

HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
April 15, 2025 - 6:30 P.M.

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a regular Commissioners Meeting on April 15, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Commission Chamber of the Heard County Administration Building. In attendance at the meeting were Chairman Tracy McCormick, District 1 Commissioner Curtis Mock, District 2 Commissioner James Perry, District 3 Commissioner Iris Harris, and District 5 Commissioner David Walls. District 4 Commissioner Larry Hammond was not in attendance.

Agenda Item # 2 - Welcome, Invocation, and Pledge to the American Flag

Chairman Tracy McCormick called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. Voter Registrar, Tonnie Adams gave the invocation.

Agenda Item # 3 – Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the Work Session and regular Commissioner's meeting on March 18, 2025, were presented to the Board for approval. On a motion (Perry) and second (Walls), Commissioners Mock and Hammond voted in favor of approving the minutes from the March 18, 2025, Work Session and regular Commissioner's meeting as written. Commissioner Harris abstained, citing absence from the March 18, 2025, meeting.

Agenda Item # 4 – Amend Agenda

At the time this item was addressed, there were no proposed amendments, and the Board proceeded with the agenda as published.

Agenda Item # 5 – New Business

a. Invited Guest from West Georgia Child Advocacy Center

Invited guests from the West Georgia Child Advocacy Center attended the meeting.

They thanked the Board for signing the proclamation at the March 18, 2025 meeting

recognizing April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. During their visit, they shared national statistics on child abuse and neglect, and provided an overview of the Center's mission and goals in supporting affected children and families.

b. Discuss/Approve Proclamation Recognizing April as Donate Life Month

The Board discussed and approved a proclamation recognizing April as Donate Life Month, highlighting the importance of organ, eye, and tissue donation in saving and improving lives. On a motion (Perry) and a second (Mock), the Board voted unanimously to adopt and sign the Proclamation Recognizing April as Donate Life Month.

c. Discuss/Approve Proclamation Recognizing April as Senior Hunger Awareness Month

The Board approved a proclamation recognizing April as Senior Hunger Awareness Month, bringing attention to the issue of food insecurity among older adults and encouraging community efforts to support senior nutrition programs.

On a motion (Walls) and a second (Harris), the Board voted unanimously to adopt and sign the Proclamation Recognizing April as Senior Hunger Awareness Month.

d. Discuss Certification of Compliance with Annual Immigration Reporting Requirements

The Board discussed the Certification of Compliance with Annual Immigration Reporting Requirements, as mandated by O.C.G.A. § 50-36-4. This certification affirms that the County is in compliance with state laws regarding the use of E-Verify and the reporting of public benefits in accordance with Georgia's immigration enforcement statutes. On a motion (Mock) and a second (Harris), the Board

unanimously voted to adopt the Certification of Compliance with Annual Immigration Reporting Requirements.

e. Reappointment of Jane Barker to Board of Elections

On a motion (Perry) and a second (Mock), the Board unanimously voted to reappoint Jane Barker to the Board of Elections for a four-year term beginning July 1, 2025, and ending July 1, 2029.

f. Discuss/Award bid on Road Projects

An RFP (Request For Proposal) was issued for asphalt resurfacing on multiple roads. Four bids were received: Asphalt Paving Systems (\$579,190), The Scruggs Company (\$595,860), Russell Standard (\$687,480), and McLeRoy (\$1,117,740). Greg Harris, Director of Public Works, recommended awarding the contract to Asphalt Paving Systems as the lowest responsive bidder. On a motion (Perry) and a second (Harris), the Board unanimously voted to award the bid to Asphalt Paving Systems for \$579,190.

g. Discuss/Award bid on Radios for S.O.

During the Work Session, the Sheriff's Office presented multiple quotes from Motorola to replace obsolete radios. The final quote, totaling \$142,109.25, was for the purchase of 25 new radios. On a motion (Perry) and a second (Harris), the Board unanimously voted to accept the quote from Motorola for \$142,109.25.

h. Discuss/Award bid for Ridgeway Road Bridge Right of Way with GDOT

The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) will cover the majority of the cost for the replacement of the bridge and right-of-way improvements at Ridgeway Road, with the total project cost exceeding \$100,000. GDOT has requested a signed

Memorandum of Agreement from the Board of Commissioners confirming that Heard County will contribute \$50,000 toward the project. On a motion (Walls) and a second (Mock), the Board unanimously voted to approve and sign the Memorandum of Agreement with GDOT.

Agenda Item # 6 – Old Business

a. Appointment One – Heard County Planning Commission for a Four-Year Term Expiring December 31, 2028

On a motion (Harris) and a second (Mock), the Board unanimously voted to reappoint Dustin Pate to the Heard County Planning Commission for a four-year term ending December 31, 2028. The term was originally scheduled to begin on January 1, 2025, all appointments were delayed due to ongoing litigation, during which the former Chairman opted not to make any changes to the Planning Commission Board.

b. Appointment Two – Heard County Planning Commission for a Four-Year Term Expiring December 31, 2028

On a motion (Perry) and a second (Walls), the Board unanimously voted to appoint Sam Harman, Sr. to the Heard County Planning Commission for a four-year term ending December 31, 2028. The term was originally scheduled to begin on January 1, 2025, all appointments were delayed due to ongoing litigation, during which the former Chairman opted not to make any changes to the Planning Commission Board.

c. Appointment Three – Heard County Planning Commission for a Four-Year Term Expiring December 31, 2028

On a motion (Walls) and a second (Perry), the Board unanimously voted to appoint Mark Callahan to the Heard County Planning Commission for a four-year term ending December 31, 2028. The term was originally scheduled to begin on January 1, 2025,

all appointments were delayed due to ongoing litigation, during which the former Chairman opted not to make any changes to the Planning Commission Board.

Agenda Item # 7 – Public Comments

- Buddy Copeland

Item # 8 – Executive Session

On a motion (Walls) and a second (Mock), the Board entered into Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. to discuss litigation. The Board exited Executive Session at 7:28 p.m.

Item # 9 – Amend Agenda

Unscheduled Discussion – Zoning Applicant Oversight

After completing Agenda Item 8, it was brought to the Board's attention that an applicant, Sheena Holloway, was present in the audience expecting to participate in a public hearing regarding a zoning matter. Due to an administrative oversight, the application had not been submitted to the Board of Commissioners by the Building and Zoning Director, and thus no public hearing had been scheduled.

To acknowledge the applicant and clarify the situation, on a motion (Harris) and a second (Mock), the Board unanimously voted to amend the agenda to address the omitted item with applicant Sheena Holloway.

The applicant was invited to provide an explanation of her application. The Board informed her that no public hearing or decision could take place at this meeting due to the lack of proper advertisement and scheduling. The Board stated that the hearing would need to be postponed and readvertised in accordance with legal requirements before any action could be taken.

On a motion by (Perry) and a second (Walls), the Board unanimously voted to postpone the public hearing for Sheena Holloway and to readvertise the hearing in accordance with legal notice

requirements. The hearing will be scheduled for the next regular Board meeting on May 20, 2025,
at 6:30 p.m.

Item # 10 – Adjourn

There being no further business, on a motion (Harris) and second (Mock), the Board voted
unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Adjourned 7:36 p.m.

Katrina Billingsley

County Clerk

Tracy M. E. D.

Chairman

Date: 05/20/25

