



Jackson County Board of Commissioners

May 4, 2026 at 6:00 PM
Jury Assembly Room - County Courthouse

MINUTES

1. Call to Order - Chairman Marty Clark

Chairman Marty Clark called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. County Manager Gina Roy performed a roll call, and the following members were present:

Commissioners Present: Chairman Marty Clark

Commissioner Jim Hix, District 1

Commissioner Ty Clack, District 3

Commissioner Marty Seagraves, District 4 - Via Telephone

Commissioner Cole Elrod, District 5

Staff Present:

Gina Roy, County Manager

Jamie Jackson, Assistant County Manager

Hannah Slater, Public Development Manager

Ericka Johnson, Deputy Clerk

Press:

Mike Buffington, Jackson Herald/Mainstreet News

2. Invocation

Chairman Marty Clark gave the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Cole Elrod

Commissioner Cole Elrod led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Amendment of Agenda:

Chairman Clark advised Item 8A. regarding the Airport Electrical Rehabilitation Project Award & Grant Approval should be removed from the Consent Agenda and added to Unfinished Business. He then moved to remove the item from the Consent Agenda and place it under Unfinished Business. Commissioner Clack seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

4. Approval of Minutes

A. April 6, 2026 Draft Minutes

To approve the minutes for the April 6, 2026 board meeting

Commissioner Hix moved to approve the minutes for April 6, 2026. Commissioner Clack seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

B. April 14, 2026 Draft Minutes

To approve the minutes for the April 14, 2026 planning session

Commissioner Hix moved to approve the minutes for April 14, 2026. Commissioner Clack seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

C. April 30, 2026 Draft Minutes

To approve the minutes for the April 30, 2026 called board meeting

Chairman Clark moved to approve the minutes for April 30, 2026. Commissioner Clack seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

5. Citizen Input

Each speaker is provided up to four (4) minutes to address the board on any item that is not listed on this agenda.

There was no comment.

6. Reports

From Chairman Marty Clark:

- Acknowledged special guests in attendance and recognized Gordon County Commissioner Kurt Sutherland, and Assistant Administrator Keith King, who were both present, along with Debbie Martin, Mayor of the City of Hoschton.

From County Manager Gina Roy:

- Acknowledged guests from Leadership Jackson County.
- She also noted there will be a Jackson First Collaborative Meeting, made up of approximately 55 participants, that will meet this week at 9:00 a.m. at the Historic Courthouse. The event was planned by the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce.
- Reported the Georgia Association of Aviation will have a Legislative Fly-in at the airport on May 14, 2026 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

7. Recognitions, Appointments, and Special Items

A. Advantage Behavioral Health Systems - 3-Year Term

To appoint an individual to serve a 3-year term on the Board of Directors at Advantage Behavioral Health Systems (ABHS)

Chairman Clark moved to reappoint Patti Knick to the Advantage Behavioral Health Systems Board of Directors. Commissioner Hix seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

B. Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization Citizen Advisory Committee - 3 Year Term

To nominate an individual to serve on the Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization Citizens Advisory Committee

Commissioner Clack moved to reappoint Jim Southard to the Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization Citizen Advisory Committee for a 3-year term.

Commissioner Hix seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

- C. **Jackson County Department of Family & Children Services - 5 Year Term:**
To appoint an individual to serve a 5-year term on the Jackson County Department of Family & Children Services.

- **Demaris Gurley - Term expires June 30, 2026**

Chairman Clark moved to table the appointment. Commissioner Hix seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

- D. **Jackson County Water & Sewerage Authority - 3 Year Term:**
To appoint an individual to serve a 3-year term on the Jackson County Water Sewerage Authority.

- **Thomas Benton - Term expires June 30, 2026**

Chairman Clark moved to approve the reappointment of Tommy Benton to the Jackson County Water & Sewerage Authority for a 3-year term. Commissioner Clack seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

- E. **Northeast Georgia Region 10 EMS Council**
To nominate two individuals to serve on the Northeast Georgia (NEGA) Region 10 EMS Council

- **Jason Baker - Term expires June 30, 2026 (Ex Officio Member)**
- **Tim Grice - Term expires June 30, 2028**

Chairman Clark moved to appoint Jason Baker to another 3-year term, along with Bradley Love, to fill the unexpired term which ends on June 30, 2028. Commissioner Clack seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

- F. **Northeast Georgia Regional Commission - 1 Year Term:**
To appoint an individual to serve a 1-year term on the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission as a Private Sector representative.

- **Joe Hicks — Term expires June 30, 2026**

Chairman Clark moved to reappoint Joe Hicks to the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission as Private Sector representative for a one-year term beginning July 1, 2026. Commissioner Clack seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

8. **Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Clack moved to approve the Consent Agenda as revised. Commissioner Hix seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

- B. **Adoption of Revised Jackson County Animal Shelter Standard Operating Procedures**

To review the revisions and updates made to the Jackson County Animal Shelter Standard Operating Procedures.

Commissioner Clack moved to approve the adoption of the Revised Jackson County Animal Shelter Standard Operating Procedures. Commissioner Hix seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

9. Unfinished Business

8A. Airport Electrical Rehabilitation Project Award & Grant Approval

Award contract documents related to the Electrical Rehab Project. This includes runway lights, taxiway lights, guidance signage and Precision Approach Path Indicators.

Assistant County Manager Gina Roy reported there was a change to pricing, which is being moved to a 25% to 75% split. The overall project total is \$1,141,675. Georgia DOT has requested a commitment from the County in the amount of \$312,783.91. This project will update the airport's runway lights, taxi lights, guidance signage and Precision Approach Path Indicators. Staff recommended awarding the bid to TCA Electrical, which is the lowest bidder. Chairman Clark moved to approve the request. Commissioner Clack seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

A. An Amendment to the Code of Ordinances of Jackson County, Georgia amending Chapter 8

To amend the Code of Ordinances of Jackson County, Georgia, Chapter 8, "Animals", to align with the updates made to the Jackson County Animal Shelter's Standard Operating Procedures

Assistant County Manager Jamie Jackson advised this item was discussed at the last meeting. She presented the staff report for an amendment to the Code of Ordinances amending Chapter 8. This is a result of the standard operating procedures change that was earlier approved by the board. The changes that are going to be affected by this ordinance are that any animal that comes in as a stray, and then is returned to its owner, has to have a microchip implanted, so that if an animal is picked up again, staff can always know where its home is. The other change is the stray hold to help the animal control staff adopt more animals. Commissioner Hix moved to approve the request. Commissioner Clack seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

B. An Amendment to the Code of Ordinances of Jackson County, Georgia amending Chapter 28

To amend the Code of Ordinances of Jackson County, Georgia, Chapter 28, "Parks and Recreation", to allow for pets within parks owned and managed by Jackson County.

Assistant County Manager Jamie Jackson presented the staff report amending Chapter 28 of the Code of Ordinance. This is to allow pets within parks that are owned by Jackson County. Ms. Jackson explained that definitions were added to strengthen and allow for pets. There is the provision that the pet must be on a 6 foot or less leash and must have its rabies vaccination readily available. The amendment addressed other items to include aggression, and picking up after pets. Chairman Clark moved to approve the amendment to Chapter 28. Commissioner Clack seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

10. New Business

A. Objection to City of Jefferson Annexation and Rezoning R-26-J06

Objection to the April 9, 2026 City of Jefferson Notice of Annexation and Rezoning Reference R-26-J06

Public Development Manager Hannah Slater presented the objection to the proposed annexation and rezoning case R-26-J06 submitted by the City of Jefferson. Ms. Slater advised that staff received notice of the annexation on April 14, 2026, for approximately 18.27 acres located at the corner of Baldwin Road and Blue Heights Road in District 4. The property is currently zoned A-2 (Agricultural-Rural Farm District) in Jackson County, and the application is requesting annexation into the City of Jefferson for the development of 11 single-family residential lots.

Ms. Slater reviewed the submitted application materials, including aerial maps, legal descriptions, boundary surveys, architectural details, and the proposed concept plan for residential development. She explained that inconsistencies existed within the application regarding the proposed zoning classifications, with references to both R-2 residential zoning and PCD (Planned Commercial Development).

Ms. Slater further stated that the property's current agricultural zoning and future land use designation are consistent with the Jackson County Comprehensive Plan adopted in October 2025, which would allow a maximum of three residential tracts if developed under County regulations. She noted that the City of Jefferson's Comprehensive Plan update also references compatibility with the County's comprehensive plan for annexation and development requests. Additional concerns outlined in the proposed objection letter included increased traffic demands on county-maintained roadways and intersections, increased service demands on county resources including EMS services, and the loss of County development impact fee revenue estimated at approximately \$33,547.69 for the proposed 11 dwelling units. Ms. Slater stated that staff recommend authorizing the objections letter to be submitted to the City of Jefferson and allowing staff to complete any additional required zoning procedures related to the objection process.

Commissioner Seagraves moved to approve the Objection to City of Jefferson Annexation and Rezoning R-26-J06. Chairman Clark seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

B. Request the contract renewal for Jackson County to be fiscal agent for Family Connections

To renew contract to be the fiscal agent for Jackson County Family Connection.

County Manager Gina Roy presented a request for the contract renewal for Jackson County to be the fiscal agent for Family Connection. She stated in 2024 Family Connection was looking for a new fiscal agent to handle funds received by the Georgia Department of Human Services. The Jackson County Chamber of Commerce used to be a fiscal agent, but due to new requirements and complexities of a non-profit agency, they could no longer be the fiscal agent. She requested approval of the request beginning July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026.

Commissioner Hix moved to approve the request. Commissioner Clack seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

11. Adjournment

Chairman Clark adjourned the business portion of the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

Work Session Meeting

This portion of the meeting is to facilitate a discussion on matters requiring a more in-depth review, explanation, and analysis. No formal action will be taken on any of the items listed below.

12. Call to Order - Chairman Marty Clark

Chairman Clark called the work session meeting to order at 6:27 p.m.

13. New Business

A. Bid Award – Courthouse Security Renovation Project (Pencor, LLC – \$335,805) To request approval of the bid award to Pencor, LLC for the Courthouse Security Renovation Project.

County Manager Gina Roy presented the bid award for the Courthouse Security Renovation Project. Ms. Roy stated that discussions regarding courthouse security improvements began during the prior budget cycle in coordination with the Sheriff's Office due to security concerns associated with the approximately 23-year-old facility. She explained that the proposed renovations would focus on improvements to the atrium and front entrance security screening area.

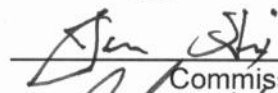
Ms. Roy advised that funding had previously been allocated within SPLOST 7 for the project, which included conceptual planning, engineering, and design costs. The project was subsequently advertised for bids, and staff recommended awarding the construction contract to Pencor, LLC in the amount of \$335,805. She further noted that an additional \$196,365 in SPLOST 7 funding was being requested to complete the project budget. Chairman Clark moved to approve the request. Commissioner Hix seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 5 – 0)

14. Adjournment

Chairman Marty declared the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Jackson County Board of Commissioners
Approved: May 18, 2026
Filed: Minute Book #33


Marty Clark, Chairman


Commissioner Jim Hix, District 1

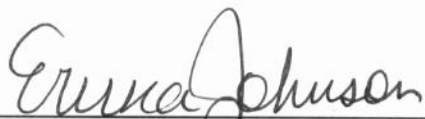

Commissioner Chas Hardy, District 2


Commissioner Ty Clack, District 3


Commissioner Marty Seagraves, District 4


Commissioner Cole Elrod, District 5



Attest: 
Ericka Johnson, Deputy Clerk