

**REGULAR SESSION MEETING
BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2026
6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman, John Nugent, called the regular session meeting of the Berrien County Board of Commissioners to order on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. Members of the Board of Commissioners present were Commissioners Pixie Harrod, Ronnie Gaskins, Jimmy Parker and Kylon Fort.

Invocation: Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins

Pledge: Commissioner Jimmy Parker

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to approve the March 3, 2026 Regular Session Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Kylon Fort. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. BOARD APPOINTMENT – Administration received a request from Angi Hughes to appoint Mr. Alonzo Martinez to the library board to fill an unexpired term through June 30, 2026 and then to fill a 3-year term which will expire June 30, 2029. Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

B. SOLID WASTE TRANSFER SITE AGREEMENT – GREENWAY SERVICES, INC. – Administration is requesting the board approve the Agreement with Greenway Services, Inc. for maintenance of the solid waste collection site. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.

C. BOARD APPOINTMENT – PLANNING COMMISSION – Administration received a request from the Planning Commission to appoint Mr. Cliff Hendley to fill an unexpired term through September 2027. Commissioner Kylon Fort made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.

D. NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT – Administration received a request to approve opting in on this new opioid settlement. It will require the Chairman to DocuSign the necessary papers. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

E. 2026 CDBG POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST – Administration received a request from SGRC for determination of potential conflict of interest for the 2026 CDBG Project which is Heather Lane. County Administrator provided the board with the

Conflicts Prohibited, Persons Covered, Definition of Family or Business Ties, Exceptions. All five Commissioners stated they have no conflict of interest. No conflicts are noted.

F. 2026 CDBG SUBMITTAL RESOLUTION – Administration is requesting the board approve the Submittal Resolution for the 2026 CDBG Project, Heater Ln. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins. The motion carried unanimously.

G. 2026 LRA LMIG APPLICATION – Administration is requesting the board approve the Submittal for the 2026 LRA LMIG Application. We will receive \$1,064,001.64. Old coffee Rd and Radio Station Rd have been mentioned and possible projects. Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins made a motion to pave Radio Station Rd. beginning at the worse point and paving continuous until the funds run out. Approximately 3 miles. Commissioner Pixie Harrod seconded by motion. The motion carried unanimously.

H. SPECIAL CARE GIVER APPLICATION – Administration received a Special Care Giver Application from Betty Jo and Benjamin Meeks. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Kylon Fort. The motion carried unanimously.

I. BOARD APPOINTMENT – ELECTIONS – Administration received request from Melanie Ray, Supervisor of Elections, to reappoint Mr. Elliott Garner to the election board as Chairman with a term expiring June 30, 2030. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

J. EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION – EBFD – Administration received a request from Marc Mathis to purchase a skid unit for EBFD. He provided three quotes and is requesting the purchase through FireLine, Inc. because it is in stock. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

K. EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION – NLFD – Administration received a request from Marc Mathis to purchase batteries for their extrication tools. He provided one quote from MES in the amount of \$2,095.00. Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.

L. STRYKER SERVICE AGREEMENTS – EMS/FIRE – Administration received a request from Gerald Sumner, EMS Director, to enter into a service agreement with Stryker for EMS equipment which includes Stretchers, Cardiac Monitors and Lucas for a \$17,192.38 annually. This is a 3-year locked in rate. The current contract is approximately \$19,000.00 annually. The agreement for the Fire Department is for the AED's which is \$4,173.50 per year with a 3-year locked in rate. County Attorney recommended changes to the agreement and those were sent to Stryker. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to approve upon Stryker accepting the changes, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.

M. RADIO ACQUISITION – EMS – Administration received a request from Gerald Sumner, EMS Director, to order a replacement radio from McLaggan in the amount of \$1,130.10. Commissioner Kylon Fort made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

N. FURNITURE ACQUISITION – EMS – Administration received a request from Gerald Sumner, EMS Director, to purchase two recliners for EMS. He provided three quotes and is requesting to stay local and purchase from Stones Furniture in the amount of \$2,299.98, Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins made a motion to approve the purchase from Stones furniture, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.

O. TECHNICAL SERVICES AGREEMENT – Administration received an Agreement for Technical Assistance Hourly Services Between Berrien County and the Southern Georgia Regional Commission. It is an hourly contract and would only provide services on an “as needed – as requested basis”. This would cover the request for an odor ordinance. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to deny, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

P. AGREEMENT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES -WATKINS & ASSOCIATES – CDBG PROJECT – Administration is requesting the board approve the Agreement for Engineering Services with Watkins & Associates for the CDBG Project, Heather Ln. This is something SGRC is required to have in place. Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Kylon Fort. The motion carried unanimously.

Q. OPERATING SUPPLIES – Administration received a request from Ben Warren, Public Works Director, to purchase sign posts, sleeves and bolts. He requested two bids and received one back from Red Bud Supply in the amount of \$3,474.70. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins. The motion carried unanimously.

R. AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATION, SGRC – Administration received an Agreement for Professional Administration Between Berrien County and the Southern Georgia Regional Commission. This is for the 2026 CDBG Project. Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Kylon Fort. The motion carried unanimously.

S. RATIFICATION ITEMS - Administration is requesting ratification on the following items:

Yancey Brothers – Road	\$1,557.67
Winsupply – Road	\$4,131.00
Valdez Services – Old Jail Chimney (one of his workers completed the work)	\$2,800.00
West Asphalt – Gladys Rd. Patch	\$4,850.00
West Asphalt – Possum Creek Rd.	\$4,850.00
West Asphalt – White Pond Rd.	\$8,800.00

Last month the board approved a tractor and mower from Flint. It was going to be August before he could get a tractor here. Ben received a quote from Lasseter for \$105,360.00 and a mower for \$10,000.00. The board verbally gave approval since he could deliver it within one week.

Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to ratify the item as presented, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS: None

COMMISSIONERS ITEMS:

Kylon Fort –

- Be mindful of signs going on the right-of-ways for maintenance and mowing purposes.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS:

Brenda Ferrell –

- Supplemental rate change on life insurance. Administration is requesting changing from Metlife to Standard. Standard offers a guaranteed issue. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve Standard for the life insurance, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.
- Chamber will be hosting an Administrative Professional Day Luncheon on April 22nd from 11-2. Anyone who wants a ticket can contact the Chamber.
- Pipe Order request from Public Works in the amount of \$2,039.50 from Winsupply. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Tonya Morey – provided an update on the soybean issue.

Scott Stalnaker – Stated he has 5 acres of land and would like to but a 22X24 shop on it. He eventually will be putting a barn dominium there but would like to go ahead and landscape and spruce it up. He will place some pecan trees and fruit trees on it also. Berrien County Code requires him to get a special exception since no permanent home is currently on the land. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

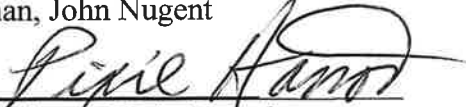
Robin Exum – stated that N. Coffee Rd needs striping. The board explained that the road is on an approved project and it will be completed soon.

ADJOURN

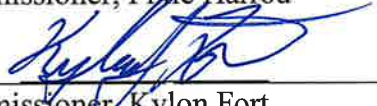
With no other business to come before the Board, Commissioner Jimmy Parker made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.




Chairman, John Nugent



Commissioner, Pixie Harrod




Commissioner, Kylon Fort



Commissioner, Jimmy Parker



Commissioner, Ronnie Gaskins

ATTEST: 

County Clerk