



July 10, 2025

Commissioners' Meeting

6:45 PM

Vice Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers officially commenced the Board of Commissioners meeting on July 10, 2025, at 6:45 PM, followed by the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comments

Mrs. Teresa Rewis had a discussion with the Commissioners to get some clarity on past votes, especially regarding code enforcement and the water system. Mrs. Rewis strongly supports code enforcement due to neglected areas in the county and is willing to help. Mrs. Rewis also addressed her concern about the water systems quality, referencing past issues and poor conditions in public buildings as well as the private individuals of the county.

David Hambrick engaged in a concentrated discussion. Mr. Hambrick directly inquired with the commission regarding the potential takeover of the water authority, He expressed his concerns about hastily making decisions related to cost analysis, as well as whether alternative options have been considered, such as private sales of the system. He was concerned that in the long run , it could lead to a tax burden , considering the county's tax base.

Commissioner Bobby Walker stated he supports the water system due to lack of land wells and stated if no tax dollars would be used.

Commissioner Stanley Corbett opposed due to the financial risk of taking over the water system due to lack of funding and it is causing taxpayers to have to pay more taxes for this water system if the system failed.

Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers stated that there are pros and cons meaning pros getting grants to help offset the cost of the water system and the cons would be cost and risk associated with the county taking over the water system.

Workshop Adjournment 6:58 PM

Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers requested a motion to close the July 10,2025 workshop. Commissioner Bobby Wallker made motion. Commissioner Stanley Corbett Seconded. The Motion carried 3/0.

Commissioners Meeting Business Conducted 7:02PM

Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers called the July 10,2024 business meeting to order.

Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers requested a motion to approve the agenda of the July 10,2025 board meeting. Commissioner Stanley Corbett made a motion.

Commissioner Bobby Walker seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers requested a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on June 5, 2025. Commissioner Stanley Corbett made a motion.

Commissioner Bobby Walker seconded the motion. Motion Carried 3/0.

Water Authority update

The County Manager addressed contact with attorney William Holland. Mr. Holland confirmed the water authority can be dissolved legally. The attorney is in the process of drafting the legal paperwork for the board's review to submit to proposed legislation to the GA Legislature.

Lease Of Playground

Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers requested a motion to lease the playground from the Board of Education for 10 years in the amount of \$1 Per Year. Commissioner Bobby Walker made motion. Commissioner Stanley Corbett Seconded. The motion carried 3/0.

HB223 Trees ACT

This legislation allows local governments to forgive the timber tax collections for Q4 of 2024 and all of 2025 by passing a resolution. Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers requested a motion to table this for further research. Commissioner Bobby Walker made a motion. Commissioner Stanley Corbett seconded. Motion carried 3/0

Fans For Pavilion

Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers requested a motion approve fans to be installed at the Pavillion in the estimated amount of \$9500.00. Commissioner Bobby Walker made motion, Commissioner Stanley Corbett seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

Animal Control Ordinance

Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers requested a motion for a Proposed ordinance which incorporates the current ordinance, 2018 supplement, and proposed changes made by Mrs. Rodgers. Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers requested a motion to table this for further research. Commissioner Stanley Corbett made a motion. Commissioner Bobby Walker seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

Resolution Establishing the Legal Level of Budgetary Control

Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers requested a motion to approve annual resolution that establishes the legal level of Budgetary control. Commissioner Bobby Walker made Motion. Commissioner Stanley Corbett seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

Budget Policy

Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers requested a motion to table the 2026 budget policy until further review. Commissioner Bobby Walker made motion. Commissioner Stanley Corbett seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

Comprehensive plan

Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers requested a motion to approve the comprehensive plan. Commissioner Stanley Corbett made a motion. Commissioner Bobby Walker seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

Appointment Of Board of Elections

Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers requested a motion to table appointing the seat for the Board of Elections. Commissioner Bobby Walker made motion. Commissioner Stanley Corbett seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

Following Announcements

- 1) The County has been awarded the following grants in June:
 - a) The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) was awarded to Echols County for \$7,171. 50/50 match
 - b) The LMIG and LRA grants were awarded, with the combined award amount of \$514,285. 70/30 match.
 - c) Echols County was awarded a \$50,582 grant from FEMA to reimburse for repairs to road damage caused by Tropical Storm Debbie. 85/15 match
 - d) Echols County was awarded a \$26,990 grant to reimburse equipment and labor costs used during Hurricane Helene. No match required.

- e) Echols County was awarded a \$1.89m grant to reimburse for debris clearing costs after Hurricane Helene. No Match required.
- f) Echols County was awarded the Local Government Risk Management Services (LGRMS) grant for \$506 to purchase vehicle safety equipment. No match required.

Executive Session

7:20PM Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers requested a motion to go into an executive session. Commissioner Bobby Walker made motion. Commissioner Stanley Corbett seconded. Motion Carried 3/0.

7:38 PM Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers Requested a motion to come out of executive session. Commissioner Bobby Walker made motion. Commissioner Stanley Corbett seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

Commissioners discussed personnel while in executive session. No decision was made at this time.

Adjourn

7:40 PM Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers Requested a motion to adjourn the July 11, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Bobby Walker made motion. Commissioner Stanley Corbett seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

Attendees:

Vice-Chairman Bobbi Pohlman Rodgers, Commissioner Bobby Walker, Commissioner Stanley Corbett, County Manager Alan Levesque, County Clerk Shona Carter, Chester Register, Chuck and Jamie Jones, Sheriff Randy Courson, Bream Castleberry, Dan Davis, Charlene Davis, Mitchell Church, Evelyn Howell, Tyler Carter, Karen Black, Troy Black, Chris Vann, Katie Vann, Rick Jeans, Tracey Green, Wally Rewis, Teresea Rewis, Jake Adams, Diane Carter, Bobby Vann, Elaine Vann, Jesse Bennett, Ryan Highsmith, John Darling, and others whose names are illegible.



Kenneth Petty, Chairman



Shona Carter, County Clerk

