



LUMPKIN COUNTY Board of Commissioners

Work Session Minutes

**99 Courthouse Hill
Dahlonega, GA 30533**

**June 3, 2025
4:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm. Present were Chairman Chris Dockery and Commissioners Tucker Greene, Bobby Mayfield, Rhett Stringer, and Jeff Moran.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Enotah CASA Presentation - *Fran Parks*

2. Ninth District Headstart Presentation - *Stacey Trammell*

3. 2026 Budget Presentation

Commissioner Stringer said it might be helpful to have a breakdown of some of the big-ticket items. Chairman Dockery agreed and used the supplies category as an example. How much of a percentage increase is that amount over last year? The Chairman also asked, out of the proposed increase for salary and benefits, how much of that is for new positions? There are only 2 new positions. Ms. Branan said she could provide a spreadsheet with the breakdown if the commissioners wanted to see it. She said that out of the total cost of salaries and benefits, \$250,000 is for the new positions and reclassifications. \$1.5 million of the \$1.9 million increase is for salaries and benefits, including cost-of-living adjustments. Commissioner Mayfield commented on the pie chart showing the breakdown of revenues. He said he would like to see the taxes category broken down into property taxes versus other taxes.

The budget meetings between the BOC and department heads will tentatively be scheduled for June 18, beginning in the morning and going throughout the day. The meeting for the millage rate will tentatively be held the week of July 21st.

4. 2024 Audit Presentation (*Mauldin & Jenkins*) ***Regular Meeting***

MINUTES

5. Board of Commissioners - Work Session - May 6, 2025 4:00 PM
6. Board of Commissioners - Public Hearing - May 20, 2025 5:10 PM
7. Board of Commissioners - Public Hearing - May 20, 2025 5:15 PM
8. Board of Commissioners - Work Session II - May 20, 2025 5:30 PM
9. Board of Commissioners - Regular Meeting - May 20, 2025 6:00 PM

RESOLUTIONS

10. 2025-35 Resolution Dedicating the Burnt Stand/Auraria Road Roundabout - The Charles F. Trammell Roundabout ***Ratify***
11. 2025-36 Appoint Members to Joint Development Authority - *Donna Minnich to Seat 2, with a term expiring 12/31/2024 and A.C. Moore to Seat 3, with a term expiring 12/31/2026*
12. 2025-37 Appoint Member to Board of Health - *Kari Mills in the Physician County Seat, of an unexpired term ending 12/31/2029*
13. 2025-38 Amend 2025 Budget Calendar for FY2026 Budget (*Finance Director Abby Branan*)

CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

14. 2025-056 ACCG - IRMA Property & Liability Renewal (*Community & Employee Services Director Alicia Davis*)
15. 2025-057 Jack Freeman Medical Director Contract Renewal (*EMA Director David Wimpy*)

16. 2025-058 Lanier Tech Contract Renewal - Johnson Street (*Assistant County Manager Ashley Peck*)
17. 2025-059 Tru Green Turf Care Contract Renewal - Park & Rec Fields (*Park & Rec Manager Tim Towe*)
Chairman Dockery asked when the last time this contract was put out to bid. Ms. Peck said she believes it was two years ago. The Chairman said it would be a good idea to bid it out next year. Commissioner Stringer agreed and suggested we bundle this with the roundabout turf care contracts when we put it out to bid.
18. 2025-060 United Futbol Academy Soccer Contract Renewal (*Park & Rec Manager Tim Towe*)
19. 2025-061 Legacy Link Agreement Addendum #2 (*Senior Center Manager Marc Bottoms*)
Senior Center Manager Marc Bottoms said the state fiscal year is ending June 30, so he is requesting a consensus from the Commissioners to apply the funding. The BOC was in consensus to proceed.
20. 2025-062 Burnt Stand/Auraria Road Roundabout Groundbreaking & Dedication Ceremony Contract (*County Clerk Melissa Witcher*) **Ratio**
21. 2025-063 Trio Community Meals Food Service SFY26 Contract (*Senior Center Manager Marc Bottoms*)
22. 2025-064 Cain Bridge Pipe Replacement on LC Parkway - TTL, Inc. Consultant Contract (*Special Projects Manager Charles Trammell*)
Chairman Dockery said the pipe needs to be resized to give water somewhere to go. The cost to size the pipe was \$2,500, but the company sent it as a contract instead of an invoice. He explained that normally, the County Manager would approve an item with a monetary amount that is under the threshold. If the BOC is in consensus, we can authorize the execution of the contract and schedule the repair. The Commissioners were in consensus to proceed.
23. 2025-065 Johnson Controls Repair & Service Contract - Justice Center Sprinkler

System (*Assistant County Manager Ashley Peck*)

24. 2025-066 Realignment of Wahoo Creek Road - Davis Engineering (*Special Projects Manager Charles Trammell*)

Commissioner Stringer said he agrees that something needs to be done about Wahoo Creek Road's flooding problem, but he feels we are going from one extreme to the next. If it costs \$18,000 just to design a plan to fix it, is the BOC willing to commit to spending money on however much it costs to implement the plan? He said he thinks there are other things we could try before going this route. Chairman Dockery suggested that Commissioner Stringer, Commissioner Mayfield, Mr. Ours, and Mr. Trammell could go together to inspect the site and try to come up with alternative solutions.

25. 2025-067 Recycling Center Infrastructure Construction - JL Gaddis (*Assistant County Manager Ashley Peck*)

26. 2025-068 Yahoola Creek Park Clover Leaf Design Services - FieldTurf USA (*Assistant County Manager Ashley Peck*)

Commissioner Stringer asked why the amount for both contracts was the same. Ms. Peck explained this is just the design portion, so the company is charging the same for both field designs.

27. 2025-069 Yahoola Creek Park Rugby Field Design Services - FieldTurf USA (*Assistant County Manager Ashley Peck*)

28. 2025-070 Turf Management Services for the Welcome Sign and Roundabouts Contract Renewal #2 (*Assistant County Manager Ashley Peck*)

29. 2025-071 Annual Service Contract for Tek84 Body Scanner (*Sheriff Stacy Jarrard*)

Sheriff Jarrard said this body scanner has been very successful in detecting contraband and keeping it out of the jail. He said he has heard from the Georgia Sheriff's Association that other sheriff's departments have used funds from the opioid settlement to pay for body scanners and body scanner contracts. Chairman Dockery said he would like to see the specific wording in the settlement document that allows for the funds to be used for body scanner contracts. If it can't be used, we will have to brainstorm where the funding will come from.

Commissioner Stringer asked why the contract is a prorated amount. Sheriff Jarrard and

Doug Cochran explained the company has prorated the amount to take us through the end of the year, but it will have to be included in the budget next year. The Commissioners were in agreement to proceed with the contract and try to reimburse later using opioid settlement funds, if possible.

COUNTY MANAGER

ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER & DEPARTMENT HEADS

COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Dockery said at the last meeting of the Lumpkin County Board of Health, they discussed suicide statistics in Georgia, and the suicide rate in Lumpkin County is disproportionately high. He said we need to do everything we can as a community to assure people that there is help for them. He also shared that Kevin Tanner, Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, will be having a community resource event at the Lumpkin County Library on August 28th at 9:00 am.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Specific)

Sheriff Jarrard, Major Doug Cochran, and the Commissioners discussed the Sheriff's current vehicle situation. The Sheriff explained that there are 27 staff members in the Uniform Patrol Division, but only 25 currently have vehicles. There are a couple of cars in the shop that will be ready soon, so current employees will have enough vehicles. Major Cochran explained that the problem is they currently have two more employees in the hiring process who will not have vehicles. The LCSO does not have any old vehicles to turn in as per the County vehicle policy, where old cars must be sent out before new vehicles are brought in.

Commissioner Stringer said if these are newly filled positions, they shouldn't necessarily have to turn in old cars to get new ones. Chairman Dockery said he is not comfortable with a blanket policy of "new position, new car." He said it should have to come before the BOC, and he encouraged the Sheriff to look at some used cars as a possibility. He said thirty vehicles would be an operational amount. Major Cochran said he has had a lot of interest in vacant positions due largely in part to the pay increases implemented by the BOC, and he thanked them for that.

Sheriff Jarrard shared that on June 30th, there will be a crew doing some filming on GA-9 S, but it shouldn't have any effect on County roads. He displayed a copy of their filming plans to the Commissioners. He also reminded everyone of the R-Ranch rodeo, which will be this weekend.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 pm.

Date

Chris Dockery, Chairman
Lumpkin County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

Melissa Witcher
Clerk, Lumpkin County