

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
November 18, 2025 - 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a regular Commissioners Meeting on November 18, 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, District 4 Commissioner Larry Hammond, District 5 Commissioner David Walls, County Attorney Michael Hill, and Deputy Clerk Sandy Cox.

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

Chairman Tracy McCormick called the meeting to order, County Clerk Katrina Billingsley gave the invocation.

Agenda Item # 3 – Approval of Minutes

On a motion (Walls) and second (Hammond), the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the Work Session meeting on October 21, 2025, as written. On a motion (Perry) and second (Harris), the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the regular Commissioner's meeting on October 21, 2025, as written. On a motion (Walls) and second (Perry), the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the Called meeting on October 22, 2025, as written.

Agenda Item # 4 – Amend Agenda

There were no amendments to the agenda.

Agenda Item # 5 – Public Hearing

a. Application to Rezone James Morris 4944 Hollingsworth Ferry Rd

On a motion (Walls) and second (Mock), the Board voted unanimously to open the Public Hearing. The planning commission considered a rezoning request involving two adjacent lots, one

of which was nonconforming under rural development zoning. The applicants sought to rezone and combine the parcels in order to create a single conforming 1.68-acre lot on which they could place a new mobile home. One of the existing lots contains an uninhabitable mobile home that will be removed. The Planning Commission previously reviewed the request at its November meeting and agreed at that time to move it forward.

At the hearing, petitioner James Morris explained that the two lots would be merged so the property could meet all zoning standards, including road-frontage requirements. He stated that they intended to use the existing driveway, though it may need widening. Planning and zoning staff confirmed that once the lots are combined, the new parcel will have the required 150 feet of road frontage and will not require a driveway variance as long as the existing entrance is used. Questions were raised about the exact location of the driveway, the condition of the access, and whether the applicants were relying on an old roadbed or county right-of-way. The petitioner clarified that the old deep roadbed and the triangular section of land near the gully are part of his property and not county-owned. He indicated that if necessary, he would adjust the interior property line—cutting off a small corner of one lot—to ensure the combined parcel clearly contains uninterrupted road frontage that meets county requirements.

Commissioners expressed concern about ensuring the nonconforming lot did not remain without true road access after the merger. The applicant reiterated that the driveway connects to the public road and that the combined parcel would satisfy the frontage standard. Commissioners asked that the survey reflecting these boundaries be included in the planning department's records. No objections were raised from the audience, and the discussion concluded with the understanding that the rezoning and combination would correct the nonconforming status, allow proper driveway permitting, and make the property suitable for placing the new mobile home.

On a motion (Perry) and second (Hammond), the Board voted unanimously to close the Public Hearing.

Agenda Item # 6 – New Business

a. Discussion/Decision on Application to Rezone James Morris 4944 Hollingsworth Ferry Rd

On a motion (Perry) and a second (Hammond), the Board unanimously voted to approve the application with specific conditions: the existing mobile home must be completely removed, a new mobile home must be installed in its place, and the property line must provide the required 150 feet of road frontage.

b. Discuss/Approve IGA for T-SPLOST

On a motion (Perry) and a second (Mock), the Board unanimously voted to approve the IGA for T-SPLOST.

c. Discuss/Approve 2026 Paid Holidays

On a motion (Walls) and a second (Hammond), the Board unanimously voted to approve the 2026 Paid Holiday schedule for county employees.

d. Discuss/Adopt Resolution for Qualifying Fees for District Commissioners and School Board

On a motion (Mock) and a second (Walls), the Board unanimously voted to adopt the Resolution setting the qualifying fees for District Commissioners to \$502.85 and the School Board qualifying fees to \$162.00.

Agenda Item # 6 – Old Business

a. Sign Resolution to Reduce Speed Limit for Welcome Road and Gum Creek Airport Road to 45 mph

On a motion (Mock) and a second (Perry), the Board unanimously voted to sign the resolution to reduce the speed limit to 45 mph on Welcome Road and Gum Creek Airport Road.

b. Announce Signed STAR Grant

The STAR grant is a state program that helps communities pay to remove and recycle old scrap tires. It reimburses local governments for cleaning up dumped or collected tires so they don't harm the environment or public health. The scrap tire collection event funded by this grant will be held on January 10, 2026, at 9 a.m. at the Covered Arena, and it is only for Heard County residents.

On a motion (Walls) and a second (Mock), the Board unanimously voted to ratify the STAR grant contract for scrap tires and to authorize Commissioner Perry to sign the contract.

Agenda Item # 7 – Public Comments

None.

Item # 8 – Executive Session

7:01 pm - On a motion (Perry) and a second (Hammond), the Board unanimously voted to enter executive session to discuss real estate matters.

7:50 pm - On a motion (Walls) and a second (Mock), the Board unanimously voted to exit executive session where real estate matters were discussed. No action was taken.

Item # 9 – Adjourn

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

Adjourned 7:52 p.m.

Katrina Billingsley

County Clerk

Date 12-16-25

Tracy McConville

Chairman

