Effingham County Georgia
Board of Commissioners

Damon M. Rahn, Chairman at Large
Forrest F. Floyd, District 1
Roger Burdette, District 2
Jamie Deloach, District 3
Elizabeth Helmly, District 4
Phil Kieffer, District 5

WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 18, 2026

The Board of Commissioners of Effingham County, Georgia, Mr. Damon Rahn, Mr. Forrest Floyd, Mr. Roger Burdette, Mr. Jamie Deloach, Ms. Elizabeth Helmly and Mr. Phil Kieffer, met in work session 4:00pm on Tuesday, August 18, 2026 in the Commissioners Meeting Chambers at the Effingham County Administrative Complex located at 804 South Laurel Street Springfield, Georgia 31329.

STAFF PARTICIPATION

Mr. Tim Callanan – County Manager, Mr. Edward Newberry – County Attorney, Ms. Tasheena Shiggs – Deputy County Clerk, Ms. Marie Todd – Executive Assistant, Ms. Pamela Melser – Director of Development Services, and Mr. Jack Burgin Jr. – Sr. System Administrator.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Josh Yeager.

I - CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rahn called the session to order at 4:11pm

II- WORK SESSION TOPICS

TO REVIEW AND DISCUSS A PRELIMINARY LIST OF FY 2027 SPLOST FUNDED ROADWAY RESURFACING AND PAVING PROJECTS (1):

County Engineer Jonathan Hulme presented an overview of the preliminary FY 2027 SPLOST-funded roadway resurfacing and paving package, utilizing a simplified Pavement Condition Index (PCI) map to categorize county roads from "Very Good" (dark green) to "Poor" (bright red). Supported by an $8.5 million resurfacing budget alongside LMIG and local funding, the plan outlines critical infrastructure priorities across multiple districts. In District 1, maintenance focuses on Midland Road via fog seal or micro-leveling. District 2 involves evaluations for Kolic-Helmey Road, Lowground Road, Helmey Drive, Little McCall Road, Webb Road, Highland Point Drive, Forrest Heights, and several neighborhood streets, with project timing coordinated around the completion of the Effingham Parkway. Additionally, right-of-way acquisition for the Highway 30 and Kolic-Helmey intersection project is down to one remaining parcel, with plans to issue a bid request next month. District 3 targets the completion of the remaining long corridor stretch connecting Springfield and

Tusculum, while District 5 continues allocating major arterial funding toward the four-lane divided median expansion on Augusta Road.

To navigate current asphalt market inflation, which has increased costs by approximately 33 percent, County Engineer Hulme recommended strategically timing the bid package release for January or early spring rather than late fall. To improve contractor accountability, County Engineer Hulme suggested introducing contract provisions requiring a one-month advance notification before resurfacing begins, backed by liquidated damages for non-compliance. Staff noted that broader funding initiatives have proven effective, with 39 percent of the county's paved road network successfully resurfaced since the passage of T-SPLOST.

The presentation concluded with updates on key intergovernmental and regional projects. Addressing an unpaved 60-foot gap at the Old Dixie Highway and Highway 21 Spur state right-of-way junction near Springfield Elementary, County Engineer Hulme committed to contacting the GDOT project manager. Staff is also seeking further clarification regarding GDOT's contested Norfolk Southern Rail Bridge reroute near Kiefer Hill Road due to potential impacts on AR-1 zoned properties. Finally, County Attorney Newberry and County Manager Callanan briefed the Board on the $29 million Southeast Road Network project connecting to McCall Road near Oglethorpe Power. As an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Rincon is finalized, staff is actively pursuing federal MPO funding and Railroad Elimination Grants, which could reduce the county's local financial obligation from $20.5 million down to approximately $4 million.

III – ADJOURNMENT

At 4:42 pm, being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

Damon Rahn, Chairman

Stephanie D. Johnson, County Clerk

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 1, 2026