

Grady County Board of Commissioners

Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2025, Meeting

The Grady County Board of Commissioners met on March 4, 2025, at 9:00 am for a regular meeting. Present for the meeting were commissioners, Ray Prince Chair, LaFaye Copeland Vice Chair, Yancy Maxwell, Sam Kines, Phillip Drew, Interim Co. Administrator/Finance Director Holly Murkerson, County Clerk Katie Hall, HR Director John White, County Attorney Gabe Ridley.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ray Prince at 9:00 am. Mr. Prince asked Mr. Maxwell to open with prayer and the pledge to the flag.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Michael Cook 184 Carr St.

Mr. Cook stated that he doesn't know the timeline for the SPLOST, but believes the county needs to get ahead of it and inform every one of the benefits and advantages of what it can do for the county as a whole.

Chris Dorsey 160 Shellcracker Ln.

Mr. Dorsey addressed that their needs to be timeline and cut off dates for the commissioners to hire a new county administrator, Holly, can't keep handling both positions, due to lack of administrator help, and everyone else in the office is assigned other duties to try and help Holly, and not everyone can be at 110%, when trying to handle more than what their job duties are. Also, everyone took an oath when becoming a commissioner and everyone needs to remember that, and this position you can't hold your personal feelings against anyone. Everyone in the county should be treated the same and everyone on the board is supposed to be here to support our community and citizens and make them want to be here, and not go anywhere else, and to be treated equally no matter any personal feelings. It should always be Yes or No, and no "I's" when making decisions.

PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Paul Bingham Jr, discussed the reasoning behind wanting to do a Variance to Article III of Grady County. He would like to be able to sell 1.25 acres of land instead of what the county ordinance is about having to be 1.5 acres, the state regulations are 1.25 acres, but due to Grady County being a way of the Flint River, and the flood lines, the county made the decision to make it 1.5 acres. Mr. Bingham stated that the way his land is and the surroundings of it would make for a weird land line if he has to keep the selling rate of 1.5 acres.

Kent Harvey and John Walton of the Grady County Sheriff's Office presented a new amount for the mandated 527G Palm Scanner. The scanner benefits the deputy side and detention side of the sheriff's office. The scanner will automatically let the staff know if someone is wanted for outstanding warrants, and automatically if they're a registered sex offender.

Holly Murkerson(Interim Adm./Finance Director), Bobby Newmons (Buildings/Grounds) & Kent Harvey(Grady County Sheriff's Office) presented to the board ideas about how to use inmates to help with housekeeping, mowing due to the fact it is hard to keep workers, which will also help the county save money on budget by not having to hire more people and getting inmates out of the jail, when they're able to work their time off. Office personnel can clean their own offices, and the cleaning of the common areas can be cleaned by inmates, Sheriff Prince also mentioned that if need be the cleaning and mowing could potentially take place after normal business hours. Everyone agreed it would be a good idea and polit type program. Try it out for 90 days and then can regroup.

CORRESPONSENCE

The calendar of events was reviewed.

The Frist Joint Public Hearing on Comprehensive Planning will be held Tuesday March 25, 2025, at 5:00 PM

Regular Board Meeting March 18,2025, at 6:00 PM

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion by Mr. Kines, Seconded by Mrs. Copeland to approve:

02-12-25 Executive Meeting Minutes
02-18-25 Executive Meeting Minutes
02-17-25 6 PM Public Hearing on Opting out HB581
02-18-25 9 AM Public Hearing on Opting out HB581
02-18-25 4 PM Public Hearing on amending the Regulations for Specific Land Uses as they relate to racetracks.
02-18- 25 5 PM Public Hearing on Opting out HB581
02-18-25 Regular Board of Commissioners Meeting
Approve for the Cassels Plats
Sell of F150 and 1996 Cummings Dump truck

FORMAL ACTIONS

- Motion by Mr. Drew, seconded by Mrs. Copeland to **Deny** Variance Request to the Grady County Land Development Regulations, regarding William P Bingham Jr, request.
- Motion made by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mrs. Copeland to **approve** the purchase the 527G Palm Scanner for the Sheriff Office, and move money around in budget from the Building and Grounds budget to the Detention Center Budget.
- Motion by Mr. Kines, seconded by Mrs. Copeland to **Table** the repair cost of the Vector Spreader used by the county during the snowstorm.
- Motion by Mrs. Copeland, seconded by Mr. Kines to **approve** the \$2 raise for the lead person over maintenance, and offices will be cleaned by office staff, other than common areas and mowing will be by Trustees from the Grady County Detention Center.

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Administrator Matters- Mrs. Murkerson announced that the construction/road work for Long Branch Church Road will begin today March 4, as well as resurfacing Collins Road. The EMS Building is 98% complete, met last week to do a walk through and go over who will be over purchasing what. The Tax Assessors were granted 180 more days to work through the appeals, but everyone needs to go ahead and pay their bill by March 15,2025. Waiting on the environmental results for the Help Agency, and that will determine demo status of building.

Commissioner Matters- Mr. Maxwell discussed the proper way to fix the road and parking issues on Wolf Creek for the Trout Lily Preserve, spoke with Stanley Elkins, and they're going to fill low shoulder with sand/dirt and rock to make it a parking spot for buses when they visit, to help keep road way clear, and put up some signage.

Mr. Kines discussed having large decals on the county vehicles that would state Grady Co/ and which department they are. He would also like to look into selling the 2024 Malibu, and getting a small SUV that would fit more and larger for comfort to take on trips. Brought up that the Lake Manager truck has an undercover tag, and if it isn't going to be used for that purpose then it needs to have a regular tag and have decals on it for verification matters. And that if you're driving a county vehicle and not on call 24/7 then the vehicle needs to be parked. Mrs. Murkerson let him know that Lake Manager is on call 24/7 as he is the only one over the lake, and that there are some vehicles that may get turned back in on the lease agreement.

Executive Session

Personnel. Motion by Mr. Drew, seconded by Mrs. Copeland to enter Executive Session at 10:19am to discuss Personnel. Motion by Mrs. Copeland, seconded by Mr. Kines to come out of executive session at 11:47 am.

Reports

Attorney’s Report -None

ADJOURNMENT

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Drew, seconded by Mrs. Copeland. The motion was approved.

Meeting agenda:	
I. Executive Duties	
1. Call to Order - 9:00 AM	
2. Invocation/Pledge	
3. Adoption of Agenda	
4. Public Comments	
II. Presentations	
1. Public Hearing: William P Bingham Jr., is requesting a Variance to Article III of the Grady County Land Development Regulations, Section 3-9 Lot Size	
2. Grady County Sheriff's Office 527G Palm Scanner	
3. Housekeeping and Mowing, Holly, Bobby & Earl	
III. Correspondence Calendar of Events	
1. • Grady County's First Joint Public Hearing on Comprehensive Planning Tuesday March 18, 2025 at 5:00 PM	
• Regular Board of Commissioners Meeting Tuesday March 18, 2025 at 6:00 PM	
IV. Consent Items –(One motion)	
Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from:	
1. 02-12-25 Executive Meeting Minutes	
2. 02-18-25 Executive Meeting Minutes	
3. 02-17-25 6:00 PM, Public Hearing on Opting out HB581	
4. 02-18-25 9:00 AM, Public Hearing on Opting out of HB581	
5. 02-18-25 4:00 PM, Public Hearing on amending the Regulations for Specific Land Uses as they relate to racetracks	
6. 02-18-25 5:00 PM, Public Hearing on Opting out of HB581	
7. 02-18-25 6:00 PM, Regular Board of Commissioners Meeting	
8. Cassels Plats for approval	
9. Sell of F-150 VIN # FTFW1CF2EKG08421;Truck is totaled with over 218,000 miles	
10. Sell of 1996 Cummings Dump truck DT#16 VIN# 1FDYU82EOTVA29810; Front end is out and burns excessive oil with over 400,000 miles	
V. Formal Actions	
1. To Approve/ Disapprove Public Hearing on the Variance Request to the Grady County Land Development Regulations	
2. To Approve/Disapprove Purchase of 527G Palm Scanner for Sheriff's Department	
Gabe Ridley, County Attorney John White, HR Director Holly D. Murkerson, Finance Director 33 17th Ave NW • CAIRO, GEORGIA 39827 • P: 229.377.1512 • F: 229.377.1039	
3. To Approve/ Disapprove Repair cost for Vector Spreader used by the County during the Snow Storm	
4. To Approve/Disapprove the movement of budget money from the Buildings Grounds (Courthouse) to Detention Center	
5. To Approve/Disapprove the \$2 raise for the lead maintenance worker	
VI. New and Unfinished Business	
1. Administrator Matters	
2. Commissioner Matters	
VII. Executive Session	
1. Personnel	
VIII. Reports	
1. Attorney's Report	
IX. Adjournment	

ATTEST:

KATIE HALL, COUNTY CLERK

Ray Prince, Chair

LaFaye Copeland, Vice- Chair

Yancy Maxwell, Commissioner

Sam Kines, Commissioner

Phillip Drew, Commissioner