



Opportunity Awaits

Grady County Board of Commissioners

Ray Prince, Chair
District 2

LaFaye Copeland, Vice-Chair
District 4

Yancey Maxwell
District 1

Sam Kines
District 3

Celeste Tyler
County Administrator

Phillip Drew
District 5

May 20, 2025, 6 p.m. Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Present for the meeting were commissioners, Ray Prince, LaFaye Copeland, Phillip Drew, Yancey Maxwell, Sam Kines. BOC Staff Katie Hall, John White, Celeste Tyler, Holly Murkerson, Gabe Ridley.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m., by Chairman Ray Prince.
Invocation was given by Yancey Maxwell, followed by the pledge.

Amended Agenda: To table FA008-05-25 Public Defenders Contract

The motion was made by LaFaye Copeland, seconded by Phillip Drew, for the adoption of the agenda, all approved.

Ray Prince formally introduced Celeste Tyler to the community as the new administrator.

PRESENTATION

Chris Dorsey discussed the Decatur-Grady 911 contract and radio systems, Grady County pays 46% and Decatur pays 56%, holding them as the primary owner of the building, equipment, and primary employers of the 911 staff. Decatur County is wanting to deconsolidate, and Grady have its own E-911 Center, they will be a lot of moving parts to it, but Grady County has primary towers, and buildings that can be turned into the center with a little work. Need to hire a third-party contractor to appraise equipment and get budget amounts of what there are as of now, and not the price when purchased, the amount of Grady County dollars that has been allocated into the 911 building in Decatur County as well. Chris suggested hiring a director prior to starting the project so they can be there from start to finish and know all the details of the project. Celeste is to meet with the Decatur County Manager to discuss more information and moving parts as of what is needed to be done.

CONSENT ITEMS

One motion to approve minutes from the May 6, 2025 regular board meeting, and Approval for family subdivision plat on Moore Road for Bryce & Tara Lauder.
Motion was made by Lafaye Copeland, and seconded by Sam Kines, all approved.

FORMAL ACTIONS

FA007-05-25 FY2026 Tentative Budget Calendar, Sam Kines made motion to approve, seconded by Phillip Drew, All approved.

FA009-05-25 Invoice for HTS (Long Branch Grading/Storm Drainage) Motion made by Lafaye Copeland, seconded by Phillip Drew, all approved.

FA010-05-25 Second Payment for Scruggs for Collins Road, Motion made by Yancey Maxwell to approve, second by Lafaye Copeland, All approved.

FA011-05-25 Handbook changes due to sick leave policy, Motion to approve was made by Lafaye Copeland, seconded by Sam Kines, All approved.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Gabe Ridley, County Attorney **HR Director**, John White **Finance Director**, Holly D Murkerson **County Clerk**, Katie Hall



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Tax Commissioner Jeff Worsham presented to the board a proposal for property tax refund for a citizen who had been being charged for 500+ sqft of home, that he didn't have. It was corrected on the 2024 bill, and citizen then put in a request for 2021,2022,2023, to be refunded. After speaking with Gabe Ridley the county attorney it was determined that you can only go back three (3) years, and since 2024 was already corrected and refund was given, the board agreed with the attorney to approve the refund for 2022 & 2023 since it was a fault of the tax assessors office with measurements.

A motion was made by Yancey Maxwell to approve refund, and seconded by Phillip Drew, all approved.

Prior to the meeting being adjourned Commissioner LaFaye Copeland addressed new administrator, and asked her to be more transparent as to the funds that are being spent within the office, she stated that in the past there hasn't been much transparency.

Phillip Drew made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m., seconded by Lafaye Copeland.

I. Executive Duties

1. Call to Order - 6:00 PM
2. Invocation/Pledge
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Public Comments

II. Presentations

1. Chris Dorsey- Update on Radios

III. Correspondence

1. Roads Workshop May 22, 2025 5 p.m.
2. Special Events Workshop May 22, 2025 at 6 p.m.

IV. Consent Items –(One motion)

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from May 6, 2025 9 a.m.

Approval of Family Subdivision Plat on Moore Road for Bryce c & Tara M.S. Lauder

V. Formal Actions

FA007-05-25 To Approve or Disapprove FY2026 Tentative Budget Calendar

~~FA008-05-25 To Approve or Disapprove 2025-2026 Public Defenders Contract~~ Tabled until next meeting

FA009-05-25 to Approve or Disapprove; Invoice to HTS (Long Branch Grading/Storm Drainage)

FA010-05-25 To Approve or Disapprove Payment # 2 for Scruggs for Collins Road

FA011-05-25 To Approve or Disapprove Handbook Changes for Sick Leave

VI. New and Unfinished Business

1. Tax Commissioner; Jeff Worsham: Request for Property Tax Refund

VII. Executive Session (if needed)

VIII. Reports

1. Animal Control Report
2. Tired Creek Lake Report
3. Road and Bridges Report
4. UGA Extension Report

IX. Adjournment

ATTEST:

Ray Prince, Chair

LaFaye Copeland, Vice Chair

Katie Hall, County Clerk

Gabe Ridley, County Attorney **HR Director**, John White **Finance Director**, Holly D Murkerson **County Clerk**, Katie Hall



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Phillip Drew, Commissioner

Yancey Maxwell, Commissioner

Sam Kines, Commissioner