

Regular Meeting Minutes
Jenkins County Board of Commissioners
Tuesday, March 18, 2025
4:00 P.M.

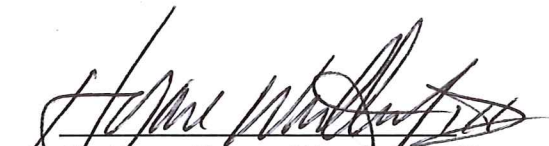
1. The Jenkins County Board of Commissioners met for its Regular Monthly Meeting on Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 4:00 P.M. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room at the James L. Henry Administrative Building. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman Horace Weathersby III, Pamela Dwight (arrived at 4:03 P.M.), Tracie Coney, Jonathan Powell and Mike Chance. Others in attendance were County Administrator Grady Saxon, County Attorney Kendall Gross, Mr. Bill Kent, Mrs. Gwen Watson, Ms. Vivian Johnson, Mr. Sandy Miller, Mr. Emmanuel Watson, Ms. Shanelle Carr, Mrs. Sherri Chance, County Field Director Jason Oglesby, Ms. Julia Lassiter, Mr. Steve Rathbun, Mr. Ralph Wadley, Ms. Deborah Bennett, Mrs. Cheryl Tatum, Clerk of Courts Tracey Herrington, Ms. Shirley Wadley, Mr. James Saxon, Mr. Gene Branch, and Ms. Myrtis Reese.
2. Chairman Horace Weathersby III called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M. Commissioner Mike Chance gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Weathersby welcomed all those in attendance.
3. Chairman Weathersby called for the approval of the AGENDA. Hearing no changes, a motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Coney to approve the AGENDA as presented. The motion carried with four votes in favor. Commissioner Dwight was not present for this vote.
4. Chairman Weathersby called for the approval of the Minutes from the February 11, 2025 Regular Meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Coney to approve the Minutes from the February 11, 2025 Regular Meeting as presented. The motion carried with four votes in favor.
5. Under Personal Appearances, Mr. Steve Rathbun with SCV requested the placement of a wreath at the Confederate Memorial on the Courthouse Square on April 28, 2025. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Chance to authorize the placement of the wreath at the Confederate Memorial. The motion carried with three votes in favor. Commissioner Coney abstained. Commissioner Dwight was not present for this vote.
6. Next under Personal Appearances, Mr. Ralph Wadley again expressed concerns regarding the condition of Old Garfield Road. He stated that some of the church members are reluctant to attend church due to the condition of the road. Chairman Weathersby stated that it would cost \$1,336,274 to pave the road, plus the costs of ROW and Engineering. Chairman Weathersby also stated that there were no grants available due to the lack of residences on the road. Field Director Oglesby stated that he has sent graders out there twice since the last meeting because services were

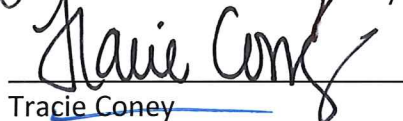
scheduled. The Board will have Parker Engineering visit the road to anything can be done to help improve the condition of the road.

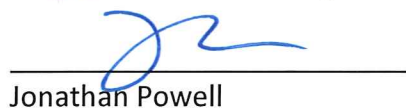
7. Finally under Personal Appearances, Mr. Sandy Miller again inquired if anything had been done regarding his request for the County to maintain Old Aycock Road. Mr. Miller stated that he had been to the Probate Court and has not found where the road has been abandoned. He stated that the road had not been reassigned for tax purposes. He stated that no there was no documentation of the original closing. Mr. Miller asked the Board to consider reabsorbing the road. Mr. Miller stated that he wants to hear from all the Board members on this matter. He feels that citizens should be helped, not hindered. Attorney Gross provided some insight on road closures. Mr. Saxon will provide the Minutes to Attorney Gross. Mr. Miller is requesting a followup.
8. Under Old Business, Chairman Weathersby discussed some of the inquiries from previous meetings. The first request was to have the Commission Meeting time changed from 4pm to 7pm. He stated that the participation is greater at 4 pm than it was when meetings were held at 7pm years ago, so the meeting schedule would remain the same for now. Mr. Saxon stated that the second request was to have Commissioner photos taken and be placed in the Commission Meeting Room. After a discussion of the previous quote of around \$1,000, a motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Coney to NOT have Commissioner photos taken to be placed in the Commissioners' meeting room. The motion carried with four votes in favor. Commissioner Dwight abstained.
9. Under New Business, Mr. Saxon presented a Proclamation from LifeLink, which sponsors National Donate Life Month and promotes organ donation. A motion was made by Commissioner Chance and seconded by Commissioner Powell to authorize Chairman Weathersby to sign the document Proclaiming April 2025 as Donate Life Month in Jenkins County.
10. Next under New Business, Mr. Saxon presented a notice from the Jenkins County Hospital Authority that the group had voted to revise the Bylaws. The first change was to make the Authority Fiscal Year correspond with the Hospital's Fiscal Year, which is January –December. The second change was that Board member terms would end on December 31 in the year that their current terms are scheduled to expire. New terms will begin on January 1. No action was necessary.
11. Next under New Business, Mr. Saxon presented a Resolution for Jenkins County to submit an application for the 2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). The Board had previously agreed to pursue the project, which would be to renovate the gym at the Recreation Department and make the basketball court meet regulation specs. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Chance to adopt the Resolution and to submit the CDBG Application to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. The motion carried unanimously.

12. Next under New Business, Attorney Gross discussed information regarding Solar Farms and the decommissioning process once the solar farm has reached the end of its useful life. Mr. Saxon stated that the current Ordinance stated that the Solar Company must have a bond sufficient to cover the cost of the decommissioning. The question that was posed is "How much is sufficient?" Attorney Gross stated that now may be a good time to strengthen the Solar Ordinance in order to protect local interests. Mr. Saxon will send a copy of the current Solar Ordinance to Attorney Gross for review.
13. Finally under New Business, Mr. Saxon presented a request from the Georgia Department of Revenue estimating the economic impacts of Hurricane Helene on every county parcel. Mr. Saxon stated that 100% of the parcels likely incurred some level of damage. Mr. Saxon feels that there will be more information coming soon and that no action needed to be taken at this time.
14. Under Field Director's Report, Jason Oglesby reported that he had collected \$12,000 in permits since the first of the year. Next, he discussed proposed camera systems at dumpster sites. He stated that the internet providers would be sending quotes for internet at each site. The cameras will cost up to \$3,000 per site. Mr. Oglesby stated that County residents can dump their furniture at the landfill at no cost. Mr. Oglesby stated he was still looking for a new dumpster site near Perkins-Green Fork/Hwy 23 area. Mr. Oglesby then stated that the road crews were trying to patch washes in dirt roads after the torrential rains in the previous days. He then stated that Grapevine Road repairs would be bid out on April 2, 2025. Joe waters Road and Harriet Miller Road are tentatively scheduled to be bid out on April 16, 2025. Mr. Oglesby stated that FEMA may reimburse the County for some of the equipment purchased for the Hurricane Helene recovery.
15. Under County Attorney's Report, Attorney Gross discussed the Lemon Law provisions for our newest Ambulance, stating that the law did not apply to this vehicle due to excess weight (2,000 lbs. too heavy). He stated that the County needed to use the warranty and to keep pressuring the dealer for a resolution.
16. Attorney Gross also discussed a proposed agreement between Jenkins County Magistrate Court and Jenkins County Probation. He stated that the agreement was approved as to form, and the Board could adopt it when necessary.
17. Attorney Gross also discussed the need by the Clerk of Courts for a secure location in which to store voter records. The Board is developing a plan for the storage needs at the courthouse.
18. Attorney Gross introduced Cindy Ballew to the Board. She is an attorney that works for Attorney Gross.
19. Under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon stated that he had applied for a grant for a new ambulance through Senator Ossoff's office in the amount of \$319,850.

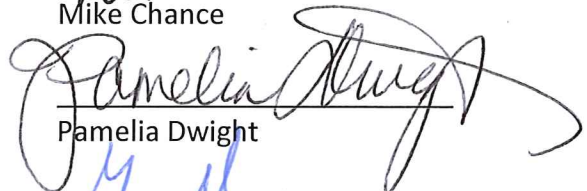
20. Next under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon stated that the new helipad at the Hospital was finished and that the County's portion of the cost (\$14,800) would be paid out this week.
21. Next under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon stated that Mr. Charlie Walker, an attendee at Hurricane Branch Church, has requested that some work be done on the road beside Hurricane Branch Church. No action was taken.
22. Finally under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon mentioned another inquiry about the possibility of adding Commissioner photos to the Chamber website. He stated that the photos would be taken in-house and uploaded to the site. No action was taken.
23. Under Chairman's Report, Chairman Weathersby presented to the Board information about the quantity of patients being flown from the hospital via helicopter. From January, 2024 through February, 2025, out of 414 calls for EMS, 49 patients were flown to another facility.
24. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Coney to enter Executive Session at 4:50 P.M. The motion carried unanimously.
25. A motion was made by Commissioner Coney and seconded by Commissioner Powell to exit Executive Session at 5:38 P.M. The motion carried unanimously. All Commissioners signed an affidavit stating that only (6) personnel matters were discussed.
26. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Chance to employ Ashlie Lanier as full time Elections Clerk at \$14.00/hour and to employ Jawanna Lloyd as full time Probation Officer at \$20.00/ hour, limiting the probationary period to 30 days, and starting her leave at the one year threshold of 7.3336 hours per month. The motion carried unanimously.
27. Chairman Weathersby adjourned the meeting at 5:44 P.M.



Chairman Horace Weathersby III


Tracie Coney


Jonathan Powell


Mike Chance


Pamela Dwight


Attest: Grady Saxon, Administrator