



MCDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Session Meeting

Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at 10:00 AM

Government Complex Commissioner Room

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Chase Beggs, Chairman
Sammie Wilson Sr., Vice Chairman
Bill Jopling, Commissioner
Fredrick Favors, Commissioner
Steven Hollimon, Commissioner

COUNTY REPRESENTATION:

Dave Headley, Interim County Manager
Ashtyn Goodyear, County Clerk
Ruthie Thomas, HR Director
Pam Workman, Finance Director
Robert Spurlin, IT Director
Stephen Sewell, Fire/EMS Chief
Tommy Phelps, Planning and Zoning
Matthew Reid, Campground Manager

MEDIA: None

WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Beggs called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, acknowledged a quorum of commissioners present and welcomed everyone in attendance.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pastor Zach Washington from New Hope Baptist Church offered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC INPUT

Austin Cooper – Mr. Cooper addressed the board to let them know he wants to keep open dialogue, and he is still working on things to bring to the Recreation Department. He let the board know if anyone has any questions regarding the Recreation Department that his phone line is open and he will try his best to get an answer. Mr. Cooper stated since the last meeting, he has reached out to a former classmate, Johnathan Atkins, who is willing to come back to his hometown and host a football camp. Mr. Cooper has also reached out to a friend who is a coach at Payne College, they have discussed hopefully having a prospect/instruction camp for the kids there. He asked for the board to please reach out if they need any help regarding the Recreation Department.

Terry Rayford - Mr. Rayford addressed the board about a sewage and water damage issue at his home, 1276 Roy Street, that he has lived at for 40 years. He states the county came out to cut the grass, and the tractor tire went down in the ditch and bent a pipe. Now the water is backing up in his yard. He states he has taken pictures and taken them downtown but has not had any luck with getting this issue fixed. Mr. Rayford said now they are building apartments close by and there is drain in the highway, and when it rains it is overflowing into his yard and that is has an awful smell. He gave his phone number 706-962-9353, and Chairman Beggs told Mr. Rayford we will be out to see him and get this issue resolved. Dave Headley told Mr. Rayford he would also be in touch with him.

APPROVALS

Agenda (Current)

Chairman Beggs asked if there were any corrections to the current agenda or minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hollimon to approve the current agenda as written and was seconded by Commissioner Jopling and passed unanimously.

Minutes

Work Session – June 2, 2025

Regular Session – June 4, 2025

Executive Session – June 4, 2025

Chairman Beggs states that there is not an Affidavit for the Executive Session. Commissioner Jopling made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Wilson and passed unanimously.

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENT

1. Juneteenth is June 19, 2025, and the offices will be closed to observe this holiday.
2. Juneteenth and Father's Day Celebration Saturday, June 21, 2025, at the Government Center at 4:30 pm.
3. Freedom Blast is Friday, June 27, 2025, at the Government Center at 7pm. There will be food trucks, music, etc.

APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT None

OLD BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration to Approve the Approval of an Alcohol-Beverage License for Jet Food Store #102

Tommy Phelps presented this item to the board. This location is the current Molly's food store, but they are switching to Jet Food Store, and due to this they needed to submit a new application. The Jet Food Store has complied with what they need to do to get this switched over. He recommends approval for this license.

Vice Chairman Wilson made the motion to approve this Alcohol-Beverage license. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jopling and passed unanimously.

2. Consideration to Purchase a New Vehicle for the Campground Manager

Matthew Reid, Campground Manager presented his proposal to purchase a new vehicle for the campground. Matthew stated the reason for this request is due to the acquisition of the tractor that was recently purchased. Since the hurricane, there are more needs at the campground than before, such as, having to carry heavy equipment that the current truck is not capable of hauling. The current load of the tractor and trailer and truck is pushing the truck down the road, and this is unsafe, causing issues with breaking. He would like to use his reserve funds to make this purchase. 75% would come from Big Hart and 25% would come from Raysville. Matthew gathered 6 bids, with pricing done with a state contract. Commissioner Hollimon asked if the truck Matthew has currently is also a 1500, as the trucks presented in the bids. Matthew stated what he has is a 2 door 1500 on a smaller chassis, Matthew said Ford recommended to not pull a tractor and trailer with his current truck. Commissioner Hollimon asked Dave Headley do we currently have a vehicle that meets these needs. Dave Headley

said we have surplus vehicles but are potentially in worse shape. Dave Headley says at this time it's better to purchase a new vehicle, and that this purchase would be made more so for the Campground, and not the individual. Commissioner Jopling suggested that for low-price difference with the local car dealership rather than the non-local dealership. Chairman Beggs asked how long these bids are good for, and Matthew stated until we commit or the dealership sales the vehicle. Chairman Beggs asked did we want to move this to our next work session and discuss more. Commissioner Hollimon agreed he wanted to discuss more.

Vice Chairman Wilson made a motion to approve the local dealership truck bid. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Favors and passed unanimously.

3. Review Policies Required for the Upcoming GBI Audit Later This Month

Tommy Phelps presented this. These are new policies that are required. There were similar policies already in place, but Tommy found new policies with correct verbiage. These policies will assure our policies are up to date with the state.

Commissioner Jopling made a motion to approve these updated policies. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hollimon and passed unanimously.

4. Consideration to Approve Drug Court Grant

Judy Talkington presented this item. This grant itself is a reimbursement grant with a partial match that is covered by participant fees and date funds. The Judicial Circuit is requesting that the BOC continue to be the physical agent for their physical 2026 Drug Court Grant. Commissioner Jopling asks if any of this comes out of the county budget, and the answer is no. No funds required.

Commissioner Hollimon made a motion to approve this grant. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Favors and passed unanimously.

5. Monthly Budget Report

Pam presented the monthly budget report.

6. Monthly Finance Report

Pam presented the monthly finance report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Personnel

Enter: Vice Chairman Wilson made the motion to enter executive session at 7:05pm. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jopling and passed unanimously.

Exit: Commissioner Jopling made the motion to exit executive session and return to regular session at 7:29 pm. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hollimon.

REGULAR SESSION CONTINUED

1. Consideration to Add to Agenda to Approve Emergency Appointment of County Clerk

Commissioner Hollimon made the motion to add additional agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jopling and carried unanimously.

2. Consideration to Appoint Ashtyn Goodyear to County Clerk

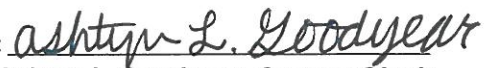
Commissioner Jopling made the motion to appoint Ashtyn Goodyear to County Clerk. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hollimon and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Wilson to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:30pm, seconded by Commissioner Jopling and passed unanimously.

MCDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Chase N. Beggs, Chairman

ATTEST: 
Ashtyn L. Goodyear, County Clerk