

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2025  
9:00 A.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman, Jimmy Parker, called the regular session meeting of the Berrien County Board of Commissioners to order on Friday, October 10, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. Members of the Board of Commissioners present were Commissioners Kylon Fort, John Nugent, Pixie Harrod. Ronnie Gaskins was present by phone.

**Invocation:** Commissioner Kylon Fort

**Pledge:** Commissioner Pixie Harrod

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. TAX LEVY RESOLUTION** – Administration requested the board approve the FY 2025 Tax Levy Resolution. The Resolution shows a total tax millage of 19.80 mills, less the roll back for the local option sales tax of 3.62 for a New M&O millage for the incorporated and Unincorporated areas of 16.18 mills. A New M&O for Schools of 14.804 and the State of Georgia millage of 0 mils. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve the resolution as presented, seconded by Commissioner John Nugent. The motion carried unanimously.

**B. INSURANCE PREMIUM TAX RESOLUTION** – Administration requested approval of the FY 2025-2026 Insurance Premium Tax Resolution. Insurance Premium Tax is to be used on Fire Protection, Solid Waste Management, Code Enforcement and Animal Control in the unincorporated areas of Berrien County. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve the Insurance Premium Tax Resolution as presented, seconded by Commissioner John Nugent. The motion carried unanimously.

**C. ANIMAL CONTROL AGREEMENT – SHERIFF** – Administration presented an Agreement between Berrien County and Sheriff Ray Paulk Concerning Animal Control Services and Management of the Animal Shelter in Unincorporated Berrien County. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve as presented, seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins. The motion carried unanimously.

**D. EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION – ROAD** – Administration received a request from Ben Warren, Public Works Director, to purchase / lease a wheeled excavator. He received two quotes through Sourcewell (government contracts).

Yancey CAT	\$363,595.00 purchase price with a buy back option of \$137,000.00
Volvo	\$411,309.00

Paul McSwain was present and also presented a lease option of \$364,195.00 at an interest rate of 4.99%. This also has the purchase at the end of the lease for \$137,000.00. The board asked him about the trade-in on the existing equipment. He stated it would be \$75,000.00. Commissioner

Gaskins stated he feels like we should consider the lease option. Commissioner Nugent stated he feels like we should go ahead with the purchase and save that interest. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to purchase the equipment for \$363,595 with the trade-in of \$75,000.00 for a total cash price of \$288,595.00 paid out of SPLOST, seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins. The motion carried unanimously.


**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** (Personnel)


Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to move into executive session for personnel at 9:20 a.m., seconded by Commissioner Kylon Fort. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to move out of executive session and into regular session at 9:35 a.m., seconded by Commissioner John Nugent. The motion carried unanimously.


**ADJOURN**

With no other business to come before the Board, Commissioner John Nugent made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m..

  
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Chairman, Jimmy Parker

  
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Commissioner, Pixie Harrod

  
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Commissioner, Kylon Fort

  
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Commissioner, John Nugent

  
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Commissioner, Ronnie Gaskins

ATTEST:   
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County Clerk