

**HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
6:00 P.M., MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2025
HABERSHAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE
JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM
295 LLEWELLYN ST, CLARKESVILLE, GA 30523**

The Habersham County Board of Commissioners held a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, October 20, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Jury Assembly Room of the Habersham County Courthouse located at 295 Llewellyn St, Clarkesville, GA 30523.

Present was Chairman Jimmy Tench, Vice Chairman Bruce Harkness, Commissioner Dustin Mealor, Commissioner Ty Akins, Commissioner Kelly Woodall, County Manager Tim Sims, County Attorney Angela Davis, County Clerk Brandalin Carnes, staff, members of the media and the public.

Chairman Tench called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Commissioner Mealor led the Invocation.

Commissioner Akins led the Pledge of Allegiance

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Akins, seconded by Commissioner Woodall, and voted unanimously (5-0) to adopt the agenda as presented.

PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. Employee Spotlight: Sharon Roach (Road Department)

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- a. Ms. Elena Saville addressed the Commission regarding consent agenda item o. "Consider/Approve Acceptance of Retirement Agreement for Chief Appraiser Joan Church Per Recommendation of the Board of Tax Assessors" and new business item e. "Consider/Approve Amendments to Board of Commissioner Rules of Procedure". Ms. Saville informed the Commission that she felt that it was a great initiative of the new County Attorney, Ms. Angela Davis, to remove what she felt was unconstitutional language from the text of Section I, paragraph 8 of the existing rules of procedure. She agrees that under Georgia law, obscenities should not be allowed during public meetings, however Georgia law also give very specific and precise definitions of what constitutes and obscenity. Georgia law does not prohibit justified information about happenings in the County, even if members of the public and public officials do not like this information. Ms. Saville went on to raise concerns regarding the retirement agreement with Chief Appraiser Joan Church. She alleged that Ms. Church has recently acted on behalf of the Board of Tax Assessors on an official matter in which she committed six instances of purgery and one forgery while under oath. She feels that the retirement agreement with Ms. Church as written absolves her from any of these questionable actions and shifts the potential legal and financial responsibility from any resulting claims onto the shoulders of the County. She would like for the Commission to take this into consideration prior to voting to approve the retirement agreement.

PUBLIC HEARING:

- a. Resolution Enacting A Limited Moratorium on Acceptance of Applications for Preliminary Plat Approval for Residential Developments of Five Lots or More and Rezoning to the Residential Single Family (LI-R), Residential Multi-Family (MI-R), and Planned Development (PD) Land Use Districts

County Attorney Davis addressed the Commission, reminding them at their last meeting they imposed a temporary emergency moratorium with the intent to allow time to advertise a public hearing for the following Commission meeting to provide members of the public with the opportunity to comment on whether the moratorium should be extended. The proposed moratorium is limited in nature in respect to its only suspending acceptance of application for preliminary plat approvals for residential developments of five or more lots and suspension of acceptance of zoning requests to the Residential Single Family (LI-R), Residential Multi Family (MI-R), and Planned Development (PD) land use districts. She wanted to stress that this is not a moratorium on all development activities, just these limited areas as proposed by the ordinance. This moratorium would end on February 17, 2026 unless the moratorium is lifted prior to then by the Board of Commissioners.

Ms. Davis provided an opportunity for those in favor of the moratorium to speak. There were none present who wished to speak in favor of the moratorium.

Ms. Davis provided an opportunity for those in opposition to the moratorium to speak. There were none present who wished to speak in opposition to the moratorium.

Commissioner Akins stated that one of the reasons the Commission looked at imposing this moratorium was because they are in the process of drafting a Unified Development Ordinance (UDO). He wanted to know what the status of this project was? Mr. Beecham stated that he had provided a draft of the UDO to the Commission at their last meeting. Since then, he has reviewed the draft and sent several corrections back to the consultants. They sent him a new draft today and he has first discussions of this drafted UDO tentatively scheduled for the November Planning Commission meeting. The document is quite large, and he believes that it will take at least two meetings for the Planning Commission to review it. After this initial review by the Planning Commission is completed, it would then come before the Board of Commissioners for final approval.

Commissioner Meador asked if the Board of Commission could get a copy of the most current draft prior to it being distributed to the Planning Commission? Mr. Beecham informed him that he would forward a copy of the most recent draft them in the morning.

Motion by Commissioner Meador, seconded by Commissioner Akins, and voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the resolution of the Habersham County Board of Commissioners enacting a limited moratorium on acceptance of applications for preliminary plat approval for residential developments of five lots or more and rezoning to the Residential Single Family (LI-R), Residential Multi-Family (MI-R), and Planned Development (PD) Land Use Districts.

- b. Map Amendment Application Z-25-04: Applicant Joshua Bramlett Requests a Map Amendment to Rezone 2.677 Acres (Parcel 080 078) Located at 159 Hardyville Road From LI, Light Intensity District to MI, Medium Intensity District

Planning Director Mike Beecham addressed the Commission. Applicant Joshua Bramlett has applied for a map amendment to rezone 2.677 acres of property located at 159 Hardyville Road (parcel 080 078) from LI, Light Intensity District to MI, Medium Intensity District. The property contains an existing home which will be split from a larger tract for development purposes. The portion of the property on which the house sits is located within the City of Demorest. That portion of the property is not part of this rezoning as it is not in

under the County's jurisdiction. Additionally, the applicant intends to have that portion of the property remain a single-family residence. If the zoning is approved, the proposal is to develop the property with commercial/office uses along the Midway Crossing and Historic US Hwy 441 frontages with residential at the rear. This property is in the Gateway Corridor character area of the Comprehensive Plan, which recommends residential, commercial and office use. The surrounding area is largely developed with single-family homes, offices and commercial uses. Staff had no objections to the proposed map amendment given the location at the corner of a US highway and busy cut-through road. The Planning Commission likewise did not have any concerns about the map amendment. There was one citizen present at the Planning Commission meeting at which this map amendment was discussed who expressed opposition to the request. This individual did not have concerns regarding the potential uses of the property. Rather, their concerns were regarding a potential driveway accessing Hardyville Road. He requested that access be from Midway Crossing. The applicant stated that he had not yet got an engineer to determine where a potential access drive would be located. Staff's opinion was that it would be difficult to place a road coming out onto Hardyville Road due to the existing house.

Ms. Davis provided an opportunity for the applicant of map amendment application Z-25-04 to speak. Applicant Joshua Bramlett addressed the Commission, informing them that the goal with any project that he goes into is that the land is used in the most efficient way possible in an effort to be good stewards. They feel that for this property to conform with adjacent properties in the area it is appropriate for the zoning to be stepped up to medium intensity in the front while the rear of the property remains residential.

Ms. Davis provided an opportunity for anyone else in favor of map amendment application Z-25-04 to speak. There were none present who wished to speak in favor of the moratorium.

Ms. Davis provided an opportunity for those in favor of map amendment application Z-25-04 to speak. There were none present who wished to speak in favor of the moratorium.

Motion by Commissioner Woodall, seconded by Commissioner Harkness, and voted unanimously (5-0) to approve map amendment application Z-25-04.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Commissioner Akins, seconded by Commissioner Harkness, and voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- a. Consider/Approve Minutes of September 15, 2025 Executive Session
- b. Consider/Approve Minutes of September 15, 2025 Regular Meeting
- c. Consider/Approve Revisions to Ground Leases for 60' x 60' Box Hangar Construction Projects at Airport
- d. Consider/Approve Airport Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for FY 2027-2031
- e. Consider/Approve Facilities Usage Agreement with Habersham County Church Softball League
- f. Consider/Approve Facilities Usage Agreement with Habersham Pickleball Club

- g. Consider/Approve Memorandum of Agreement Between Health Department and Accountability Court for Payment of Electric Utility Services for the Building Occupied by Both Parties at 185 Scoggins Drive
- h. Consider/Approve Consolidating Two (2) Part-Time Animal Care Technician Positions into One (1) Full Time Animal Care Technician Position
- i. Consider/Approve Surplus Vehicle and Equipment List for Auction on GovDeals.com
- j. Consider/Approve Resolution Authorizing the Habersham County Tax Commissioner to Receive and Collect Prepaid Property Taxes by Agreement with the Taxpayer; To Ratify Existing and Subsequent Agreements; and For Other Purposes
- k. Consider/Approve Lease Purchase Agreement with South State for Purchase of Twenty-Six (26) Sheriff's Office Patrol Vehicles and Authorize the Chairman to Execute All Documents Necessary Documents to Close the Lease Purchase Transaction
- l. Consider/Approve Contract with Crump Photo for Youth Sport Photography Services
- m. Consider/Approve Contract with LMC, Inc (dba McCormick Solutions) for Appraisal Consulting Services for County Tax Assessors Office Including Chief Appraiser Services
- n. Consider/Approve Surplus and Transfer of One (1) Sheriff's Office Vehicle to the City of Demorest and One (1) Sheriff's Office Vehicle to the City of Baldwin for Their Respective SRO Programs
- o. Consider/Approve Acceptance of Retirement Agreement for Chief Appraiser Joan Church Per Recommendation of the Board of Tax Assessors

REPORTS:

- a. County Manager's Report: Tim Sims, County Manager

APPOINTMENTS:

Library Board

3-Year Term Expiring 6/30/2028

- 1. Gisela McGugan (Term Expires 6/30/2025): At-Large Appointment

Commissioner Woodall nominated Tina Check.

Commissioner Akins nominated Debbie Purcell.

Commissioner Woodall voted in favor of Tina Check. Commissioner Harkness, Mealor, Akins and Tench voted in favor of Debbie Purcell.

Debbie Purcell was appointed by majority vote of the Commission to the seat on the library board left vacant by the expiration of Gisela McGugan's term.

DBHDD Region 1 Advisory Council
3- Year Term Ending 11/30/2027

1. Jeremy Noles (Resignation- Term Expires 11/30/2027) At-Large Appointment

Motion by Commissioner Mealor, seconded by Commissioner Harkness, and voted unanimously (5-0) to table this appointment due to lack of applicants.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

b. Consider/Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Demorest for Habersham County Emergency Services to Provide Fire Protection Services

Emergency Services Director Jeff Adams addressed the Commission. In July 2024, County Administration and Mr. Adams were approached by the City of Demorest regarding the possibility of the County taking over the provision of fire protection services to the City. County Administration wanted to be fair and provide the same opportunity to participate in a feasibility study to all the cities. The Board of Commissioners approved an agreement in February 2025 with Southeastern Fire Consulting Co, LLC to conduct a fire department consolidation study. Mr. Thad Dixon is the consultant who has been assisting with both the feasibility study as well as the County's ISO evaluation. The County Manager, County Attorney and staff have worked with the City of Demorest to draft an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) that would be both fair and reproducible. Since 2014, Habersham County and the City of Demorest have operated under an automatic aid agreement. Under this new Intergovernmental Agreement, Habersham County would take over provision of fire protection services to the City of Demorest effective January 1, 2026. Habersham County Emergency Services will staff the engine that is currently located at Station 5. Med Unit 21 and Med Unit 1 will also move to the Demorest Fire Station. This will allow them to close the nearby station on Robertson Loop. The City of Demorest will be paying the County \$655,396 per year, with a \$90,000 per year credit for the fire engine (annual payment for 5 years) and \$30,000 per year credit for the County's lease of the station. After the 5th annual payment of \$90,000, the City of Demorest will transfer the title for the fire engine to the County. Future credits for additional equipment will be determined for next year's payment after the value for this equipment is determined by the City and County staff. All the fire personnel currently employed by the City of Demorest will have an opportunity to submit applications for open positions in accordance with the County's personnel policies.

Commissioner Akins thanked all the leadership and staff with both the County and the City of Demorest who worked to make this Intergovernmental Agreement possible, stating that it was great to see both entities work together on something that he feels is a win for both.

Commissioner Harkness echoed Commissioner Akins' sentiment and went on to say that many other cities and counties throughout the state are doing this same kind of partnership, as it saves taxpayer money in addition to increasing the services they receive. The City of Demorest is within Commissioner Harkness' district, and he feels that this is a beneficial move for the city residents and the County.

Motion by Commissioner Akins, seconded by Commissioner Mealor and voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Demorest for Habersham County Emergency Services to provide fire protection services as specified and outlined in the document.

c. Consider/Discuss Proposed Deannexation of 20.92 Acre Parcel (050 002C) Located at the Intersection of GA HWY 384 (Duncan Bridge RD) and GA HWY 365 from City of Baldwin

Planning Director Mike Beecham addressed the Commission. The Planning Department has received a notice from the City of Baldwin regarding an application submitted by John and Adriana Gibby, who wish to deannex 20.92 acres of property (050 002C), located at the intersection of GA HWY 384 and GA HWY 365, out of the City of Baldwin. Much in the same manner as they do for annexations, the cities are required to notify the County of any proposed deannexations provide the Commissioners an opportunity to object if the deannexations will create some issues with the potential land use or service issues. It is Mr. Beecham's understanding that the applicant is wanting to deannex this property out of the City of Baldwin for the purpose of annexing it into the City of Cornelia later. The property owner would have to apply for the annexation into the City of Cornelia after the deannexation occurs, and the City of Cornelia would provide separate notice to the County regarding the annexation request as required by law. Tonight's agenda item is only to make sure there are no objections to the deannexation of the property from the City of Baldwin. The Planning Department staff have reviewed the deannexation application. The proposed deannexation would not create an unincorporated island and staff recommend no objections.

County Attorney Davis explained the deannexation process to the Commission, informing them it is slightly different than the annexation process. The County is required to be notified, and if they have concerns with service delivery, they could state an objection and refuse to consent, otherwise if they do not have any reason to object an affirmative vote to consent is required. If the County consents, then the City is required to approve the deannexation unless it finds some kind a reason to object based on a negative impact to the public health, safety or welfare of the City residents. Ms. Davis informed the Commission that if they consent to the deannexation, that they need to condition their consent on their being no development on the property until it is either annexed into a municipality, or the County rezones it. The reasoning for this is that once the property is deannexed from the City of Baldwin and back into the unincorporated County, it will be unzoned. The County is unable to zone the property without going through the public hearing process.

Motion by Commissioner Akins, seconded that the Commissioner Mealor, and voted unanimously (5-0) to consent to the deannexation with the only condition being that there be no development on the property until such time as it gets annexed by a municipality or zoned by the County.

- d. Consider/Discuss Proposed Annexation of Ten (10) Parcels Totaling 224.629 Acre (Parcels 086 006B; 046 059; 046 059A; 048 019; 048 021; 048 022; 050 047B; 048 023; 050 002A; 048 024) Into the City of Cornelia

Planning Director Mike Beecham addressed the Commission. The Planning Department has received a notice from the City of Cornelia regarding an application for the annexation of ten (10) parcels totaling 224.629 acres (Parcel 086 006B; 046 059; 046 059A; 048 019; 048 021; 048 022; 050 047B; 048 023; 050 002A; 048 024) into the City of Cornelia. Planning Department staff have reviewed the proposed annexation and, in their opinion, it would create an unincorporated island. He has discussed this with the City of Cornelia and there is an intent on leaving an unincorporated strip around parcel 048 020 that extends to Duncan Bridge Rd. State law provides that a strip of at least 50 feet in width is acceptable to avoid the creation of an unincorporated island. Staff had some questions regarding some discrepancy between the maps provided of the proposed annexation versus what is shown on GIS. Additionally, the acreage listed on the initial notice was different than what was listed on subsequent notice. Staff had wanted to request that this be removed from tonight's agenda to provide time to get clarification on these items, however there was some miscommunication that occurred. Staff have no objections to the annexation based on proposed uses; however, they would like to get clarification just to make sure that it is a legal annexation.

County Attorney Davis advised the Commission that clarification is needed to make sure that the issue with the unincorporated island has been corrected in its entirety, as state law prohibits the creation of an unincorporated island and they would want to make sure that they are not acquiescing to this. She informed them that they can also object if they are concerned with the land use that would occur upon the rezoning of the property. This would be a process through the Department of Community Affairs that would allow them

to object and then have an arbitration regarding the objection. There are deadlines associated with the objection and the required notices. Under the most conservative estimate they have until November 14th to file an objection with the City of Cornelia. If they do not have an objection, then they don't have to take any action as the County does not have the authority to stop the annexation unless it is illegally creating an unincorporated island. If they have objections to the land use, then they would have to object and go through the DCA arbitration process to try to improve the project through the land use dispute resolution.

Commissioner Woodall asked what the proposed land use would be? Attorney Davis informed him that the original letter of intent had a proposed zoning of R-2 Multiple Family Residential District for 25.6 acres, A-1 Agricultural District for 59.9 acres and HB Highway Business District for 131.2 acres. Mr. Beecham has done an analysis of the initial proposal; however, a new proposal has been received as of today that he has not had a chance to review. Mr. Beecham's opinion is that the entirety of this property falls within the 365 Corridor portion of the Comprehensive Plan, which is where they wish to direct the high density residential, industrial, and large-scale commercial growth on the south end of the County. He feels that the proposed zoning meets the intent of the Comprehensive Plan and does not have any recommendations for an objection regarding the zoning so long as the legalities are worked out. Commissioner Woodall asked if the City of Cornelia would be responsible for any traffic or safety studies related to the development of the property if it is annexed into their municipality? Mr. Beecham informed him that the County would ask the City of Cornelia to share any traffic studies for J. Warren Rd with them as much of the road is bound on both sides by unincorporated properties. The County would provide input regarding driveway access traffic impact; however, the City of Cornelia would be the permitting authority. Commissioner Woodall expressed that this is important to him as he has had several citizens express concern over the fact that Duncan Bridge Rd is already a very dangerous intersection. Mr. Beecham stated that it is his understanding that the City of Cornelia will require substantial traffic studies. Attorney Davis mentioned that the Commission direct staff to send a letter to propose certain conditions and make requests regarding sharing the traffic study and the County being able to provide input. While they wouldn't be able to have any control over this, it is her understanding that a good partnership exists with the City of Cornelia, and they may be willing to agree to help address some of the Commission's concerns. She informed the Commission that conservatively, the forty-five-day deadline to notify Cornelia of an objection based on the first notice would come up prior to their next Commission meeting. However, Ms. Davis is of the opinion that because the project was changed in acreage and proposed rezoning, the annexation petition should have been rejected and resubmitted which would have started the clock over. She advised that if the Commission wishes, they can direct the County Manager, herself and staff to work on conditions with the City of Cornelia and discuss if the Commission wishes to have a special called meeting to request these or if they wish to defer to staff to address the issues. Commissioner Woodall and Commissioner Harkness didn't feel that it was necessary to go through a formal process. Commissioner Harkness stated that with Duncan Bridge Rd being a state road, any traffic impact would end up being an issue between the state and the City of Cornelia.

There were no objections expressed by the Commission, and therefore no action was required.

- e. Consider/Discuss Proposed Annexation of 17.65 Acre Parcel (051 012) located at 241 Buchanan Rd into the City of Baldwin

Planning Director Mike Beecham addressed the Commission. The Planning Department has received a notice from the City of Baldwin regarding an application submitted by Wat Lao Buddha Sathha Dhamma, Inc for the annexation of a 17.65-acre parcel (051 012) located at Buchanan Rd into the City of Baldwin. Planning Department staff have reviewed the proposed annexation and have determined that it would create an unincorporated island. Mr. Beecham has contacted the City of Baldwin to inform them that the annexation is illegal due to the creation of an unincorporated island and requests that they cease the annexation application process until issue is resolved. They have not yet received a response from the City of Baldwin. County Attorney Angie Davis informed the Commission that the proposed land use is compliant with the County's comprehensive plan, the only issue is the illegal creation of the island. She is of the opinion that no vote of

objections is necessary, as the City of Baldwin should reject the application due to the issues with legality. As Mr. Beecham has provided several notices to the City of Baldwin regarding this, she advised that the Commission may wish to have a letter formally sent on behalf of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Harkness stated that he thought it would suffice for County Attorney Davis to formally reach out to the County Attorney for Baldwin to discuss the issue.

Commissioner Tench voiced concerns over the annexation of the property into the City of Baldwin. This property has a Buddhist temple located on it, and individuals from the neighboring subdivision call code enforcement during an annual religious festival to file noise complaints. The Planning Department had consulted the previous County Attorney regarding this and had been issuing the Buddhist temple a permit each year to avoid any issues with the noise ordinance. Commissioner Tench feels strongly regarding religious freedom and feels that any restrictions that limit worship for one religion when equally applied would limit worship for other religions as well. He was concerned that this annexation had something to do with the noise complaints or ordinances. County Attorney Davis assured Commissioner Tench that the owners of the property are the ones requesting that they be annexed into the City of Baldwin.

No action was taken by the Commission. County Attorney Angela Davis will be reaching out to the City of Baldwin to inform them that the annexation process should cease due to the proposed annexation creating an illegal unincorporated island.

f. Consider/Approve Amendments to Board of Commissioner Rules of Procedure

County Attorney Angela Davis addressed the Commission. The primary focus of her review of the Board of Commissioners Rules of Procedure was to address some issues with Section 1, Subsection I. "Public Participation in Board Meetings". The proposed amendments clarify the distinction between public participation in a public hearing, which is subject to state laws such as those that dictate zoning procedures, versus public participation in the form of public comments. This change provides that if an item is subject to a public hearing under the zoning procedures law any remarks made must be within the confines of the public hearing process, regardless of whether the hearing has yet to be scheduled, is currently on the agenda, or has already been conducted. This is necessary as state law regarding zoning procedures requires an equal amount of time to be given to both sides. Public comments are separate and distinct from the public hearing process, and individuals are allowed to comment on any topics that are not subject to a hearing. Ms. Davis has made additional revisions with regard to public comments to modify the prohibited remarks so that they comply with both state and federal laws under the first amendment. These changes removed any prohibitions that could be construed as subjective and limited any prohibited remarks to contents that constitute an obscenity or disrupt the meeting.

Attorney Davis informed the Commission that Commissioner Harkness had requested that two additional revisions be added to the ones that were proposed in the draft included in their meeting packets. She advised the Commission that if they desire, they can modify their motion to include these two additional revisions on the fly. Commissioner Harkness had noticed that Section 1, Subsection D. "Chairman and Vice Chairman" defines the period of service for the Vice Chair as one year but does not define the period of service for the Chairman. This needs to be revised to reflect the current practices of the Commission, which is to vote on both the Chairman and the Vice Chairman every year during their first meeting in January. Commissioner Harkness had also noticed a discrepancy in Section 1, Subsection H. "Voting", which states in the first sentence of paragraph 3 that "no Commissioner who is present at any meeting of the Commission at which an official decision, ruling or other official act is to be taken or adopted may abstain from voting in regard to any decision, ruling or act", however it goes on further in the same paragraph to say that Commissioners may abstain from voting if there is or appears to be a conflict of interest. She is suggesting that the paragraph be revised to say that "No commissioner who is present at any meeting of the Commission at which an official decision ruling or other official act is to be taken or adopted may abstain from voting in regard to any decision, ruling or act unless such commissioner has a conflict of interest that precludes the commissioner

from voting. A vote shall be recorded or counted for each such Commissioner present except when, with respect to any such Commissioner, there appears to be a possible conflict of interest. In such cases the abstaining Commissioner shall give his or her reason for abstaining and shall not participate in the discussion or vote and the minutes shall reflect such abstention and the reasons thereof." Attorney Davis feels that this revision would clear up any lack of clarity or confusion.

Motion by Commissioner Mealor, seconded by Commissioner Woodall, and voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the proposed amendments to the Rules of Procedure for the Habersham County Board of Commissioners as presented with the additional changes to subsection D. and H.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Commissioner Woodall thanked everyone present for coming to the meeting and supporting the processes of their government. He reminded everyone that this is a joint effort to chart the course of the County on behalf of the citizens. Additionally, he thanked Planning Director Mike Beecham for his work on the many presentations that he had tonight.

Commissioner Akins wanted to take the opportunity to specially recognize Habersham County EMS, as they have won the Region 2 EMS Service of the Year award for 2025.

Commissioner Harkness expressed his appreciation for the Fire and EMS staff and their accomplishments. He recognized and thanked Ms. Jessie Owensby with the City of Cornelia for coming to the meeting, stating that the Commission is always proud to work with their seven sister cities.

Commissioner Mealor stated that he noticed that they also had individuals from the City of Demorest present at the meeting tonight, and he thanked them for being in attendance as well.

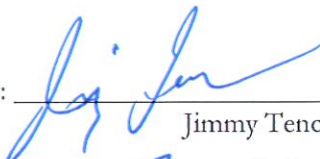
Commissioner Tench informed the other Commissioners that he had placed an open record request back in February of this year asking for the exit letters for terminated employees from Habersham County, and that there were 674 employees terminated. He would like to know where all of these employees are now. Additionally, when he was coming back to his home from picking up his grandchildren today, he saw that someone had placed a "for sale" sign on the side of the road indicating that everything on that side, including his house, was for sale.

~~EXECUTIVE SESSION~~ No executive session was needed.

ADJOURN

Motion by Commissioner Mealor, seconded by Commissioner Harkness, and voted unanimously (5-0) to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

By:  _____
Jimmy Tench, Commission Chairman

Attest:  _____
Brandalin Carnes, County Clerk

