

Regular Meeting Minutes
Jenkins County Board of Commissioners
Tuesday, June 10, 2025
4:00 P.M.

1. The Jenkins County Board of Commissioners met for its Regular Monthly Meeting on Tuesday, June 10, 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, Tracie Coney, Jonathan Powell and Mike Chance. Others in attendance were County Administrator Grady Saxon, County Attorney Kendall Gross, Mrs. Gwen Watson, Mr. Emmanuel Watson, Mr. Sandy Miller, County Field Director Jason Oglesby, Ms. Julia Lassiter, Ms. Deborah Bennett, Ms. Jacquelyn Rigsbee, Mrs. Sherri Chance, Ms. Vivian Johnson, Chief Deputy Wesley Aaron, Mr. Eddie Dickey, Ms. Denise Kelsey, Ms. Celestine Hutley, Mr. Charlie Walker, Jr., Ms. Hilda Walker, Ms. Dianne Allison, Ms. Theola Pierce, Mr. Willas Ellis, Mr. Michael Knight, Mr. Ralph Wadley, Ms. Martha Sea, Ms. Bernell Branch, Mrs. Karen Johnson, and Sheriff Robert Oglesby.
2. Chairman Horace Weathersby III called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M. Chairman Weathersby gave the Invocation and then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Weathersby welcomed all those in attendance.
3. Chairman Weathersby called for the approval of the AGENDA. Commissioner Chance stated that he would like to add two real estate matters and one personnel matter to Executive Session. Hearing no other changes, a motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Coney to approve the AGENDA as amended. The motion carried unanimously.
4. Chairman Weathersby called for the approval of the minutes from the May 13, 2025 Regular Meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Coney to approve the Minutes from the May 13, 2025 Regular Meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
5. Under Personal Appearances, Mr. Sandy Miller inquired about a status update on Old Aycock Road. Mr. Miller requested that Old Aycock Road be allocated some LMIG funds for repairs and he requested to see the current LMIG list. Mr. Saxon will send that to him. Attorney Gross will discuss Old Aycock Road in his report later in the meeting, and Mr. Miller would like an additional chance to speak for the remainder of his time.
6. Next under Personal Appearances, Ms. Celestine Hutley expressed concerns about potholes on Fountain Springs Road and Rosemary Church Road (Lane Landing Road was on the AGENDA request). She stated that some of the potholes have been filled, but not all of them. She requested that the remaining holes be fixed.

7. Next under Personal Appearances, Ms. Dianne Allison stated she lived in Carlton Oaks Subdivision. She stated the road she lives on does not have stop signs or road name signs. Mr. Saxon stated that Carlton Road was a County Road, but the remaining side roads were private property. Ms. Allison wanted to know how the road could be made a County Road. Attorney Gross explained how that process would work.
8. Next under Personal Appearances, Ms. Theola Pierce requested that the road (Old Garfield Road) to Johnson Chapel Baptist Church be paved. She stated that the church had been there for 116 years. Why can't something be done? The poor road condition is affecting attendance at their church. She cannot see why this Commission cannot do something, not believing the cost of a million dollars per mile. Field Director Oglesby presented a "large check" that was for a similar road (BB Lane). Three fourths of a mile of paving that road (awarded in 2022) was \$876,684, and costs have increased since then. Field Director Oglesby stated that Parker Engineering has looked at the road and will provide a report. Chairman Weathersby stated that the County was trying to find a solution.
9. Next under Personal Appearances, Mr. Michael Knight expressed concerns regarding Needful Church Road. He stated that this road has been a problem for a long time. Chairman Weathersby stated the Road Department has done a good job at maintaining dirt roads, but the quantity of rain we have been getting compounds the problems. Commissioner Chance stated that the County has recently invested in additional motor graders and experienced operators, but the County has 235 miles of dirt roads that are affected by rains. The County Road Department works hard to maintain these roads.
10. Next under Personal Appearances, Mr. Charlie Walker, Jr. stated that Hurricane Branch Road becomes impassable when it rains. He inquired as to who decides which roads get funding. Chairman Weathersby stated that the Board receives recommendations from the Road Department and the Engineer. Mr. Walker stated that the new operators don't do the job as well as the "older heads." Mr. Walker stated that placing sand over the mud would help out.
11. Next under Personal Appearances, Ms. Martha Sea stated that there had been problems with Harriet Miller Road for over 60 years. She asked that the County do whatever it could to fix the road. She also inquired about the road being blown out past her house. Chairman Weathersby stated that the County was waiting on FEMA to approve the project for repairs. She also stated that intersection of Highway 23 and Harriet Miller Road washes out and leaves a gully across the road. Field Director Oglesby will ensure that the wash is filled and that the hill is sanded. Ms. Sea asked if using ground tires would be a possibility for fixing roads.
12. Next under Personal Appearances, Ms. Bernell Branch stated that the graders leave piles of dirt in the driveway and have knocked down her brother's mailbox. She stated that big trucks traveling the road continuously makes a mess. Field Director Oglesby stated that a big portion of the road is lower than the roadsides and the water has nowhere to

go. He also stated that the County has hired some experienced operators that should be able to improve the condition of the roads in that area.


13. Finally under Personal Appearances, Mr. Eddie Dickey stated that North Jenkins Fire Department was applying for a grant in the amount of \$108,000 for turnout gear and a washer. He asked if the County would provide the 10% match required for the grant. He stated that the current gear was 15-20 years old and needed to be replaced for safety. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Chance to approve the 10% matching funds for the grant for North Jenkins should it be awarded. The motion carried unanimously.
14. Under Old Business, Mr. Saxon presented information regarding the LMIG 2025 Supplemental Grant. He stated that the Board had previously approved the submission of the application. He stated that the amount of the application was \$682,494.59 and would be put toward the resurfacing of Gay's Hill Church Road. Mr. Saxon will need the Chairman's signature on the application.
15. Finally under Old Business, Mr. Saxon stated that the Board had received one additional quote for E-911 Dispatch consoles. He also stated that Southern Linc representative Tracy Edenfield was working to set up a live product demonstration so we can see the product in action. The Southern Linc quote came in at \$120,276. The quote previously received from MCA was \$122,296.16 with a \$1.00 buyout. He stated that the MCA quote could be financed monthly, but the final price would be \$152,084.40. Mr. Saxon stated that both consoles would be compatible with the County's current radios. No action was taken today.
16. Under New Business, Mr. Saxon stated that he had sent out an email to the Board members regarding employee health coverage. He stated that Aetna and Cigna had both declined to provide a quote. Current carrier Anthem submitted a 44% increase over the current premium (going from an average of \$551,190/year to \$793,720/year). He then presented a quote from Madison Street Agency for an ICHRA plan (Individual Coverage Health Reimbursement Arrangement) with an average of \$414,806.76/year at the current enrollment level. He stated that Capstone had also quoted an ICHRA plan, but the benefits would not be effective until 8/1/25 (Jenkins County renews on 7/1/25). Mr. Saxon recommended the ICHRA plan from Madison Street Agency and the keep the supplemental coverages (dental, vision, hospital, disability, and life) through Anthem, which had only a small increase (averaging .04 per thousand in coverage). Mr. Saxon stated that the Hospital is currently on the ICHRA plan. After a discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Chance to select the ICHRA plan through Madison Street Agency, pay 100% of the employee premiums (will reassess this step next year), and keep supplemental coverages with Anthem. The motion carried unanimously.
17. Finally under New Business, Mr. Saxon presented a request from Main Street Millen that the Board donate \$3,000 toward the annual Patriotic Celebration scheduled for

Thursday, July 3, 2025. Mr. Saxon stated that this event is the largest annual crowd draw in Jenkins County. Mr. Saxon informed the Board that the cost of fireworks has increased again this year. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Coney to sponsor the Patriotic Celebration in the amount of \$3,000. The motion carried unanimously.

18. Under Field Director's Report, Jason Oglesby reported that one of the recently purchased graders had been delivered, but several problems were discovered during the onsite inspection. He stated that Caterpillar had now fixed all the problems and the machine was currently in service. Mr. Oglesby also stated that one of the most recently purchased backhoes had a motor blow and that he was working with John Deere for warranty coverage.
19. Under County Attorney's Report, Attorney Gross provided a map of the parcels along Old Aycock Road. He stated that he had spoken to Mr. Haymaker and Mr. Huff. He stated that neither of these individuals want the road reopened. He stated that the County has some options. #1, Abandon the road, but make it passable by car before abandonment. #2, Abandon it as it is. #3, Fix the road, which will cost a whole lot of money. Jason stated he could make it passable within a few days.
20. Chairman Weathersby called on Mr. Miller. Mr. Miller doesn't want the road abandoned. He thinks the County owes something for not maintaining it for over 25 years. He wants to ensure that whomever travels the road is safe. He stated he is not happy to have the burden to be placed on the property owners. He wants the County to develop a plan for maintaining the road. He stated there is room for improvement. Mr. Miller is asking the Board to declare it as a County Road and make it safe for the constituents. He doesn't want to depend on his neighbors to upkeep the easement. He pays taxes and doesn't want to pay more. He stated that he came for help, not hindrance. Attorney Gross provided the procedure for abandonment. A motion was made by Commissioner Coney and seconded by Commissioner Powell to make it passable and then notify the property owners of the decision. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Weathersby instructed Jason Oglesby to make the road passable as soon as he can. Jason will contact the property owners before beginning repairs.
21. Under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon stated that the County held a bid opening on May 14, 2024 for Speedy Sapp Road and Gay's Hill Church Road. There were five bidders for the project: Sikes Brothers-\$1,175,700; Mill Creek-\$1,190,280; Phillips Paving-\$1,355,453; Reeves-\$1,390,162.60; and All Star Concrete-\$1,405,110.00. Low bidder Sikes Brothers was recommended by Parker Engineering. Mr. Saxon stated that 2024 and 2025 LRA Funds will be used for these two roads and will require no County match. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Chance to approve the bid from Sikes Brothers in the amount of \$1,115,700.00 for the resurfacing of Speedy Sapp Road and Gay's Hill Road. The motion carried unanimously.

22. Next under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon announced that the County had begun to finalize the BB Lane Project, having requested the final draw for Sikes Brothers. He stated that there were still a few punch list items that must be completed before we make the final payment.
23. Next under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon stated that the final payment for the Broadband Project was going out this week.
24. Next under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon stated that the Highway 25 Turn Lane project was nearing completion, with only some minor punch list items still outstanding. The County has not yet received the final pay request.
25. Next under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon reported that he had applied for additional funding through GDOT to help with the repairs of Grapevine Road. He announced the GDOT had allocated \$150,000 toward the project. Mr. Saxon stated that "It doesn't hurt to ask."
26. Finally under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon reported that he had sent out budget requests to all departments and Elected Officials. The cutoff for submitting the budget requests has been set for noon on July 3, 2025 for requests to be considered. Budget work sessions will be scheduled soon.
27. There was no Chairman's Report.
28. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Coney to enter Executive Session at 5:29 P.M. The motion carried unanimously.
29. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Coney to exit Executive Session at 5:49 P.M. The motion carried unanimously. All Commissioners signed an affidavit stating that only two real estate and one personnel matter were discussed.
30. The Board members signed all necessary paperwork.
31. Chairman Weathersby adjourned the meeting at 5:50 P.M.


Chairman Horace Weathersby III


Tracie Coney


Jonathan Powell


Mike Chance

Pamelia Dwight


Attest: Grady Saxon, Administrator