

**POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 03, 2026**

**6:25 PM**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Commissioners Hal Floyd, Michael Gravett, Linda Liles, David McElwee, John Paschal and Chuck Thaxton.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

County Manager Matt Denton, Assistant County Manager Connor Hooper, County Attorney Brad McFall, and County Clerk Jaime Armstrong.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Chuck Thaxton called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**1. Consider approval of agenda for the Regular Meeting of February 03, 2026.**

Chairman Thaxton called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Floyd to approve the agenda for the Regular Meeting of February 03, 2026 with the addition of: Consider a proposed agreement with the Conservation Fund regarding funding assistance for the maintenance of the Santa Claus Tract. Second by Commissioner McElwee. Motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**1. Consider approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting of January 06, 2026.**

Chairman Thaxton called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Paschal to approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of January 06, 2026. Second by Commissioner Floyd. Motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. V26-01: Request from Joseph Dewitt Crocker for variance on property located at 816 N. Bellview Road, Aragon (Parcel 047-172) requesting 10' relief from rear setback requirement. Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval.**

The applicant was present at the Work Session to answer any questions the Commissioners may have prior to consideration of the requests at their Regular Meeting.

Chairman Thaxton called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Liles to approve the request from Joseph Dewitt Crocker for variance on property located at 816 N. Bellview Road, Aragon (Parcel 047-172) requesting 10' relief from rear setback requirement. Second by Commissioner Paschal. Motion passed unanimously.

**2. Z26-01: Request from Hubert F. Johnson III for zoning change from A-1 to R-1 on property located at 496 Dry Creek Road, Cedartown (Parcel 018-008). Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval.**

The applicant was present at the Work Session to answer any questions the Commissioners may have prior to consideration of the requests at their Regular Meeting.

Chairman Thaxton called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Gravett to approve the request from Hubert F. Johnson III for zoning change from A-1 to R-1 on property located at 496 Dry Creek Road, Cedartown (Parcel 018-008). Second by Commissioner Liles. Motion passed unanimously.

- 3. Z26-02: Request from Christopher Meyer for zoning change from A-1 to C-1 on property located at 94 Wimberly Hill Loop, Cedartown (Parcel 036-119). Planning and Zoning Commission recommended denial.**

The applicant was present at the Work Session to answer any questions the Commissioners may have prior to consideration of the requests at their Regular Meeting.

Chairman Thaxton called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Floyd to deny the request from Christopher Meyer for zoning change from A-1 to C-1 on property located at 94 Wimberly Hill Loop, Cedartown (Parcel 036-119). Second by Commissioner McElwee. Motion passed unanimously.

- 4. Consider a proposed resolution authorizing the County's participation in the Cedartown, Georgia Tax Allocation District Number 1: Martha Berry Highway.**

Chairman Thaxton called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner McElwee to approve the proposed resolution authorizing the County's participation in the Cedartown, Georgia Tax Allocation District Number 1: Martha Berry Highway. Motion died for lack of a Second.

- 5. Consider a proposed resolution setting the Qualifying Fee for the Office of County Commissioner for districts 1, 2, & 3 for the 2026 Election to be \$409.42.**

Due to a general primary, nonpartisan election and general election scheduled to be held in 2026, O.C.G.A § 21-2-131 requires the governing authority to fix and publish a qualifying fee for each county office to be filled in the upcoming primary or election.

Chairman Thaxton called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Liles to approve the resolution setting the Qualifying Fee for the Office of County Commissioner for districts 1, 2, & 3 for the 2026 Election to be \$409.42. Second by Commissioner Paschal. Motion passed unanimously.

- 6. Consider recommendation from the Public Safety Committee to approve the Polk County Local Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Update.**

An update of the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) has to be submitted to the state every four years, which includes a cooperative agreement with all of the jurisdictions within the county.

Chairman Thaxton stated the Motion as recommended by the Public Safety Committee is to approve the Polk County Local Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Update. Motion passed unanimously.

- 7. Consider a Memorandum of Understanding with the UGA Cooperative Extension Office.**

The proposed Memorandum of Understanding for the provision of Cooperative Extension Services and Personnel outlines the responsibilities of the County and the Board of Regents of the University of System of Georgia on behalf of the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension.

Chairman Thaxton called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Paschal to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the UGA Cooperative Extension Office. Second by Commissioner Gravett. Motion passed unanimously.

- 8. Consider a proposed agreement with the Conservation Fund regarding funding assistance for the maintenance of the Santa Claus Tract.**

The proposed agreement will provide \$150,000.00 for future maintenance of the Santa Claus Tract that the County is acquiring from the Conservation Fund. These funds will be deposited into a County Account and used as necessary.

Chairman Thaxton called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Floyd to approve the proposed agreement with the Conservation Fund regarding funding assistance for the

**(02/03/26 – Regular Meeting)**

maintenance of the Santa Claus Tract. Second by Commissioner Liles. Motion passed unanimously.

### **COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT**

No Report.

### **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner McElwee congratulated Commissioner Thaxton on chairmanship of his first full meeting. He also commented on the TAD detailing the extensive work that the Board has put into educating themselves in order to be as well informed as possible and explained his position of supporting it.

Commissioner Floyd expressed his appreciation to all of those in attendance and those who chose to speak in favor and opposition of the TAD. He echoed Commissioner McElwee on the Board doing their due diligence pertaining to the TAD.

Commissioner Paschal reiterated Commissioners McElwee and Floyd's comments with regard to their time spent learning as much as they could before making a decision on the TAD.

Commissioner Liles thanked everyone for coming out and sharing their opinions on the TAD noting that this was a difficult decision.

Commissioner Gravett stated he did not vote because a vote was not called for adding that his next order of business is to have further conversations regarding the TAD in an attempt to come up with a deal that works for Polk County and Cedartown.

Commissioner Thaxton thanked everyone for attending noting that he loves civic engagement.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PERSONNEL AND PENDING LITIGATION**

Chairman Thaxton called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner McElwee to enter into Executive Session for Personnel and Pending Litigation. Second by Commissioner Paschal. Motion passed unanimously.

### **RECONVENE MEETING**

Chairman Thaxton called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Liles to reconvene the Regular Meeting. Second by Commissioner Paschal. Motion passed unanimously.

### **ADJOURN**

Chairman Thaxton called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Floyd to adjourn the meeting. Second by Commissioner McElwee. Motion passed unanimously.

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

---

CHARLES THAXTON, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

---

JAIME ARMSTRONG, COUNTY CLERK