

HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SUBJECT: Resolution Declaring the Results of the November 4, 2025 Election Determining the Issuance of Habersham County General Obligation Bonds and the Continuation of the One Percent Sales and Use Tax

DATE: November 10, 2025

☒ **RECOMMENDATION**

☐ **POLICY DISCUSSION**

BUDGET INFORMATION:

☐ **STATUS REPORT**

ANNUAL-

☐ **OTHER**

CAPITAL-

PRESENTED BY: Laurel Ellison

COMMISSION ACTION REQUESTED ON: November 17, 2025

PURPOSE: To approve a resolution declaring the official results of the November 4, 2025 election determining (a) the issuance of Habersham County General Obligation Bonds and (b) the continuation of the one percent Sales and Use Tax.

BACKGROUND / HISTORY:

- On July 29, 2025, the Habersham County Board of Elections and Registration adopted a resolution calling for an election to be held on November 4, 2025.
 - The purpose of the election was to submit to the qualified voters of Habersham County the question of whether to authorize the issuance of up to \$52,000,000 in general obligation bonds and to continue the one percent sales and use tax for six additional years upon the expiration of the current tax.
 - The election was conducted in accordance with Georgia law, and the Board of Elections and Registration has certified and declared the official results.
-

FACTS AND ISSUES:

- The election results, as certified by the Habersham County Board of Elections and Registration, reflect that a majority of qualified voters voted in favor of both:
 - Issuance of up to \$52,000,000 in Habersham County General Obligation Bonds; and
 - Continuation of the one percent Sales and Use Tax for six years.
 - The resolution formally declares the results of the election and authorizes the County to take the necessary steps to validate the general obligation debt.
 - A certified copy of this resolution will be furnished to the Habersham County Board of Elections and Registration.
-

OPTIONS:

- 1) Approve recommendation
 - 2) Deny recommendation
 - 3) Commission defined alternative
-

RECOMMENDED SAMPLE MOTION:

Motion to approve the Resolution of the Habersham County Board of Commissioners declaring the results of the November 4, 2025 election determining the issuance or non-issuance of Habersham County General Obligation Bonds and the continuation of the one percent Sales and Use Tax.

DEPARTMENT:

Prepared by: Brandalin Carnes

Director: _____

**ADMINISTRATIVE
COMMENTS:**_____

_____ **DATE:** _____

County Manager

A RESOLUTION OF THE HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DECLARING THE RESULTS OF AN ELECTION DETERMINING THE ISSUANCE OR NON-ISSUANCE OF HABERSHAM COUNTY GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND THE CONTINUATION OF A ONE PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX AND FOR OTHER RELATED PURPOSES

WHEREAS, pursuant to a resolution adopted by the Habersham County Board of Elections and Registration (the “Board of Elections and Registration”) on July 29, 2025, an election (the “Election”) was held on November 4, 2025, in Habersham County, Georgia (the “County”); and

WHEREAS, the Election submitted to the qualified voters for their determination the question of (a) whether the County shall issue not more than \$52,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of its general obligation debt (the “Debt”) and (b) whether a one percent sales and use tax (the “Sales and Use Tax”) shall be continued for a period of six years commencing upon the expiration of the Sales and Use Tax currently in effect; and

WHEREAS, the Election Superintendent, in the presence of and together with the Election Managers, brought up the returns, consolidated the returns and declared the results of the Election as set forth in Exhibit A; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Habersham County Board of Commissioners, and IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by authority of the same, that the Election resulted in favor of (a) the issuance of the Debt and (b) the continuation of the Sales and Use Tax.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a duly executed copy of this resolution be furnished to the Board of Elections and Registration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that proper officers of the County take any and all actions that are required to validate the Debt.

Adopted and approved this ____ day of November, 2025.

HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS

(SEAL)

By: _____
Chairman

Attest:

Clerk

EXHIBIT A

CLERK'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF HABERSHAM

The undersigned Clerk of Habersham County, Georgia (the "County") DOES HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing pages of typewritten matter constitute a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Habersham County Board of Commissioners on the ____ day of November, 2025, in connection with an election held on November 4, 2025, the original of which resolution has been duly recorded in the Minute Book of the County, which is in my custody and control.

Witness my hand and the official seal of the County this ____ day of November, 2025.

County Clerk

(SEAL)

A RESOLUTION OF THE HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
AND REGISTRATION DECLARING THE RESULTS OF AN ELECTION
DETERMINING THE ISSUANCE OR NON-ISSUANCE OF HABERSHAM
COUNTY GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND THE CONTINUATION OF
A ONE PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX AND FOR OTHER RELATED
PURPOSES

WHEREAS, pursuant to a resolution adopted by the Habersham County Board of Elections and Registration (the "Board of Elections and Registration") on July 29, 2025, an election (the "Election") was held on November 4, 2025, in Habersham County, Georgia (the "County"); and

WHEREAS, the Election submitted to the qualified voters for their determination the question of (a) whether the County shall issue not more than \$52,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of its general obligation debt (the "Debt") and (b) whether a one percent sales and use tax (the "Sales and Use Tax") shall be continued for a period of six years commencing upon the expiration of the Sales and Use Tax currently in effect; and

WHEREAS, the Election Superintendent, in the presence of and together with the Election Managers, brought up the returns, consolidated the returns and declared the results of the Election as set forth in Exhibit A; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Elections and Registration, and IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by authority of the same, that the Election resulted in favor of (a) the issuance of the Debt and (b) the continuation of the Sales and Use Tax.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a duly executed copy of this resolution be furnished to the County.

Adopted and approved this 7th day of November, 2025.

HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF
ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION

(SEAL)

By: Garrett Byron
Chairman

Attest:

[Signature]
Secretary

CONSOLIDATED MUNICIPAL/COUNTY CERTIFICATION OF RETURNS FOR:

- ☒ **SPECIAL ELECTION**
☐ **GENERAL ELECTION**
☐ **RUNOFF ELECTION**

Date

11-4-2025
Habersham
Municipality/County

Instructions: Prepare and print (4) copies of the Election Summary (county consolidated vote totals report that is generated by EMS). Attach copies of this consolidated certification report as follows:

1. White sheet is attached to Election Summary and returned to Secretary of State.
2. Yellow sheet is attached to Election Summary and maintained by Superintendent.
3. Pink sheet is attached to Election Summary and sent to Clerk of Superior Court.
4. Goldenrod Copy is attached to Election Summary and immediately posted at the City Hall (city) or Courthouse (county).

ELECTION SUMMARY MUST BE ATTACHED TO THIS FORM

REFERENDUM QUESTIONS: Affix a copy of the complete wording of the question(s) as such appeared on the ballot.

SHORT TITLE OF QUESTION(S) AS SHOWN ON ATTACHED ELECTION SUMMARY:

QUESTION:

See Attached

QUESTION:

This Referendum was held in accordance with
(Citation of Act calling for the Election):

Local Act No. _____ Year _____

Ga. Laws page No. _____

This Referendum was held in accordance with
(Citation of Act calling for the Election):

Local Act No. _____ Year _____

Ga. Laws page No. _____

We, the undersigned Superintendent/Supervisor of Elections and the Assistants, do jointly and severally certify that the attached Election Summary is a true and correct count of the votes cast in this City/County.

In TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have hereunto set our hands and seals this 7th day of Nov.,

2025. SIGNED IN QUADRUPLICATE.

Jarrett A. Byrum Assistant

John R. Baker Assistant

Assistant

Assistant

Assistant

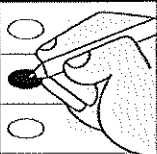
[Signature]
Superintendent/Supervisor Of Elections

OFFICIAL ABSENTEE / PROVISIONAL / EMERGENCY BALLOT

Habersham County, Georgia

Precinct: 024-Habersham South, 029-Habersham South, 030-Habersham South, 031-Habersham South, 032-Habersham South, 039-Habersham South, 047-Habersham South

Statewide Special and Municipal General Election - November 04, 2025



To Vote:

1. Use Black or Blue Ink to mark the ballot.
2. Completely fill in the empty oval to the left of the candidate name or choice in all races you wish to vote.
3. If voting for a Write-In candidate, completely fill in the oval to the left of the Write-In selection, then write the name of the Write-In candidate in the space provided.

Warning

- Do **NOT** use red ink or felt tip pen to mark ballot.
- Do **NOT** circle, underline or mark through choices.
- Do **NOT** use check marks or X to mark ballot.
- Do **NOT** mark more choices per race than allowed.
- Do **NOT** sign, cut, tear or damage the ballot.

If you make a mistake or change your mind on a selection:

- A. Do not attempt to mark through the selection or attempt to erase. Write **"Spoiled"** across the ballot AND across the return envelope.
- B. Mail or return the spoiled ballot and envelope to your county board of registrars; a new official absentee ballot will be mailed to you.

If you decide to vote in-person: Surrender the ballot to the poll manager at an early voting site within your county or the precinct to which you are assigned. You will then be permitted to vote a regular ballot.

"I understand that the offer or acceptance of money or any other object of value to vote for any particular candidate, list of candidates, issue, or list of issues included in this election constitutes an act of voter fraud and is a felony under Georgia law. "[O.C.G.A. 21-2-284(a), 21-2-285(h) and 21-2-383(a)]"

Statewide Special Election

For Public Service Commission - District 2

For Term Ending December 31, 2030
(Vote for One)

- ☐ Tim Echols
(Incumbent) Republican
- ☐ Alicia M. Johnson
Democrat
- ☐

Write-in

For Public Service Commission - District 3

For Term Ending December 31, 2026
(Vote for One)

- ☐ Fitz Johnson
(Incumbent) Republican
- ☐ Peter Hubbard
Democrat
- ☐

Write-in

Turn Ballot Over To Continue Voting

**Special Election
Habersham County**

Special Purpose Local Option Sales & Use Tax and Bond Referendum
(Vote for One)

"Shall general obligation bonds in an aggregate principal amount of up to \$52,000,000 be issued by Habersham County, Georgia to finance a new jail (the "Bonds") and shall a special one percent sales and use tax be continued in Habersham County for a period of time of six years for the raising of approximately \$75,937,510 for the purpose of funding (a) (i) the payment of \$20,000,000 in debt service on the Bonds during calendar years 2027 through 2032; and (ii) County projects, including (A) Sheriff's Department Vehicles and Equipment at an estimated cost of \$1,000,000; (B) Phase II of the Central Base Fire, EMS, and 911 Building at an estimated cost of \$1,000,000; (C) Fire Department Equipment, Vehicles, and Renovations at an estimated cost of \$8,555,886; (D) EMS Equipment and Vehicles at an estimated cost of \$2,589,650; (E) Roads and Bridges at an estimated cost of \$12,950,000; (F) Landfill Improvements at an estimated cost of \$1,500,000; (G) Facility Improvements at an estimated cost of \$500,000; and (H) Industrial Park and Airport Improvements at an estimated cost of \$500,000, all for the benefit of Habersham County; (b) Town of Alto Projects, including (i) Water System Improvements at an estimated cost of \$375,386; (ii) Road Repairs, Repaving, and Restriping at an estimated cost of \$110,000; (iii) Public Safety at an estimated cost of \$69,000; and (iv) New Public Works and Water Department Building at an estimated cost of \$200,000, all for the benefit of the Town of Alto; (c) City of Baldwin Projects, including (i) Roads and Bridges at an estimated cost of \$1,300,000; (ii) Recreation at an estimated cost of \$135,000; (iii) Public Safety at an estimated cost of \$247,000; (iv) Public Works at an estimated cost of \$380,786; and (v) Water and Sewer Infrastructure at an estimated cost of \$1,550,004, all for the benefit of the City of Baldwin; (d) City of Clarksville Projects, including Public Safety at an estimated cost of \$1,450,000; (ii) Water and Sewer Infrastructure at an estimated cost of \$300,000; (iii) Roads and Bridges at an estimated cost of \$371,467; and (iv) Improvements to Park at an estimated cost of \$200,000, all for the benefit of the City of Clarksville; (e) City of Cornelia Projects, including (i) New Downtown Parking Lot at an estimated cost of \$850,000; (ii) Public Safety, including, but not limited to, Fire Turnout Gear at an estimated cost of \$60,000, Police Vehicles at an estimated cost of \$1,780,000, and Cameras at an estimated cost of \$600,000; (iii) Street Improvements at an estimated cost of \$1,564,469; (iv) Sidewalk Improvements at an estimated cost of \$900,000; and (v) a Park Upgrade Project at an estimated cost of \$440,000, all for the benefit of the City of Cornelia; (f) City of Demorest Projects, including (i) Public Safety at an estimated cost of \$1,000,000, (ii) Park Improvements at an estimated cost of \$200,000; (iii) Roads, Bridges, and Sidewalks at an estimated cost of \$250,000; (iv) City Hall Improvements at an estimated cost of \$200,000; and (v) Public Utilities Improvements at an estimated cost of \$806,000, all for the benefit of the City of Demorest; (g) Town of Mount Airy Projects, including (i) Water and Sewer Infrastructure at an estimated cost of \$900,000; (ii) Roads and Bridges at an estimated cost of \$30,000; (v) Public Facilities at an estimated cost of \$100,000; and (vi) Downtown Development at an estimated cost of \$109,775, all for the benefit of the Town of Mount Airy; and (h) Town of Tallulah Falls Projects, including Roads and Bridges at an estimated cost of \$156,000; and (ii) Water System Improvements at an estimated cost of \$156,691, all for the benefit of the Town of Tallulah Falls?"

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Turn Ballot Over To Continue Voting

Election Summary Report

General Election

Habersham

November 04, 2025

Summary for: All Contests, All Districts, All Tabulators, All Counting Groups
Official & Complete

Elector Group	Counting Group	Ballots	Voters	Registered Voters	Turnout
Total	Election Day	3,083	3,083	31,024	9.94%
	Advance Voting	3,202	3,202		10.32%
	Absentee by Mail	73	73		0.24%
	Provisional	4	4		0.01%
	Total	6,362	6,362		20.51%

Precincts Reported: 4 of 4 (100.00%)
Registered Voters: 6,362 of 31,024 (20.51%)
Ballots Cast: 6,362

PSC - District 2 (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 4 of 4 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		3,083	3,202	73	4	6,362 / 31,024	20.51%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Tim Echols (I) (Rep)		2,383	2,462	52	4	4,901	
Alicia M. Johnson (Dem)		667	721	21	0	1,409	
Total Votes		3,050	3,183	73	4	6,310	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		7	1	0	0	8	

PSC - District 3 (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 4 of 4 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		3,083	3,202	73	4	6,362 / 31,024	20.51%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Fitz Johnson (I) (Rep)		2,371	2,430	50	4	4,855	
Peter Hubbard (Dem)		677	740	22	0	1,439	
Total Votes		3,048	3,170	72	4	6,294	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		5	0	0	0	5	

Mayor - Baldwin (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		116	94	1	1	212 / 1,400	15.14%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Douglas S. Faust		69	59	1	1	130	
Alice Venter		44	31	0	0	75	
Total Votes		113	90	1	1	205	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		1	1	0	0	2	

Council Member - Post 4 - Baldwin (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		116	94	1	1	212 / 1,400	15.14%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Joe Elam		63	58	0	1	122	
James A. Wiese		46	29	1	0	76	
Total Votes		109	87	1	1	198	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		1	0	0	0	1	

Council Member - Post 5 - Baldwin (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		116	94	1	1	212 / 1,400	15.14%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Mike Tope		101	78	0	1	180	
Total Votes		101	78	0	1	180	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		3	0	0	0	3	

Mayor - Clarkesville (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		174	197	4	0	375 / 1,391	26.96%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Franklin Brown		134	167	1	0	302	
Total Votes		134	167	1	0	302	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		7	5	0	0	12	

Council Member - Post 1 - Clarkesville (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		174	197	4	0	375 / 1,391	26.96%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Angelia S. Kiker (I)		141	164	1	0	306	
Total Votes		141	164	1	0	306	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		2	0	0	0	2	

Council Member - Post 4 - Clarkesville (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		174	197	4	0	375 / 1,391	26.96%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Rick Coulon		72	69	1	0	142	
Leigh Johnston		83	117	3	0	203	
Total Votes		155	186	4	0	345	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		0	1	0	0	1	

Council Member - Post 5 - Clarkesville (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		174	197	4	0	375 / 1,391	26.96%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Blake Van Rainwater		137	170	1	0	308	
Total Votes		137	170	1	0	308	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		3	0	0	0	3	

Mayor - Demorest (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		143	97	4	0	244 / 1,108	22.02%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Jerry Harkness (I)		127	81	1	0	209	
Total Votes		127	81	1	0	209	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		3	4	0	0	7	

Council Member - Demorest (Vote for 2)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		143	97	4	0	244 / 1,108	22.02%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Shawn Allen (I)		89	66	3	0	158	
Patti Davis		47	25	0	0	72	
Andrew Ferguson (I)		79	38	0	0	117	
Jim Welborn		59	48	3	0	110	
Total Votes		274	177	6	0	457	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		1	0	0	0	1	

Redevelopment Powers Law Referendum - Demorest (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

	Election Day	Advance Voti	Absentee by	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast	143	97	4	0	244 / 1,108	22.02%

Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Yes		74	54	1	0	129	
No		68	40	2	0	110	
Total Votes		142	94	3	0	239	

	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In	0	0	0	0	0	

Special Purpose Local Option Sales & Use Tax and Bond Referendum (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 4 of 4 (100.00%)

	Election Day	Advance Voti	Absentee by	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast	3,083	3,202	73	4	6,362 / 31,024	20.51%

Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Yes		1,964	2,268	35	3	4,270	
No		1,026	816	33	1	1,876	
Total Votes		2,990	3,084	68	4	6,146	

	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In	0	0	0	0	0	

SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF HABERSHAM

The undersigned Secretary of the Habersham County Board of Elections and Registration (the "Board of Elections and Registration") DOES HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing pages of typewritten matter constitute a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Board of Elections and Registration on the ____ day of November, 2025, in connection with an election held on November 4, 2025, the original of which resolution has been duly recorded in the Minute Book of the Board of Elections and Registration, which is in my custody and control.

Witness my hand and the official seal of said Board of Elections and Registration this 7th day of November, 2025.


Secretary

(SEAL)

A RESOLUTION OF THE HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
AND REGISTRATION DECLARING THE RESULTS OF AN ELECTION
DETERMINING THE ISSUANCE OR NON-ISSUANCE OF HABERSHAM
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A ONE PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX AND FOR OTHER RELATED
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WHEREAS, the Election submitted to the qualified voters for their determination the question of (a) whether the County shall issue not more than \$52,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of its general obligation debt (the "Debt") and (b) whether a one percent sales and use tax (the "Sales and Use Tax") shall be continued for a period of six years commencing upon the expiration of the Sales and Use Tax currently in effect; and

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Elections and Registration, and IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by authority of the same, that the Election resulted in favor of (a) the issuance of the Debt and (b) the continuation of the Sales and Use Tax.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a duly executed copy of this resolution be furnished to the County.

Adopted and approved this 7th day of November, 2025.

HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF
ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION

(SEAL)

By: Garrett Byron
Chairman

Attest:

[Signature]
Secretary

CONSOLIDATED MUNICIPAL/COUNTY CERTIFICATION OF RETURNS FOR:

- ☒ **SPECIAL ELECTION**
☐ **GENERAL ELECTION**
☐ **RUNOFF ELECTION**

Date

11-4-2025
Habersham
Municipality/County

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SHORT TITLE OF QUESTION(S) AS SHOWN ON ATTACHED ELECTION SUMMARY:

QUESTION:

See Attached

QUESTION:

This Referendum was held in accordance with
(Citation of Act calling for the Election):

Local Act No. _____ Year _____

Ga. Laws page No. _____

This Referendum was held in accordance with
(Citation of Act calling for the Election):

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We, the undersigned Superintendent/Supervisor of Elections and the Assistants, do jointly and severally certify that the attached Election Summary is a true and correct count of the votes cast in this City/County. In TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have hereunto set our hands and seals this 7th day of Nov.,

2025. SIGNED IN QUADRUPLICATE.

Jarrett A. Byrum Assistant

John R. Baker Assistant

Assistant

Assistant

Assistant

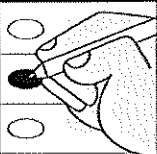
[Signature]
Superintendent/Supervisor Of Elections

OFFICIAL ABSENTEE / PROVISIONAL / EMERGENCY BALLOT

Habersham County, Georgia

Precinct: 024-Habersham South, 029-Habersham South, 030-Habersham South, 031-Habersham South, 032-Habersham South, 039-Habersham South, 047-Habersham South

Statewide Special and Municipal General Election - November 04, 2025



To Vote:

1. Use Black or Blue Ink to mark the ballot.
2. Completely fill in the empty oval to the left of the candidate name or choice in all races you wish to vote.
3. If voting for a Write-In candidate, completely fill in the oval to the left of the Write-In selection, then write the name of the Write-In candidate in the space provided.

Warning

- Do **NOT** use red ink or felt tip pen to mark ballot.
- Do **NOT** circle, underline or mark through choices.
- Do **NOT** use check marks or X to mark ballot.
- Do **NOT** mark more choices per race than allowed.
- Do **NOT** sign, cut, tear or damage the ballot.

If you make a mistake or change your mind on a selection:

- A. Do not attempt to mark through the selection or attempt to erase. Write **"Spoiled"** across the ballot AND across the return envelope.
- B. Mail or return the spoiled ballot and envelope to your county board of registrars; a new official absentee ballot will be mailed to you.

If you decide to vote in-person: Surrender the ballot to the poll manager at an early voting site within your county or the precinct to which you are assigned. You will then be permitted to vote a regular ballot.

"I understand that the offer or acceptance of money or any other object of value to vote for any particular candidate, list of candidates, issue, or list of issues included in this election constitutes an act of voter fraud and is a felony under Georgia law. "[O.C.G.A. 21-2-284(a), 21-2-285(h) and 21-2-383(a)]"

Statewide Special Election

For Public Service Commission - District 2

For Term Ending December 31, 2030
(Vote for One)

- ☐ Tim Echols
(Incumbent) Republican
- ☐ Alicia M. Johnson
Democrat
- ☐

Write-in

For Public Service Commission - District 3

For Term Ending December 31, 2026
(Vote for One)

- ☐ Fitz Johnson
(Incumbent) Republican
- ☐ Peter Hubbard
Democrat
- ☐

Write-in

Turn Ballot Over To Continue Voting

**Special Election
Habersham County**

Special Purpose Local Option Sales & Use Tax and Bond Referendum
(Vote for One)

"Shall general obligation bonds in an aggregate principal amount of up to \$52,000,000 be issued by Habersham County, Georgia to finance a new jail (the "Bonds") and shall a special one percent sales and use tax be continued in Habersham County for a period of time of six years for the raising of approximately \$75,937,510 for the purpose of funding (a) (i) the payment of \$20,000,000 in debt service on the Bonds during calendar years 2027 through 2032; and (ii) County projects, including (A) Sheriff's Department Vehicles and Equipment at an estimated cost of \$1,000,000; (B) Phase II of the Central Base Fire, EMS, and 911 Building at an estimated cost of \$1,000,000; (C) Fire Department Equipment, Vehicles, and Renovations at an estimated cost of \$8,555,886; (D) EMS Equipment and Vehicles at an estimated cost of \$2,589,650; (E) Roads and Bridges at an estimated cost of \$12,950,000; (F) Landfill Improvements at an estimated cost of \$1,500,000; (G) Facility Improvements at an estimated cost of \$500,000; and (H) Industrial Park and Airport Improvements at an estimated cost of \$500,000, all for the benefit of Habersham County; (b) Town of Alto Projects, including (i) Water System Improvements at an estimated cost of \$375,386; (ii) Road Repairs, Repaving, and Restriping at an estimated cost of \$110,000; (iii) Public Safety at an estimated cost of \$69,000; and (iv) New Public Works and Water Department Building at an estimated cost of \$200,000, all for the benefit of the Town of Alto; (c) City of Baldwin Projects, including (i) Roads and Bridges at an estimated cost of \$1,300,000; (ii) Recreation at an estimated cost of \$135,000; (iii) Public Safety at an estimated cost of \$247,000; (iv) Public Works at an estimated cost of \$380,786; and (v) Water and Sewer Infrastructure at an estimated cost of \$1,550,004, all for the benefit of the City of Baldwin; (d) City of Clarksville Projects, including Public Safety at an estimated cost of \$1,450,000; (ii) Water and Sewer Infrastructure at an estimated cost of \$300,000; (iii) Roads and Bridges at an estimated cost of \$371,467; and (iv) Improvements to Park at an estimated cost of \$200,000, all for the benefit of the City of Clarksville; (e) City of Cornelia Projects, including (i) New Downtown Parking Lot at an estimated cost of \$850,000; (ii) Public Safety, including, but not limited to, Fire Turnout Gear at an estimated cost of \$60,000, Police Vehicles at an estimated cost of \$1,780,000, and Cameras at an estimated cost of \$600,000; (iii) Street Improvements at an estimated cost of \$1,564,469; (iv) Sidewalk Improvements at an estimated cost of \$900,000; and (v) a Park Upgrade Project at an estimated cost of \$440,000, all for the benefit of the City of Cornelia; (f) City of Demorest Projects, including (i) Public Safety at an estimated cost of \$1,000,000, (ii) Park Improvements at an estimated cost of \$200,000; (iii) Roads, Bridges, and Sidewalks at an estimated cost of \$250,000; (iv) City Hall Improvements at an estimated cost of \$200,000; and (v) Public Utilities Improvements at an estimated cost of \$806,000, all for the benefit of the City of Demorest; (g) Town of Mount Airy Projects, including (i) Water and Sewer Infrastructure at an estimated cost of \$900,000; (ii) Roads and Bridges at an estimated cost of \$30,000; (v) Public Facilities at an estimated cost of \$100,000; and (vi) Downtown Development at an estimated cost of \$109,775, all for the benefit of the Town of Mount Airy; and (h) Town of Tallulah Falls Projects, including Roads and Bridges at an estimated cost of \$156,000; and (ii) Water System Improvements at an estimated cost of \$156,691, all for the benefit of the Town of Tallulah Falls?"

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Turn Ballot Over To Continue Voting

Election Summary Report

General Election

Habersham

November 04, 2025

Summary for: All Contests, All Districts, All Tabulators, All Counting Groups
Official & Complete

Elector Group	Counting Group	Ballots	Voters	Registered Voters	Turnout
Total	Election Day	3,083	3,083	31,024	9.94%
	Advance Voting	3,202	3,202		10.32%
	Absentee by Mail	73	73		0.24%
	Provisional	4	4		0.01%
	Total	6,362	6,362		20.51%

Precincts Reported: 4 of 4 (100.00%)
Registered Voters: 6,362 of 31,024 (20.51%)
Ballots Cast: 6,362

PSC - District 2 (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 4 of 4 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		3,083	3,202	73	4	6,362 / 31,024	20.51%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Tim Echols (I) (Rep)		2,383	2,462	52	4	4,901	
Alicia M. Johnson (Dem)		667	721	21	0	1,409	
Total Votes		3,050	3,183	73	4	6,310	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		7	1	0	0	8	

PSC - District 3 (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 4 of 4 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		3,083	3,202	73	4	6,362 / 31,024	20.51%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Fitz Johnson (I) (Rep)		2,371	2,430	50	4	4,855	
Peter Hubbard (Dem)		677	740	22	0	1,439	
Total Votes		3,048	3,170	72	4	6,294	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		5	0	0	0	5	

Mayor - Baldwin (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		116	94	1	1	212 / 1,400	15.14%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Douglas S. Faust		69	59	1	1	130	
Alice Venter		44	31	0	0	75	
Total Votes		113	90	1	1	205	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		1	1	0	0	2	

Council Member - Post 4 - Baldwin (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		116	94	1	1	212 / 1,400	15.14%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Joe Elam		63	58	0	1	122	
James A. Wiese		46	29	1	0	76	
Total Votes		109	87	1	1	198	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		1	0	0	0	1	

Council Member - Post 5 - Baldwin (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		116	94	1	1	212 / 1,400	15.14%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Mike Tope		101	78	0	1	180	
Total Votes		101	78	0	1	180	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		3	0	0	0	3	

Mayor - Clarkesville (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		174	197	4	0	375 / 1,391	26.96%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Franklin Brown		134	167	1	0	302	
Total Votes		134	167	1	0	302	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		7	5	0	0	12	

Council Member - Post 1 - Clarkesville (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		174	197	4	0	375 / 1,391	26.96%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Angelia S. Kiker (I)		141	164	1	0	306	
Total Votes		141	164	1	0	306	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		2	0	0	0	2	

Council Member - Post 4 - Clarkesville (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		174	197	4	0	375 / 1,391	26.96%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Rick Coulon		72	69	1	0	142	
Leigh Johnston		83	117	3	0	203	
Total Votes		155	186	4	0	345	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		0	1	0	0	1	

Council Member - Post 5 - Clarkesville (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		174	197	4	0	375 / 1,391	26.96%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Blake Van Rainwater		137	170	1	0	308	
Total Votes		137	170	1	0	308	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		3	0	0	0	3	

Mayor - Demorest (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		143	97	4	0	244 / 1,108	22.02%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Jerry Harkness (I)		127	81	1	0	209	
Total Votes		127	81	1	0	209	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		3	4	0	0	7	

Council Member - Demorest (Vote for 2)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast		143	97	4	0	244 / 1,108	22.02%
Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Shawn Allen (I)		89	66	3	0	158	
Patti Davis		47	25	0	0	72	
Andrew Ferguson (I)		79	38	0	0	117	
Jim Welborn		59	48	3	0	110	
Total Votes		274	177	6	0	457	
		Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In		1	0	0	0	1	

Redevelopment Powers Law Referendum - Demorest (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 1 of 1 (100.00%)

	Election Day	Advance Voti	Absentee by	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast	143	97	4	0	244 / 1,108	22.02%

Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Yes		74	54	1	0	129	
No		68	40	2	0	110	
Total Votes		142	94	3	0	239	

	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In	0	0	0	0	0	

Special Purpose Local Option Sales & Use Tax and Bond Referendum (Vote for 1)

Precincts Reported: 4 of 4 (100.00%)

	Election Day	Advance Voti	Absentee by	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast	3,083	3,202	73	4	6,362 / 31,024	20.51%

Candidate	Party	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Yes		1,964	2,268	35	3	4,270	
No		1,026	816	33	1	1,876	
Total Votes		2,990	3,084	68	4	6,146	

	Election Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Unresolved Write-In	0	0	0	0	0	

SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF HABERSHAM

The undersigned Secretary of the Habersham County Board of Elections and Registration (the "Board of Elections and Registration") DOES HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing pages of typewritten matter constitute a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Board of Elections and Registration on the ____ day of November, 2025, in connection with an election held on November 4, 2025, the original of which resolution has been duly recorded in the Minute Book of the Board of Elections and Registration, which is in my custody and control.

Witness my hand and the official seal of said Board of Elections and Registration this 7th day of November, 2025.


Secretary

(SEAL)