

Regular Meeting Minutes
Jenkins County Board of Commissioners
Tuesday, January 14, 2025
4:00 P.M.


1. The Jenkins County Board of Commissioners met for its Regular Monthly Meeting on Tuesday, January 14, 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 George Rountree, Mrs. Gwen Watson, Mr. Bill Kent, Ms. Vivian Johnson, Mr. Sandy Miller, Mr. Emmanuel Watson, Mrs. Debra Hearn, Mrs. Sherri Chance, County Field Director Jason Oglesby, Elections Supervisor Patricia Rich, Mrs. Monica Johnson, Mrs. Andrea Graham, Clerk of Courts Tracey Herrington, Ms. Julia Lassiter, Rev. Johnnie Branch, Ms. Pierce, Mr. Ralph Wadley, Ms. Shanelle Carr, Mr. Curtis Reynolds, Mrs. Cheryl Tatum, Mr. Willie Branch, Mr. Branch, Chief Appraiser Vicky Patrick, Shante, and Ms. Myrtis Reese.
2. Chairman Horace Weathersby III called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M. He then gave the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance (flag was not present). Chairman Weathersby welcomed all those in attendance. He welcomed New Commissioner Mike Chance to the Board.
3. Chairman Weathersby called for the approval of the AGENDA and asked if any changes needed to be made. Mr. Saxon stated that Affirmation Letters for the Landfill needed to be added to Old Business. Also, added to Executive Session was one personnel matter and one matter of potential litigation. 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 December 10, 2024 Regular Meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Coney to approve the Minutes from the December 10, 2024 Regular Meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
5. Under Personal Appearances, Ms. Shanelle Carr expressed concerns about transparency and structure of local government meetings. She suggested creating a section for public input during or after the meetings. She also suggested publishing AGENDAs in advance and allowing citizens to submit concerns ahead of the meetings so their voices can be heard. Ms. Carr feels this will help build trust between the citizens and leaders. She also requested the Board consider holding its meetings at 6 pm so more citizens will have the opportunities to attend the meetings. Ms. Carr stated that the website didn't have current AGENDAs posted, and that the posted meeting day on the website was incorrect.

6. Next under Personal Appearances, Clerk of Courts Tracey Herrington discussed the passport fees that have been collected by her office during the past year. She turned over \$1,388.95 to Chairman Weathersby to be presented to the County Commissioners. She also discussed the proposed remodel on the third floor of the courthouse (carpet, receptacles, shelving, wall repairs, painting). Commissioner Powell discussed some proposed changes and that remodel plans would be combined once the changes are made.
7. Next under Personal Appearances, Mr. Sandy Miller discussed Old Aycock Road and its status. He stated that he has been unable to find any information in the Probate Court on this particular case so it remains unresolved. He wants to get the road taken care of. He invited the Board members to provide some insight. Mr. Miller requested an appointment with Chairman Weathersby. Chairman Weathersby will accommodate this request. Commissioner Chance inquired as to how many landowners own property along the road. Mr. Miller said he was the only one back there, but a paper company owns property in the back but Mr. Miller stated he was the one who uses the road the most.
8. Finally under Personal Appearances, Mr. Ralph Wadley from Johnson Chapel Baptist Church discussed Old Garfield Road. He stated that the road is in bad shape and its condition has hindered the church services for many years. He presented 500 signatures from individuals who want to see the road paved. Mr. Wadley also expressed concerns about the meeting time being scheduled at 4 p.m. Chairman Weathersby asked the group to bear with the county, as there are 242 miles of dirt roads that have to be maintained and the recent flooding has taken a toll on all of them.
9. Under Old Business, Mr. Saxon informed the Board that the installation of the AC units Extension Office began last week and should be finished today.
10. Next under Old Business, The Board discussed Hospital Authority recommendations to fill the unexpired term of Charlie Dempsey who recently resigned. Board members recommended Clarissa Young, Tara Cooper, Dobbie Gay, Alvin Burke, and Jason Oglesby. The Democratic Party recommended Wanda Dwight, Regina Moore, Jasmine Watson, and Ann P.D. Gleason. A motion was made by Commissioner Chance and seconded by Commissioner Coney to select Alvin Burke, Jasmine Watson, and Wanda Dwight to be submitted to the Hospital Authority for final selection. The motion carried unanimously.
11. Next under Old Business, Mr. Saxon discussed Development Authority Appointments to reappoint or replace Wade Parker and Kirk Rocker, both of whom have agreed to continue to serve. The Board of Commissioners recommended Hiller Spann and the Democratic Committee recommended Shanelle Carr, Gwen Watson, Charles Reynolds, and Sandy Miller. Mike Chance recommended Hiller Spann. Tracie Coney recommended Shanelle Carr. Chairman Weathersby recommended Wade Parker. Commissioner Powell recommended Mr. Sandy Miller. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell

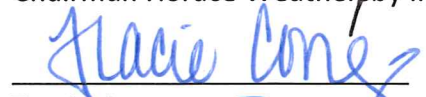
and seconded by Mike Chance to appoint Hiller Spann and Sandy Miller to the Development Authority Board. The motion carried unanimously.

12. Next under Old Business, Mr. Saxon explained HB 581, discussing Opt-In, Opt-Out, and FLOST. No action was taken today. A decision will need to be made in February.
13. Finally under Old Business, Attorney presented Affirmation letters regarding the proposed landfill expansion, ensuring that none of the facts of the original agreement have changed. Chairman Weathersby will sign those letters.
14. Under New Business, Chairman Weathersby presented a request from the Hospital that the County pay one half of the expense to install a new Helipad at the hospital. The total cost will be \$29,600. The County's portion would be \$14,800 and would be paid through SPLOST funds. A motion was made by Commissioner Dwight and seconded by Commissioner Coney to fund one half of a new Helipad at the hospital in the amount of \$14,800. The motion carried unanimously.
15. Finally under New Business, Field Director Jason Oglesby presented concerns with a small dumpster site on Highway 23 North. The site is frequently used as a bulk dump and is often overloaded. Additional sites will be researched. One possibility is to move these dumpsters to the old Sawmill Site on Hwy 23, however, this could be an inconvenience for residents further north of the current location.
16. Field Director Jason Oglesby stated that the new excavator was in and the Road Department would begin working on needed repairs on some of the flood damaged roads.
17. There was no County Attorney's Report, but he had information to be discussed during Executive Session.
18. Under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon reported that the Board of Elections and Registration have been appointed and sworn in. That Board has conducted its first meeting and has appointed Patricia Rich as Elections Supervisor.
19. Next under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon stated that work continues on the new Industrial Park on Highway 25 North.
20. Next under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon discussed the list of Hurricane Damaged Roads. He stated that Parker Engineering was working on bid packages for the roads destroyed by Hurricane Debby. Parker is currently obtaining hydrology studies for Joe Waters Road and Harriet Miller Road due to the potential need to install larger box culverts instead of pipes.
21. Next under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon reminded the Board members that the MLK, Jr./Charles Beale Scholarship Banquet would be held on Saturday, January 26, 2025 at 6 P.M. at the Senior Center and that all Board members were invited.

- 22. Finally under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon informed the Board that the 2025 Legislative Breakfast would be held on February 15, 2025 at 9 A.M. at the Café on Cotton.
- 23. There was no Chairman's Report.
- 24. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Chance to enter Executive Session at 4:49 P.M. The motion carried unanimously.
- 25. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Chance to exit Executive Session at 5:30 P.M. The motion carried unanimously. All commissioners signed an affidavit stating that only nine personnel matters, one matter of potential litigation, and one matter of real estate were discussed.
- 26. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Coney to set the salary for Patricia Rich at \$55,000 per year, raise Kathleen Piersol to \$16 per hour, raise Carrie Pye to \$16 over four months, with half now and the other half in four months, establish a \$200 per day salary for Bobby Taylor, Claudette Sasser, Julia Lassiter, Myrtis Reese, and Kathy Clifton for the Board of Elections, and to appoint Hubert Reeves as a part time Magistrate at the state minimum salary for that position.
- 27. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Coney to set the terms for Bobby Taylor, Claudette Sasser, and Julia Lassiter at four years and set the initial terms for Myrtis Reese and Kathy Clifton for two years. The motion carried unanimously.
- 28. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Chance to move the Magistrate Court to the Courthouse and move the Elections and Registrations Office to the Annex. The motion carried unanimously.
- 29. Chairman Weathersby adjourned the meeting at 5:32 P.M.



 Chairman Horace Weathersby III



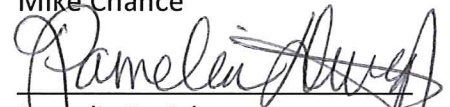
 Tracie Coney




 Jonathan Powell



 Mike Chance



 Pamela Dwight



 Attest: Grady Saxon, Administrator