



Jackson County Board of Commissioners

April 6, 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.

Commissioners
Present:

Chairman Marty Clark
Commissioner Jim Hix, District 1
Commissioner Chas Hardy, District 2
Commissioner Ty Clack, District 3

Staff Present:

Gina Roy, County Manager
Jamie Dove, Assistant County Manager
Hannah Slater, Public Development Manager
Ericka Johnson, Deputy Clerk

Press:

Mike Buffington, Mainstreet News/Jackson Herald

2. Invocation

Chairman Marty Clark gave the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Marty Clark

Chairman Marty Clark led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Minutes

A. March 16, 2026 Draft Minutes

To approve the minutes for the March 16, 2026 board meeting

Commissioner Hardy moved to approve the minutes for March 16, 2026.

Commissioner Clack seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 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 were no comments.

6. Reports

From Commissioner Ty Clack:

- Reported about the recent tragic residential fire that occurred in District 3, two Saturdays ago. He commended the coordinated response efforts of the Jackson

County Emergency Management Agency, the Sheriff's Office, and multiple fire departments, noting their professionalism and effectiveness in serving the community. Commissioner Clack shared his personal perspective as both a resident of the affected road and a commissioner and expressed appreciation for the outstanding work of all involved.

7. Recognitions, Appointments, and Special Items

A. Recognition of Keep Jackson County Beautiful

Recognize the exemplary work of Keep Jackson County Beautiful and the statewide impact that it has contributed towards in fiscal year 2025.

Assistant County Manager Jamie Dove recognized Keep Jackson County Beautiful (KJCB), sharing correspondence received from the Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation commending the organization's commitment to environmental stewardship. She highlighted the program's contributions to litter prevention, recycling, waste reduction, and community beautification, noting its role as one of approximately 70 affiliated programs across the state. Ms. Dove also recognized Environmental Specialist Katie Quinlan for her leadership and efforts over the past two years in bringing the program into compliance with state and national standards. Ms. Dove also acknowledged the presence of KJCB board members in attendance.

She concluded by requesting board approval to recognize the group and invited them to take a photograph after the official vote. Commissioner Hix moved to approve the recognition of Keep Jackson County Beautiful. Commissioner Hardy seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0) A group photograph was taken.

B. Resolution Honoring Eden Pethel

Consider approval of a resolution to honor Eden Pethel for designing Georgia's commemorative license plate honoring America's 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War.

County Manager Gina Roy presented a resolution honoring Eden Pethel, an eighth grade homeschool student and Jackson County resident, for her outstanding achievement in designing Georgia's commemorative license plate recognizing America's 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War. The resolution highlighted Eden's academic interests, creativity, and civic engagement, noting that her design, featuring seven red stars representing Revolutionary War sites and the year 1776, was selected through a competitive statewide process in partnership with multiple educational and historical organizations. The board commended Eden for her contributions to historical education and public awareness.

Commissioner Hix moved to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Hardy seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0) A group photograph was taken.

8. New Business

A. Proclamation Naming April as Jackson County Safe Digging Month

To approve a proclamation designating April as Safe Digging Month as requested by the Jackson County Utility Coordinating Committee.

Public Development Manager Hannah Slater presented a proclamation, as requested by the Jackson County Utility Coordinating Committee, designating April 2026 as Jackson County Safe Digging Month. She read the proclamation encouraging contractors and residents to contact 811 prior to digging to promote safety and prevent damage to underground utilities. Following the reading, she requested approval.

Commissioner Hix moved to approve the proclamation as presented. Commissioner Clack seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0) A group photograph was taken.

B. Proclamation for National Donate Life Month

To approve a proclamation designating April as Donate Life Month in Jackson County

Assistant County Manager Gina Roy presented a proclamation designating April 2026 as National Donate Life Month. She provided brief remarks highlighting the importance of organ and tissue donation and noted the number of individuals awaiting transplants. Chairman Clark moved to approve the proclamation for National Donate Life Month. Commissioner Clack seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0)

C. Request Approval of First Due Software for EMS

The purpose of implementing the First Due platform for EMS is to replace manual reporting with a more efficient, accurate, and data-driven system that improves both daily operations and long-term decision-making.

County Manager Gina Roy presented a request for approval of First Due Software for EMS in the amount of \$49,400, to be funded through SPLOST VII public safety funds. She explained that the software would replace the current outdated system with a cloud-based platform integrating scheduling, inventory, payroll, financials, and billing functions. Ms. Roy noted the system would improve accuracy, efficiency, and reporting, with benefits for managing regulated drug inventory. She advised that implementation would take approximately three to four months, including staff training.

Chairman Clark moved to approve the request. Commissioner Clack seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0)

D. Recommendation for Award of Bid - SureLock Technologies

Replacement of current IT backup system

County Manager Gina Roy presented a recommendation to award a bid to Surelock Technologies in the amount of \$148,464 for a consolidated IT backup system. She explained that the project, which is included in the FY2026 operating budget, would replace multiple existing backup systems with a single provider offering both onsite and cloud-based backup services. Ms. Roy noted the change would be cost-neutral overall while improving system capacity and efficiency, and she requested approval. Commissioner Hix moved to approve the request. Commissioner Hardy seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0)

9. **Adjournment**

Chairman Clark declared this portion of the meeting adjourned at 6:18 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.

10. **Call to Order**

Chairman Clark called the work session to order 6:18 p.m.

11. **New Business**

A. **Airport Electrical Rehabilitation Project Award & Grant Approval**

Award the Electrical Rehab Project Contract and allow the chairman to execute the associated grant once it becomes available from GDOT.

County Manager Gina Roy presented a request for award of the Airport Electrical Rehabilitation Project and approval of associated grant funding. She explained that the project, included in the Capital Improvement Element, involves upgrading outdated lighting and electrical systems for the runway, taxiways, and signage. The lowest bid was received from TCA Electrical Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$580,425. Ms. Roy noted the project includes federal, state, and local funding, with the County's 25% match already budgeted in the FY2026 Budget. She requested approval. There were no questions from the board.

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.

Assistant County Manager Jamie Dove presented a request for adoption of revised Standard Operating Procedures for the Jackson County Animal Shelter. She explained that the existing procedures, established in 2017, required updates to reflect current operations, including changes to vaccination, testing, and microchipping practices, updated fee structures, and the implementation of a volunteer program. Additional revisions included transition to debit and credit payments, reducing the stray hold period to 72 hours, updating cleaning procedures, and requiring microchipping of reclaimed animals if not already equipped. Ms. Dove noted the updates align with the corresponding ordinance changes in the next agenda item. She recommended approval. There were no questions from the board.

C. **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 Dove presented an amendment to Chapter 8 of the Jackson County Code of Ordinances to align with the revised Animal Shelter Standard Operating Procedures. She explained that the amendment includes

establishing a 72- hour stray hold period and requiring microchipping of reclaimed animals at the owner's expense. She noted these were the only changes reflected in the ordinance, and she requested approval. There were no questions from the board.

D. 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 Dove presented an amendment to Chapter 28 of the Jackson County Code of Ordinances related to Parks and Recreation, allowing pets in county-owned and managed parks. She explained that the ordinance establishes requirements including leash restrictions of six feet or less, proof of vaccinations, property waste disposal, and prohibiting abandonment of animals. Ms. Dove noted coordination with various departments to ensure consistency, including plans for signage and installation of pest waste receptacles, and advised that enforcement would align with existing animal control practices. She requested approval. There were no questions from the board.

12. Adjournment

Chairman Clark declared the meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.



Attest:

Ericka Johnson
Ericka Johnson, Deputy Clerk

Jackson County Board of Commissioners
Approved: May 4, 20026
Filed: Minute Book #33

Marty Clark

Marty Clark, Chairman

Jim Hix

Commissioner Jim Hix, District 1

Chas Hardy
Commissioner Chas Hardy, District 2

Ty Clack

Commissioner Ty Clack, District 3

Marty Seagraves
Commissioner Marty Seagraves, District 4

Cole Elrod
Commissioner Cole Elrod, District 5

