



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

June 17, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes

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

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ray Prince at 6 p.m. The invocation was given by Sam Kines, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Motion to adopt agenda was made by Phillip Drew, second by Sam Kines.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kurt Stringfellow of 483 Plantation Road, Grady Co., would like to ask the county to take over maintenance/ownership of Plantation Road. He would like to be able to turn it into a gravel road for his wife and their neighbor. The commissioners & the county attorney will get together and get the proper legal paperwork and process to see what all needs to be done to be able to take over this road.

PRESENTATIONS

Southwest Georgia Regional Commission Representative Kay Olubowale presented a survey that is helpful in their planning to know the needs/wants for our community. He asked that everyone please take time to fill it out and submit it.

Gary & Sandra Bales presented a plan for Safe Streets & Roads Grant, needing a partnership with the county to be able to apply for this federal grant that is at NO cost to the county, they just need a letter of consent from the county to be able to apply, this would allow them to create a "truck stop rest area" for semi drivers who are long haul drivers. The deadline to apply for grant is June 26, 2025. They provided a packet with reports collected from other agencies.

Chief Richard Phillips presented to the board a VFD Hiring Grant, which will come in at 75% the first year, Year two & three at 35% and the fourth year it would fall 100% on the county, by applying for the grant doesn't mean it will be granted, but it doesn't hurt to apply, and it would do the county good to be able to hire another full time VFD, the volunteers are dropping and over half the department are 50 years and older. We desperately need to be able to provide more for our county within our county, it would also help with the decrease in property insurance.

Chief Deputy Kent Harvey presented a proposal for a new fleet, due to having vehicles with cost repairs that are higher than the vehicles' value. The proper paperwork was presented to the board; it will be a 5- year lease agreement with one yearly payment. The vehicles will come with a 3-year bumper-to-bumper warranty, 5-year power train, and will not go in effect until the vehicle is in service with the county. Estimated at about \$250,000, with a once-a-year payment for five years of about \$83,000. If the vehicle is wrecked Capital Finance will replace the car and take care of all legal actions on getting money back etc., if in an accident. It will also cut down on the cost of vehicle insurance higher miles makes for higher insurance coverage.

CONSENT ITEMS (ONE MOTION)

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



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LaFaye Copeland made the motion to approve minutes of the June 3, 2025 meeting minutes and the Harrell-Owen Family Subdivision Plat at 919 Ulmer Road, seconded by Phillip Drew, all approved.

FORMAL ACTIONS

FA04-06-25; LaFaye Copeland made the motion to approve the VFD to apply for the VFD Hiring Grant, seconded by Phillip Drew, all approved.

FA05-06-25; Phillip Drew made the motion to approve the Final Payment for the Grady EMS Building, seconded by LaFaye Copeland, all approved.

FA06-06-25; LaFaye Copeland made the motion to approve the 2024 EOY Budget Amendment, seconded by Phillip Drew, all approved.

FA07-06-25; Phillip Drew made the motion to approve the Sheriff's Office's Fleet Proposal, seconded by LaFaye Copeland, all approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Phillip Drew made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m., seconded by LaFaye Copeland, all approved.

Meeting adjourned.

Executive Duties

1. Call to Order - 6:00 PM

2. Invocation/Pledge

3. Adoption of Agenda

4. Public Comments

II. Presentations

1. Southwest Georgia Regional Commission: Brief on Survey for Comprehensive Plan

2. Safe Streets and Roads (SS4A Grant) Gary & Sandra Bales

3. VFD; Richard Phillips Hiring Grant

4. Consider Fleet Proposal for Sheriff's Office

III. Correspondence 1. July 1, 2025 9 a.m. Board of Commissioners Meeting

IV. Consent Items –(One motion) Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from June 3, 2025, 9 a.m.

Harrell- Owen Family Subdivision Plat at 919 Ulmer Rd

V. Formal Actions FA04-06-25 To Approve or Disapprove Hiring Grant for VFD

FA05-06-25 To Approve or Disapprove Final Payment for Grady EMS Building \$280,559.34

FA06-06-25 To Approve or Disapprove 2024 EOY Budget Amendment

FA07-06-25 To Approve or Disapprove the Sheriffs Office Fleet Proposal

VI. New and Unfinished Business

1. Administrator Matters

2. Commissioner Matters

VII. Executive Session (if needed)

VIII. Reports 1. Attorney's Report 2. Animal Control 3. Code Enforcement Reports IX. Adjournment

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



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ATTEST:

Katie Hall, County Clerk

Ray Prince, Chair

LaFaye Copeland, Vice Chair

Phillip Drew, Commissioner

Yancey Maxwell, Commissioner

Sam Kines, Commissioner