

## **ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

### **Workshop Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** July 17, 2026

**Time:** 6:00 PM

**Location:** Echols County Board of Commissioners Office

### **Call to Order**

The Echols County Board of Commissioners held its Workshop Meeting on Friday, July 17, 2026, at the Echols County Board of Commissioners Office. Chairman Justin Staten called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Invocation: Commissioner Kenneth Petty

Pledge of Allegiance

### **Attendance**

Commissioners Present:

- Chairman Justin Staten
- Commissioner Bobbi Pohlman-Rodgers
- Commissioner Bobby Walker
- Commissioner Kenneth Petty

Staff Present:

- County Manager Alan Levesque
- County Clerk Shona Carter
- Sheriff Randy Courson

Others in Attendance:

- Dan Davis
- Charlene Davis
- Greg Nimmo, Tax Assessor
- Evelyn Howell, Chairman, Board of Tax Assessors

### **Agenda Item 1**

Department of Revenue Sales Tax Request, Road Projects, and Water System Updates

County Manager Alan Levesque updated the Board regarding concerns that sales tax generated by Echols County residents using the 31636 ZIP code may not be properly allocated to Echols County. He has contacted the Georgia Department of Revenue for clarification.

The Sardis Church Road paving project is nearing completion. Remaining work includes

striping, reflectors, and shoulder resurfacing. The 2027 LMIG allocation is \$264,600.12 with a 10% local match. Bethel Church Road and J. Frank Culpepper Road resurfacing projects funded through TIA remain under GDOT review before bidding.

The County continues aggressive summer flushing of the water system. Water tower operating levels have been adjusted to improve circulation. Average water use is approximately 100,000 gallons per day. The required EPD permit has been submitted and approval is pending.

### **Agenda Item 2**

Commissioner Bobby Walker discussed the County's current \$28,000 annual lawn care contract and suggested evaluating whether hiring a County employee for mowing and general maintenance would be more cost effective. Commissioners requested payroll, retirement, equipment, and operating cost estimates before further consideration.

### **Agenda Item 3**

Commissioner Bobby Walker discussed a proposal to place a mural on the Wildcat Food Mart building near the traffic signal with the owner's permission. Commissioners agreed the concept could improve the appearance of Echols County but requested cost information before moving forward.

### **Agenda Item 4**

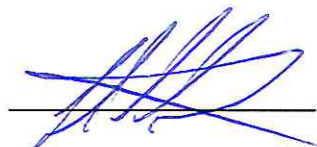
The Board discussed placing a budget amendment on the August 6, 2026 meeting agenda to fund a Code Enforcement Officer position and begin implementation of code enforcement services.

### **Additional Discussion**

Tax Assessor Greg Nimmo and Board of Tax Assessors Chairman Evelyn Howell attended to answer questions regarding the recent countywide property appraisal.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chairman Justin Staten adjourned the workshop meeting at 7:06 PM.



Justin Staten, Chairman



Shona Carter, County Clerk

