



FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
June 10, 2025

County Administration Building

Caucus	4:00 pm
Regular Meeting - Suite 206	6:00 pm

Caucus - Suite 204
4:00 pm

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6:00 pm

CAUCUS

Executive session to discuss property acquisition, litigation, and personnel.

Present: Chair Allison Watters, Vice Chair Rhonda Wallace, Commissioners Scotty Hancock, Mike Burnes, David Thornton, County Manager Jamie McCord, Attorney Chris Jackson, Assistant County Clerk John Bailey, Brice Wood, Greg Dobbins, Mike Bell, Adam Carey, Angela Rubino, Ron Swinford, Shonna Bailey, Susie Gass, Parvez Kadiwala, Erin Elrod, Brice Wood, Cynthia Heaton, Sylvia Barton and other citizens.

Chair Watters called the caucus to order at 4:06 p.m. During caucus the commissioners reviewed the agenda and discussed adding a six-month convenience store moratorium in order to consider evaluating a business license requirement in the unincorporated county.

At 5:10 p.m. Commissioner Thornton made a motion to enter into executive session, seconded by Commissioner Wallace. The motion carried 5-0. Commissioners discussed property acquisition, litigation, and personnel. No action was taken. They exited executive session at 6:00 p.m.

I) CALL TO ORDER

Chair Watters called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II) INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG - Chair Watters

III) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Rhonda Wallace made a motion to approve with an addition of a resolution instituting a six month moratorium on the issuance of permits for any gas station or convenience store as defined in the resolution, seconded by Scotty Hancock. The motion carried 5-0.

IV) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IV.1) Adopt minutes of Caucus, Executive Session, and Regular Meeting of May 27, 2025.

Minutes were approved by common consent.

V) SPECIAL RECOGNITION

VI) PROCLAMATION

VII) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REGARDING MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

VIII) FIRST READING

VIII.1) Z25-06-01, for the property at 754 Pleasant Valley Rd SE, Silver Creek, GA 30173, Floyd County Tax Parcel K16333A, requests to rezone from Multifamily Residential (M-R) to Suburban Residential (S-R). Staff recommended approval. Planning Commission recommended approval by a vote of 7-0.

Mr. Wood presented the item to the commission.

IX) SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING

X) PUBLIC HEARING

XI) RESOLUTIONS

Attorney Chris Jackson discussed the details of the resolution with the commission.

1. Resolution to institute a moratorium on the issuance of permits for any gas station or convenience store as defined in the resolution.

David Thornton made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Burnes. The motion carried 5-0.

XII) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - No report

XIII) COMMISSIONER'S REPORT - No report

XIII.1) Administrative Services Committee

a. Next Meeting, Thursday, July 24, 10:00 AM, 2025

XIII.2) Public Utilities & Transportation Committee

a. Regular Meeting, Wednesday, June 18, 8:00 AM, 2025

XIII.3) Elected Officials Committee

a. Next Meeting, Friday, Aug. 1, 2:00 PM, 2025

XIII.4) Special Committee Reports

a. Fire Overview Committee

Next Meeting, Tuesday, Sept. 9, 10:30 AM, 2025

b. Joint Services Committee

Next Meeting, Tuesday, August 5, 9:00 AM, 2025

c. Rome-Floyd Planning Commission

Next Meeting, Thursday, July 3 2:30 PM, 2025

d. Joint Development Oversight Committee

Next Meeting, Tuesday, Aug. 5, 10:00 AM, 2025

e. Joint Solid Waste Commission

Next Meeting, Tuesday, July 22, 8:30 AM, 2025

f. Transportation Policy Committee

Next Meeting, Wednesday, July 16, 10:00 AM, 2025

g. Airport Commission

Next Meeting, Wednesday, July 16, 4:00 PM, 2025

h. SPLOST Project Overview Committee

Next Meeting, TBD, 2025

i. RFPR Advisory Committee

Next Meeting, Wednesday, June 17, 12:00 PM, 2025

j. Floyd County Library Board

Next Meeting, Thursday, August 21, 4:00 PM, 2025

XIII.5) Public Safety Committee

a. Next Meeting, Thursday, June 19, 10:00 AM, 2025

XIV) MANAGER'S REPORT - No report

XV) ATTORNEY'S REPORT - No report

XVI) CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Watters asked Assistant Clerk Mr. Bailey if the consent agenda was in order. He stated that it was.

XVI.1) Consider a request from Purchasing to deem the vehicles and equipment listed as surplus items to be auctioned on GovDeals.com and to reinstate a 2008 US Jetting Unit for Facilities which was approved on April 8 or sale on GovDeals.

XVI.2) Consider a request from Finance to accept a 2025 HIDTA Grant in the amount of \$150,000.00. This is a reimbursement grant with no match requirement. The performance period for this grant is Jan. 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2026.

XVI.3) Consider a request from Human Resources to approve a renewal of ACCG property and liability coverage for 2025-2026 period.

XVI.4) Consider a request from Public Works to renew a contract with GDOT to sweep the bike lanes on the Southwest Bypass on Highway 27 to Highway 20 for \$1,000 per

month to be recorded in GL Acct. #100366-43552. This will require no change to the budget.

- XVI.5) Consider a request from Public Works to approve an application for the Local Road Assistance Program with GDOT to access funds approved for Floyd County in the amount of \$1,659,500.00.
- XVI.6) Consider request from Sheriff's Office to purchase new Bleck gloves, single frequency e-bands and shields for jail staff from Blue Line Advancements LLC using the ICS Technology Funds. There will need to be a budget increase of \$18,245.00 to GL Account #100441-52000. This will cover the purchase price of the gloves, e-bands and the shield. The glove pouches will be charged to GL Account #100441-51000 and no budget increase is needed.

Rhonda Wallace made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Burnes. The motion carried 5-0.

XVII) OLD BUSINESS

XVIII) NEW BUSINESS

- XVIII.1) Consider a request from Finance to approve an amended final 2024 budget for 2013 SPLOST, 2017 SPLOST and 2023 SPLOST.

Mr. McCord presented the item to the commission.

Mike Burnes made a motion to approve, seconded by Scotty Hancock. The motion carried 5-0.

- XVIII.2) Consider a request from Police Department to approve parking management equipment and software for Judicial Parking Lot at 3 Government Plaza. This will have an annual cost of \$9,300 for the hardware and software and will require a budget increase of \$9,300 to an account number that will be created upon approval.

Mr. McCord presented the item to the commission.

Scotty Hancock made a motion to approve, seconded by Rhonda Wallace. The motion carried 5-0.

- XVIII.3) Consider a request from the Clerk's Office to approve a waiver of hearing and stipulation to sanctions regarding self-service fuel, beer and wine, and amusement

game room licenses for 3510 Martha Berry Highway and a beer consumption off premises and self-service fuel and coin operated amusement machine licenses to Zainab Waseem for Jheel, LLC dba Berrie Mart located at 3510 Martha Berry Highway. All fees and requirements have been met by the applicant.

Mr. McCord presented the item to the commission.

Rhonda Wallace made a motion to approve request from the Clerk's Office for a waiver of hearing and stipulation to sanctions regarding self-service fuel, beer and wine, and amusement game room licenses for 3510 Martha Berry Highway., seconded by Mike Burnes. The motion carried 5-0.

Rhonda Wallace made a motion to approve request from the Clerk's office for a beer consumption off-premises and self-service fuel and coin operated amusement machine licenses to Zainab Waseem for Jheel, LLC dba Berrie Mart located at 3510 Martha Berry Highway. All fees and requirements have been met by the applicant., seconded by Mike Burnes. The motion carried 3-2.

XIX) OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Watters stated the commission went into executive session to discuss litigation, personnel, and property. No action was taken.

XX) PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Ron Swinford was called to speak:

I'm really kind of sad to talk about this today, but I think somebody needs to. The last meeting we had over 100 people here and the number one thing that I got from that on the way out is I heard this comment a lot – the decision was made before we even showed up. The number one problem that we have is most of the folks on this side don't necessarily think most of the folks on that side are listening. This starts from school boards to the U.S. Senate and everything in between. But in the last meeting you changed the rules on the folks. You had an on agenda sign up an off agenda sign up and I saw something I've never seen and I've been to as many commission meetings as some of the commissioners. There was a sign-up sheet back there for a second hearing, I've never seen that. I could understand making someone sign in here, you know, as they're speaking so you have their name and information and stuff. But there was a sign-up sheet back there. The folks from Coosa if they gotten their full time would have had 40 minutes to talk. You did give them 10 extra minutes, that was great in the hearing part but that was still 20 minutes. That was about half the time. And I hate to say what I'm about to say but I'm going to anyhow, there were a couple of commissioners that were sitting up there that weren't exactly paying attention when the folks were speaking from Coosa. They were looking around and doing other stuff. Folks, I respect every one of you and I've had good conversations with every one

of you. And I think 99.9 percent of the time we're trying to move in the same direction. That's not what it seemed like on that. I don't have a dog in the fight so to speak. I'm not a big fan of the energy vampires the data centers are but I understand the pros of the tax money. Matter of fact we could use some of it down in Celanese and we may actually have a talk about that. Um, it was a bad look especially when this is normal, this is our normal turn out. What did we have 150 in here that night. 100-150? It was a bad look for the commission and it really created some of the problems we have with the mistrust. A lot of that comes from misinformation and bad communication on both sides I'm not saying it doesn't. But this was a bad look. I just wanted to get up and mention that tonight. As I always say when I come up here if there's anything I ever can do to help, I always try to help. Commissioner Wallace responded thanked Mr. Swinford but pointed out that she wrote down every concern and every question and called the applicant back to the podium and asked him all 18 questions that she heard brought up by concerned residents. Mr. Swinford agreed with Commissioner Wallace. Commissioner Hancock pointed out that the motion included issues concerning noise and lighting and commissioners also added another 100 foot of undisturbed buffer as part of their motion. Commissioner Hancock also acknowledged that the county could do a better job of communicating and is taking steps to increase communication. Floyd County Attorney Chris Jackson also replied to Mr. Swinford's statement that the rules were changed regarding public hearings during a second reading, stating that the process is outlined in the Floyd County unified land development code and was followed.

Everett Ballard and Jeral McClay, 99 Old School Rd., were called to speak.

My name is Everett Ballard, I'm Jeral McClay, and we live at 99 Old School Road in Armuchee. We're here to find out how the drive way was approved at this new store they're building across from our street on Old School Road and the commissioners did not vote on it. The zoning people gave them permission to cut the drive way. It was done on 4.4.24, Mr. Salmon owned the property there and the other people bought it later down the line. Mr. Price from the building inspector's office sent me a memo today saying this is Charles Price, building inspector, after reviewing this site plan for the new store. They do have a plan to create a driveway on Old School Road and I would talk to the Floyd County Engineering Department to see what those are and to see if they're still planning on cutting a driveway but they don't respond to calls.

Chair Watters asked if Mr. McCord had any information regarding the issue.

Mr. McCord explained that the driveway was a part of the approval process and has already been approved.

I don't live across from that driveway, Ms. McClay said.

Mr. McCord said the city owns the intersection and approved a right in/right out and that will alleviate traffic on Old School Road.

Ms. McClay said sir there was nothing put up to show that had been changed from residential to commercial. I've been there over 10 years and have lived in Floyd County all my life. I never. I moved from (unclear) creek where I lived for over 40 years with my family and moved there at 99 Old School Road for 10 years now. My problem with it is my mailbox is across the road from my driveway sir. I turned 80 yesterday and I barely make it

sometimes back across into my driveway. I don't even have the privilege of other people letting me cross and I would like to see the driveway not put there for that reason. Also, because I live there and I'm a widow to myself but I just don't feel like we, as Everett and I, are being treated right about this problem. We were not told it was changed to commercial and there was a house there and then no house. So, I could have maybe made some kind of, I don't know the word, but I might have tried to buy the land sir to have stopped this. This is probably my last time to even be here but I just don't feel like the people in Floyd County, including me, are being treated right about this being done. I don't feel protected any more even though we do have several police that go by several times and you're lucky sometimes if they'll even look (unclear) they don't even stop and let me cross.

Chair Watters asked Mr. Ballard and Ms. McClay to stay after the commission to speak and clarified that the driveway doesn't go before the board and is covered by building permits.

Maggie Flammer, 7 Canterbury Ct. SE, was called to speak.

I know Rhonda, she actually helped my ex-husband and I with our financing a while ago so I know sometimes priorities do change. I'm here because I was at the last meeting when the Coosa decision was made and this is the second time really appearing and watching how all of this works, so I respect you. I do have an issue with time. I don't know if all of you are aware but currently statistics show that it takes 11 hours...well, did you know an average worker today needs to work 11 hours per week to produce as much as the one who worked 40 hours per week in 1950. Why am I saying that? Because average work hours are what? What do you say? 7:30 to 3, I'm a teacher. So, I gotta be in by a certain time and I gotta get out by 3. And other people that I know work from 9 to 5, other people that I know work from 8 to 4. All of your committee meetings are held outside of those, oh, within those hours because I guess all of you have that ability. I guess is your job, right? Oh, it's not your job, oh thank you for that clarification. The fire overview committee 10:30 in the morning, joint services committee 9 a.m., Rome Floyd Planning 2:30 in the afternoon. Joint Development Oversight committee 10 a.m. Joint Solid Waste Commission 8:30. Do get my point? And then I asked, you asked very politely, does anyone have a report? And everyone said no. Last meeting, the same thing happened nobody had a report. How are we supposed to find out? So, what do we do. We go into Google and we try to find a recording. There's no recording. You can't even find out what you all are talking about in your committee meetings as the public. So (unclear) stands up and says all of this is available, we had prior discussions about this or something to that effect. And then when we're up here and you have a room full of people. Nobody was heard, nobody was listened to. I know, I respect you I'm not going to counter your statement. But this is a fact, if you don't allow us to speak it's no longer a representative form of government and people are being affected. You just heard a couple, and it's an elderly couple at that, and that's very embarrassing. I would hate for that to become public. If you could please modify the time of your committee meetings or consider televising them or recording them so the public has access to them, I would really appreciate it. So, I can become more involved, because there's no way I could attend all of your committee meetings at this time.

XXI) ADJOURN

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.