

# Board of Commissioners Wilkinson County

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## COMMISSION MEETING June 3, 2025

The Wilkinson County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Session at 9:00 AM. The following Commissioners were present: Chairman Anthony Bentley, Commissioner Flint Shepherd, Commissioner Robert Dame, Commissioner Anderson Ford and Commissioner James Hagins by phone.

The following staff was present: Senior Account Tech 2 Rakita Sinkfield, County Manager Tracy Strange, Senior Account Tech 1 Lindsey Benefield and County Attorney was not paid.

Broadcasted Live via Facebook.

### Invocation

Chairman Anthony Bentley asked Commissioner Flint Shepherd to lead the invocation

### Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Anthony Bentley asked Commissioner James Hagins to lead the pledge

### Agenda

Chairman Anthony Bentley entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Motion made by Commissioner Flint Shepherd and second by Commissioner Anderson Ford to approve the agenda. Commissioner Flint Shepherd voted yes, Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner Robert Dame voted yes, Commissioner Anderson Ford voted yes. Motion carried with no opposition.

### Minutes

Chairman Anthony Bentley entertained a motion to approve the Regular Session minutes from May 6, 2025 and Work Session Meeting Minutes for May 20, 2025. Motion made by Commissioner Flint Shepherd and second by Commissioner Anderson Ford. Commissioner Flint Shepherd voted yes, Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner Robert Dame voted yes, Commissioner Anderson Ford voted yes. Motion carried with no opposition.

### Visitors' Present

Graham Thompson, Ulyses Wilson, Penelope Moye, Dusty Thomas, Joy Moten- Thomas, Clint Terry, Donna Asbell, Jonathan Snow, Joyce Denson, Marty Dominy

### Recognition of Visitors / Presentations

- Graham Thompson discussed how there should be some type of training for Property and Business Owners. He discussed how some individuals don't know what to bring to the appeal board. There was some discussion about citizens doing research before coming to the board for appeals.
- Penelope Moye also talked about some of her experiences and knowledge of individuals showing up unprepared to the board for the appeals process.

### Old Business

### New Business

- a. The board of Commissioners discussed the need for solid waste ordinance. Commissioner Flint Shepherd stated that in the event of the disposal of industrial waste, they talked about the pond from the chalk mine being a possibility. The board talked about being proactive about the situation.
- b. The board of commissioners talked about the need for a hotel/motel tax ordinance. They discussed the tax that is collected on Air B&B's and how that money could help the county. They talked about different possibilities of options that they have.
- c. The commissioners discussed about repainting the courthouse curb. Chairman Anthony Bentley entertained a motion of approval of repainting the courthouse curb. Motion made by Commissioner Flint Shepherd and second by Commissioner Anderson Ford of approval of repainting the courthouse curb. Commissioner Flint Shepherd voted yes, Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner Robert Dame voted yes, Commissioner Anderson Ford voted yes. Motion carried with no opposition.
- d. The board discussed about employee parking. Commissioner Flint Shepherd talked about how some individuals talked to him about how it's hard to walk from farther away. Some other individuals of the board made the point that employees are here every day as well as if it rains hard it would be really difficult to walk into the building from a far distance. Also, the board talked about the possibility of looking into getting some of the vehicles that are parked in the front moved down further away.
- e. Commissioners talked about the shooting range and that the sheriff's office needs to make off an area of where they would like to see the range built. They discussed having it near the pond. Chairman Anthony Bentley entertained a motion of approval of using Gaywood Company for the creation of the shooting range. Motion made by Commissioner Flint Shepherd and second by Commissioner Anderson Ford of using Gaywood Company for the creation of the shooting range. Commissioner Flint Shepherd voted yes,

Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner Robert Dame voted yes, Commissioner Anderson Ford voted yes. Motion carried with no opposition.

#### Commissioner's District Report

1. Nothing to report
2. Nothing to report
3. Commissioner Robert Dame talked about JR Sims road and McCue road and work that needed to be done.
4. Commissioner Anderson Ford talked about Liberty Church road.

#### Chairman's Report:

Chairman Anthony Bentley talked about the open house for Tourism and a few concerns with a tree on Wriley road.

#### County Managers Report:

County Manager Tracy Strange reminded everyone about Macon Bacon Night on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025 and she discussed the deadline for purchasing tickets. She talked about a meeting with the cities of Wilkinson County at 10:30.

#### Comments from the Public

Donna Asbell talked about the funding of libraries for the cities in the county. She talked about the how the funding gets less and less and they need to find a solution.

#### Adjournment

Chairman Anthony Bentley asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Commissioner Flint Shepherd and seconded by Commissioner Anderson Ford to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hagins voted yes, Vice Chairman Flint Shepherd voted yes, and Commissioner Robert Dame voted yes. Motion carried with no opposition.

#### Notice to Visitors

The Board of Commissioners welcomes you to our meeting. We ask that you do not talk during the meeting to allow us to hear all discussion between Commissioners. If you would like to be placed on the agenda, please contact the Board of Commissioners Office at 946-2236 no later than the Thursday prior to meeting.