-056) request to rezone approximately 0.23 acres from R-1 (Single-Family Residential District) to C-3c (Commercial District, Conditional). The rezoning would allow for the construction of a telecommunications (cell) tower. The property is at 4614 Gillionville Road. The Planning Commission recommends approval. **ACTION:**

e. Consider for action the Zoning Consideration of Johnthan Yates (on behalf of Diamond Communications), applicant and Gillionville Forest Baptist Church, owner (26-057) request Special Approval to permit a telecommunications (cell) tower. The property is at 4614 Gillionville Road. The Planning Commission recommends approval. **ACTION:**

f. Consider for action the recommendation from Planning Director Paul Forgey for the Albany-Dougherty Zoning Ordinance Title III, Sections 4.04(D) and (E) be amended to allow the time period to be consistent for all applicants after denial of a previous application. There is a conflict in the Ordinance regarding the timeframe between a zoning denial and reapplication. The Zoning Ordinance requires that the governing body direct the Planning Commission to consider any amendments and to make a recommendation back to the governing body. If the recommendation is supported, the County Commission will need to direct the Planning Commission to develop a draft Ordinance for review and adoption. **ACTION:**

10. Updates from the Assistant County Administrator.

a. **REMINDER** - There will be a Government Affairs Committee Meeting following the Regular Meeting in Room 120.

11. Updates from the County Attorney.

12. Updates from the County Commission.

13. Consider for action the recommendation from the County Attorney to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation and then to adjourn. **ACTION:**

Dougherty County's Vision Statement

Dougherty County will be a committed leader in sustaining a high quality of life by partnering with citizens, businesses, and other government agencies to make this a community of choice for living, working, and leisure activities.

Dougherty County's Mission Statement

To improve the quality of life for all our citizens by being accessible and good stewards of our resources while delivering cost-effective, responsive, services with integrity, fairness, and friendliness.

Individuals with disabilities who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the facilities are required to contact the ADA Coordinator at 229-431-2121 promptly to allow the County to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.