



LUMPKIN COUNTY
Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Agenda
99 Courthouse Hill
Dahlonega, GA 30533

January 21, 2025
6:00 PM

- **CALL TO ORDER**

- **INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

- **CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA**

- **PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Specific)**

- **PROCLAMATIONS**

1. Proclamation Recognizing Career & Technical Education Month

- **MINUTES**

2. Board of Commissioners - Work Session - December 3, 2024 4:00 PM
3. Board of Commissioners - Work Session II - December 17, 2024 5:30 PM
4. Board of Commissioners - Regular Meeting - December 17, 2024 6:00 PM

- **RESOLUTIONS**

5. 2025-01 Appoint/Reappoint Members to the Lumpkin County Public Building Authority - *Chris Dockery to Seat 1, and Leland Cox to Seat 2, both with terms expiring 02/21/2028.*
6. 2025-02 Appoint/Reappoint Member to the Lumpkin County Airport Authority - *Greg Trammell to Seat B and Murl Jones to Seat D, both with terms expiring 02/19/2029.*
7. 2025-03 Resolution to Update Lumpkin County Fee Schedule - Include

Pinetree Recreation Center Activities (*Finance Director Abby Branan*)

8. 2025-04 Appoint Member to Lumpkin County Water & Sewerage Authority - *Wes Chambers to Seat 4 with an unexpired term ending 5/31/2025*

- **REPORTS**

Department reports can be viewed on www.lumpkincounty.gov

- **ELECTED OFFICIALS**

- **CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS**

9. 2025-001 Mauldin & Jenkins - 2024 Audit Engagement Letter (*Finance Director Abby Branan*)
10. 2025-002 Ambulance Billing Services Contract Renewal (*Finance Director Abby Branan*)
11. 2025-003 Loan of 1929 Wayne 800 Gas Pump for Display at the Administration Building Lobby (*County Clerk Melissa Witcher*)
12. 2025-004 Loan of 1964 Ford 4000 Farm Tractor for Display at the Administration Building Lobby (*County Clerk Melissa Witcher*)
13. 2025-005 Deanna, Inc. DHS Coordinated Transportation SFY2024 – Congregate Transportation Agreement (*Senior Center Manager Marc Bottoms*)
14. 2025-006 Pinetree Recreation Center Pool Maintenance Agreement - Aquatic Consulting & Equipment Inc. (*Pinetree Recreation Center Manager Jared Ray*)
15. 2025-007 Agreement between Lumpkin County & Mercer Group Associates (*County Manager Alan Ours*)

- **OTHER ITEMS**

16. Election of Vice Chairman
17. Special Event Permit Request – "The Roundup" for CASA Event (*County Clerk Melissa Witcher*)
18. 2026 SPLOST 2025 Work Plan (*Finance Director Abby Branan*)
19. 2020 SPLOST 2025 Work Plan (*Finance Director Abby Branan*)
20. 2023 TSPLOST 2025 Work Plan (*Finance Director Abby Branan*)

21. Consideration of Easement Across Yahoola Creek Fire Station Property
(*County Manager Alan Ours*)

- **COUNTY MANAGER**
- **ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER & DEPARTMENT HEADS**
- **COMMISSIONERS**
- **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- **EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL**
- **ADJOURNMENT**



LUMPKIN COUNTY
Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Minutes
99 Courthouse Hill
Dahlonega, GA 30533

January 21, 2025
6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:16 pm. Present were Chairman Chris Dockery and Commissioners Tucker Greene, Bobby Mayfield, Rhett Stringer, and Jeff Moran.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA

Motion: Chairman Dockery moved to approve the agenda and add Resolution 2025-04 (Appoint Member to Water & Sewerage Authority) after item 7. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Mayfield. The motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Specific)

PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation Recognizing Career & Technical Education Month

Motion: Commissioner Mayfield moved to approve the proclamation and was seconded by Commissioner Moran. The motion was approved unanimously.

MINUTES

2. Board of Commissioners - Work Session - December 3, 2024 4:00 PM
3. Board of Commissioners - Work Session II - December 17, 2024 5:30 PM
4. Board of Commissioners - Regular Meeting - December 17, 2024 6:00 PM

Motion: Commissioner Moran moved to approve the minutes by acclamation and was seconded by Commissioner Greene. The motion was approved unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS

5. 2025-01 Appoint/Reappoint Members to the Lumpkin County Public Building Authority - Chris Dockery to Seat 1, and Leland Cox to Seat 2, both with terms expiring 02/21/2028.

Motion: Commissioner Mayfield moved to approve the resolution and was seconded by Commissioner Moran. The motion was passed unanimously.

6. 2025-02 Appoint/Reappoint Member to the Lumpkin County Airport Authority - Greg Trammell to Seat B and Murl Jones to Seat D, both with terms expiring 02/19/2029.

Motion: Chairman Dockery moved to reappoint Greg Trammell to Seat B and was seconded by Commissioner Greene. The motion was approved unanimously.

***Motion:** Chairman Dockery moved to appoint Murl Jones to Seat D and was seconded by Commissioner Moran. The motion was approved unanimously.*

7. 2025-03 Resolution to Update Lumpkin County Fee Schedule - Include Pinetree Recreation Center Activities (Finance Director Abby Branan)

***Motion:** Commissioner Greene moved to approve the resolution and was seconded by Commissioner Stringer. The motion was approved unanimously.*

8. 2025-04 Appoint Member to Lumpkin County Water & Sewerage Authority - Wes Chambers to Seat 4 with an unexpired term ending 5/31/2025

***Motion:** Chairman Dockery moved to appoint Wes Chambers to Seat 4 of an unexpired term ending 5/31/2025. His motion was seconded by Bobby Mayfield, which was approved unanimously.*

REPORTS

ELECTED OFFICIALS

CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

9. 2025-001 Mauldin & Jenkins - 2024 Audit Engagement Letter (Finance Director Abby Branan)

***Motion:** Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the agreement and was seconded by Commissioner Moran. The motion was approved unanimously.*

10. 2025-002 Ambulance Billing Services Contract Renewal (Finance Director Abby Branan)

***Motion:** Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the contract and was seconded by Commissioner Greene. The motion was approved unanimously.*

11. 2025-003 Loan of 1929 Wayne 800 Gas Pump for Display at the Administration Building Lobby (County Clerk Melissa Witcher)

***Motion:** Commissioner Moran moved to approve the agreement and was seconded by Commissioner Mayfield. The motion was approved unanimously.*

12. 2025-004 Loan of 1964 Ford 4000 Farm Tractor for Display at the Administration Building Lobby (County Clerk Melissa Witcher)

***Motion:** Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the agreement and was seconded by Commissioner Greene. The motion was approved unanimously.*

13. 2025-005 Deanna, Inc. DHS Coordinated Transportation SFY2024 – Congregate Transportation Agreement (Senior Center Manager Marc Bottoms)

***Motion:** Commissioner Greene moved to approve the agreement and was seconded by Commissioner Mayfield. The motion was approved unanimously.*

14. 2025-006 Pinetree Recreation Center Pool Maintenance Agreement - Aquatic Consulting & Equipment Inc. (Pinetree Recreation Center Manager Jared Ray)

***Motion:** Commissioner Moran moved to approve the contract and was seconded by Commissioner Stringer. The motion was approved unanimously.*

15. 2025-007 Agreement between Lumpkin County & Mercer Group Associates (County Manager Alan Ours)

***Motion:** Commissioner Greene moved to approve the agreement and was seconded by Commissioner Mayfield. The motion was approved unanimously.*

OTHER ITEMS

16. Election of Vice Chairman

***Motion:** Chairman Dockery moved to nominate Commissioner Rhett Stringer as Vice Chairman. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Moran, and it was approved unanimously.*

17. Special Event Permit Request – "The Roundup" for CASA Event (County Clerk Melissa Witcher)

***Motion:** Commissioner Greene moved to approve the special event permit and was seconded by Commissioner Mayfield. The motion was approved unanimously.*

18. 2026 SPLOST 2025 Work Plan (Finance Director Abby Branan)

***Motion:** Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the list of items with each item to come back before the BOC before its execution. Commissioner Mayfield seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.*

19. 2020 SPLOST 2025 Work Plan (Finance Director Abby Branan)

***Motion:** Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the work plan and was seconded by Commissioner Mayfield. The motion was approved unanimously.*

20. 2023 TSPLOST 2025 Work Plan (Finance Director Abby Branan)

***Motion:** Commissioner Greene moved to approve the work plan and was seconded by Commissioner Mayfield. Commissioners Greene, Mayfield, and Moran were in favor. Commissioner Stringer was opposed. The motion carried.*

21. Consideration of Easement Across Yahoola Creek Fire Station Property (County Manager Alan Ours)

***Motion:** Commissioner Stringer made a motion to approve an easement across the Yahoola Fire Station property requested by Steve Gooch as generally depicted on the exhibit survey. Once a survey is completed, the Chairman shall be authorized to execute easement documents to grant an easement to Steve Gooch and to align the existing US Forest Service easement with the new easement. This approval shall also authorize increasing the easement width to 60 feet if required by the US Forest Service. Commissioner Greene seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.*

COUNTY MANAGER

ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER & DEPARTMENT HEADS

COMMISSIONERS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Creston Warner and Ryan Hogue both came to speak regarding the Park & Rec synthetic turf grant. They had heard the BOC was considering changing the scope of the turf grant to only turf the cloverleaf fields. They said that as soccer people, they are not excited about that prospect. They want to see the grant implemented as it was awarded, to turf the multipurpose field.

Joe Paul said only putting turf on the cloverleaf will disproportionately benefit athletes in one sport instead of benefitting many. There are almost 250 players that are enrolled in United Futbol Academy Soccer, and there is a

larger proportion of female players than male. When baseball and softball have weather cancellations, it is usually due to the condition of the infields, not the outfields. He thinks it would be reasonable to turf only the infields of the cloverleaf and not the outfields, which is something that the Park & Rec Director had suggested. Mr. Paul said we had to cancel 22 games or practices last season. Soccer can be played in the rain, but typically the cancellations are due to the condition of the wet fields; they will be destroyed if they get played on. He asked the Commissioners to please do what will benefit the greatest number of athletes.

Karolyn Jarrard, who was at the November 19th meeting, gave an update on the Trail Rangers mountain biking program. Registration has begun, and the High School is working with them so the kids can get a letter for mountain biking. They are also including the program in the yearbook and pep rallies.

Chairman Dockery said he would like to address the issue of the synthetic turf. When this was submitted by the previous Park & Rec director, we started examining some of the areas he had suggested. The concern with the multipurpose field is that it isn't level. For synthetic turf to work, the field has to be level and it has to drain properly. We would have to dig down and install a drainage system. There are concerns with the water table at the multipurpose field and its proximity to the creek. If we start digging and find standing water, then we have ruined a field. We do not have the money to turf everything, he said. The legion field used to be a muddy mess and we had discussed turfing that field, but we installed adequate drainage instead.

The Chairman said the preferred, premium playing surface is grass. Athletes on grass fields are less susceptible to injury than on turf fields, but turf is intended to reduce maintenance. The life expectancy of turf can be anywhere from 7 to 10 years. You have to think, where is the money going to come from to replace it at the end of its lifecycle? We want to make the best decision to serve the most people, the Chairman said. Sometimes decisions aren't easy, but we are committed to providing the best playing surfaces we can for our community.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL

***Motion:** Commissioner Mayfield moved to enter executive session at 6:53 pm, and his motion was seconded by Commissioner Greene. The motion was approved unanimously.*

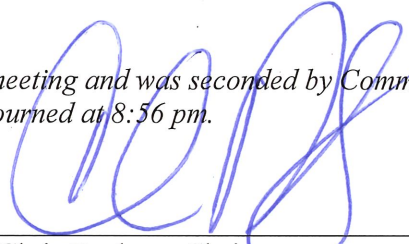
***Motion:** Commissioner Greene moved to exit executive session and re-enter regular session at 8:53 pm. Commissioner Mayfield seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.*

***Motion:** Chairman Dockery moved to increase the County Manager's compensation by 6% effective January 1st, 2025. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Moran and was unanimously approved.*

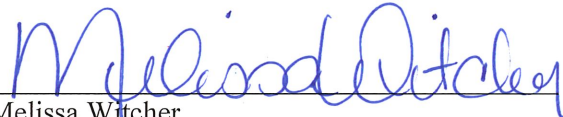
ADJOURNMENT

***Motion:** Commissioner Mayfield moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Greene. The motion was approved unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 8:56 pm.*

February 18, 2025
Date


Chris Dockery, Chairman
Lumpkin County Board of Commissioners

Attest:


Melissa Witcher
Clerk, Lumpkin County