

Houston County Commissioners Meeting
August 19, 2025
Warner Robins, Georgia

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at the Houston County Annex in Warner Robins, Georgia. Chairman Perdue presided, and Commissioners Byrd, Gottwals, Robinson, and Talton were present. County Attorney Tom Hall, Director of Operations Brian Jones, and Director of Administration Robbie Dunbar were also present.

Commissioner Byrd led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Robinson gave the invocation.

Sheriff Moulton addressed the Board speaking on the ongoing support provided by the Georgia Sheriffs' Association to the Georgia Sheriffs' Youth Homes through annual financial contributions. He noted that for the past 15 years, Sheriff Cullen Talton consistently led all sheriffs in fundraising efforts to benefit the Youth Homes, primarily through his annual golf tournament. He shared that at a recent event; he had the honor of accepting an award on behalf of Sheriff Talton from the Georgia Sheriffs' Association in recognition of his longstanding support of the Georgia Sheriff's Youth Homes. He invited Commissioner Talton to come forward and accept the award on behalf of the Talton family. In conclusion, Sheriff Moulton announced that moving forward, the annual golf tournament will be named the Sheriff Talton Memorial Golf Tournament and is scheduled to take place on September 29th and 30th at the Houston Lake Country Club.

Chairman Perdue expressed his appreciation for Sheriff Talton's long faithfulness and support of the Georgia Sheriff's Youth Home through his golf tournament and he is glad to know that it will continue in his name.

Motion by Mr. Talton, second by Ms. Robinson, and carried unanimously by all to approve the minutes from the August 5, 2025, meeting.

Mr. Byrd presented a request from the City of Warner Robins for annexation of property located on Air Park Drive.

Chairman Perdue opened the floor for public comments. There being no comments the meeting continued.

Motion by Mr. Byrd, second by Mr. Gottwals, and carried unanimously by all to concur with the annexation of property containing 45.69 acres on Air Park Drive, also known as Tax Parcels 000770 101000 and 000770 102000 with the stipulation that all current County utilities remain with the County. Current zoning is County R-2, and zoning after annexation will be Warner Robins R-2. Also, with the following requirements:

- A traffic study to include trip generation using the proposed development layout
- A water distribution study to verify adequate fire flow and water pressure through the development
- The submission of a water purchase agreement by the City of Warner Robins
- Repair of existing roads from construction traffic

Chairman Perdue stated that the property is zoned R-2 and will remain R-2. Additionally, since access to the property would be over County roads, a traffic study to assess the impact on the roads and nearby neighborhood needs to be conducted.

Houston County Commissioners Meeting Continued from Page 548

Mr. Byrd presented a request from the City of Warner Robins for annexation of property located on Sutherlin Drive.

Chairman Perdue opened the floor for public comments. There being no comments, the meeting continued.

Motion by Mr. Byrd, second by Ms. Robinson, and carried unanimously by all to concur with the annexation of property containing 13.38 acres on Sutherlin Drive also known as Tax Parcel 000780 227000, with the stipulation that all current County utilities remain with the County. Current zoning is County C-2. Zoning after annexation will be Warner Robins R-4.

Chairman Perdue stated that the rezoning from County C-2 to City R-4 would mean a lower density zoning.

Mr. Byrd presented a request for the abandonment of an unimproved section of First Avenue adjacent to property in Lashley Subdivision, Lots 246 & 247, having an address of 606 Second Street Bonaire.

Chairman Perdue closed the regular portion of the meeting and opened a Public Hearing.

As there were no comments Chairman Perdue closed the Public Hearing and reopened the regular portion of the meeting.

Motion by Mr. Byrd, second by Mr. Talton, and carried unanimously by all to approve the abandonment of the unimproved section of First Avenue adjacent to property in Lashley Subdivision known as Lots 246 & 247, having an address of 606 Second Street in Bonaire, Georgia. Also, to authorize the signing of the Deed of Abandonment and the Resolution of Right-of-Way Abandonment.

Mr. Byrd commented that this type of action regarding unused right-of-way is beneficial in that it will bring this property back on the tax rolls.

Chairman Perdue commented that it will also allow the property owner to use it as well.

Mr. Byrd presented a request to pursue a Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program (GOSP) grant through the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for the redevelopment of County-owned property located at the Bibb/Houston County line along Echeconnee Creek into a recreational park.

Motion by Mr. Byrd, second by Mr. Gottwals, and carried unanimously by all to approve signing a resolution in support of applying for a Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program grant.

Chairman Perdue explained that the County owns this property already and stated that the property is located on Hwy. 247 at the Echeconnee Creek. He also advised that this is the 2nd time the County has applied for the grant and is working with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission to have an improved grant application.

Mr. Talton presented a request for approval of a bid on a new Ford Maverick Hybrid.

Motion by Mr. Talton, second by Ms. Robinson, and carried unanimously by all to approve the bid from Five Star Ford of Warner Robins, GA in the amount of \$30,275 for a new 2025 Ford Maverick Hybrid for use in the Water Department. This purchase will be funded using Water Capital funds.

Mr. Talton presented a request for approval of a bid for septic tank repair at the Landfill.

Houston County Commissioners Meeting Continued from Page 549

Motion by Mr. Talton, second by Mr. Byrd, and carried unanimously by all to approve the bid from Plumblin Construction LLC., of Warner Robins, GA in an amount not to exceed \$80,000 for the repair or replacement of the septic tank, drain lines, and drain field at the Landfill. This project will be funded with Landfill Capital Funds.

Chairman Perdue thanked Plumblin Construction for taking on the job to fix an existing problem.

Mr. Talton presented a request for approval of a Specific Mutual Aid Agreement with the City of Perry.

Motion by Mr. Talton, second by Mr. Gottwals, and carried unanimously by all to approve signing a Specific Mutual Aid Agreement with the City of Perry for mutual aid assistance provided only on August 29, 2025, during the Perry/Houston County game at Freedom Field.

Chairman Perdue commented that this was the same night as the Warner Robins /Northside football game as well.

Ms. Robinson presented a request to award the Design-Build services for the HEMA Warehouse project.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Talton, and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of the Design-Build services for the HEMA Warehouse project to Parrish Construction Group Inc., of Perry, Georgia.

Mr. Byrd expressed his appreciation to all the companies who submitted bids on the project, mentioning several being local.

Chairman Perdue thanked Mr. Byrd, Mr. Gottwals, and County staff for participating in the selection process.

Ms. Robinson presented a request for approval to update the camera system at the Juvenile Court building and align it with the camera system that is used in the County infrastructure.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Byrd, and carried unanimously by all to approve the quote from BTV Systems, of Macon, Georgia, in the amount of \$56,470.70, to update the camera system at the Juvenile Court building. The 2018 SPLOST will fund this project.

Ms. Robinson presented a request for approval to accept the State Juvenile Justice Grant.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Gottwals, and carried unanimously by all to approve accepting Juvenile Justice Grant AW-JJIG-26-191-024 in the amount of \$300,000 for the period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. There are no matching funds required.

Ms. Robinson presented a request from the Purchasing Department to declare items surplus.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Talton, and carried unanimously by all to approve declaring the following surplus for sale on GovDeals:

- 1990 OshKosh Fuel Tanker Truck
- 12 Tractor Suitcase Counterweights
- 6 Dell desktops without hard drives
- 24 Monitors
- 18 Fabric Chairs (set of 6 & set of 12 stackable)
- 70 Dell keyboards

Houston County Commissioners Meeting Continued from Page 550

In addition, approval is requested to declare the following surplus for disposal:

- 5 Chairs
- 100 Desktop Phones

Motion by Mr. Gottwals, second by Ms. Robinson, and carried unanimously by all to approve appointing Josh Waters to fulfill the unexpired term of Daniel Bibler on the Houston County Library Board. This term will begin on 08/20/2025 and end on 02/01/2026.

Mr. Gottwals presented a request to enter a contract to provide services to regulate the use of, establish standards for, and ensure the proper taxation of privately owned residential properties used as vacation homes and rented to transient occupants within the unincorporated area of Houston County.

Motion by Mr. Gottwals, second by Mr. Byrd, and carried unanimously by all to approve signing a contract with Granicus, of Denver, Colorado, for a total cost of \$15,191.61. The contract will begin on September 1, 2025, with a startup phase including training and property identification, and a go-live date of January 1, 2026.

Chairman Perdue explained that this company has software that identifies these types of rentals and helps to bring these properties into compliance.

Mr. Byrd commented that in the demonstration of the software that over 400 of these types of properties were found in Houston County.

Chairman Perdue commented that of these 400 types of properties, about 150 were in the unincorporated areas of Houston County.

Mr. Gottwals presented a request to fill the vacant Building Inspector position in Building Inspections.

Motion by Mr. Gottwals, second by Ms. Robinson, and carried unanimously by all to approve hiring Mr. Roscoe Miller to fill the vacant Building Inspector position at a Grade 19 Step F effective August 25, 2025.

Chairman Perdue congratulated Mr. Andrews on hiring such a well-qualified candidate.

Motion by Mr. Gottwals, second by Mr. Talton, and carried unanimously by all to approve the payment of the bills totaling \$4,673,076.80.

Chairman Perdue closed the regular portion of the meeting and opened Public Comments.

Mr. Barry Brown spoke about the new solid waste collection company and the good job they are doing; he also voiced a concern about yard waste collection containers.

Mr. John Gary spoke about his hope to have County water service Kovac Road.

Mr. Thomas Reynolds spoke on various topics including Elberta Road, property tax appeals and tax relief for senior citizens.

Houston County NAACP President Jonathan Johnson spoke on various topics including a vehicle with graffiti that was recently detained in the City of Centerville, a statue located in the City of Perry, and his views on district representation on the Board of Commissioners.

Houston County Commissioners Meeting Continued from Page 551

With no further comments, Chairman Perdue closed Public Comments and opened Commissioner Comments.

Mr. Gottwals expressed his appreciation to all attendees. He stated he was excited about the County's application for a grant to develop a new outdoor recreation site at the Houston/Bibb County line and highlighted the importance of revitalizing that area of Houston County.

Ms. Robinson also thanked everyone for attending and acknowledged the accomplishments made during the meeting. She concluded by affirming her commitment to representing all residents of Houston County, regardless of race. She emphasized her efforts to remain open-minded, considerate of others, and focused on working collaboratively for the betterment of the entire community.

Mr. Talton thanked those in attendance and extended his appreciation to Sheriff Moulton for his presentation. He also expressed his gratitude to Sheriff Moulton for continuing to honor his grandfather by maintaining and renaming the golf tournament as the Sheriff Cullen Talton Memorial Golf Tournament.

Mr. Byrd acknowledged Ms. Robinson's emotional response, noting that it stemmed from her deep care and commitment. He expressed agreement that the vehicle bearing graffiti was truly offensive and did not reflect the values or character of Houston County. He emphasized that such a display should not be associated with any individual member of the Board. Mr. Byrd mentioned recent media coverage concerning a proposed 11% tax increase stating that the publicity has provided him with opportunities to engage with Houston County residents and clarify the realities surrounding the millage rate adjustment. He concluded by expressing his gratitude to all County employees, department heads, senior leadership, and elected officials for their continued dedication in delivering services to Houston County residents in the most effective and efficient manner possible.

Motion by Mr. Talton, second by Ms. Robinson, and carried unanimously by all to approve adjourning the meeting. Meeting adjourned.

Robbie Dunbar
Director of Administration

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner