

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

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in a Special Called Meeting at 6:00 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.

Director of Administration Robbie Dunbar led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Attorney Tom Hall gave the invocation.

Chairman Perdue presented information on the proposed millage rate. He spoke on how property taxes are assessed, state requirements on assessed values, exemptions, House Bill 581 and the changes it put in effect. He also discussed the budget, County efficiency, and how tax dollars are utilized to keep the County functioning. He concluded his presentation by stating the new proposed millage rate is 8.45, down from 8.501, and the new Fire Millage for unincorporated Houston County will be 1.677, up from 1.177.

Chairman Perdue next turned to the Commissioners for any comments they had on the presentation.

Mr. Byrd thanked Chairman Perdue for his clear explanation of the entire process and spoke about the potential effects of HB 581. He commented on the slide comparing Houston County to other counties in Georgia showing the efficiency by which Houston County provides services to County residents in comparison.

Ms. Robinson thanked Chairman Perdue for his explanation of a very complex issue and making it easier to understand and thanked those who attended the public hearing.

Chairman Perdue then opened the public hearing for public comments on the millage rate.

Sheriff Moulton expressed his gratitude to the Board for providing funds to hire six new deputies. He advised that two deputies would be assigned to the Warrants Division, one to Juvenile Court security, two to the Patrol Division focusing on traffic detail, and one to an administrative role responsible for human resources, hiring and promotion, and internal affairs duties.

Fire/HEMA Chief Chris Stoner thanked the Board for the approval of the fire millage rate increase, noting that it would enable his department to provide an enhanced level of service to Houston County residents. He addressed a recent discussion regarding the County's reserve fund balance. He explained that the surplus funds are necessary to respond effectively in the event of a natural disaster impacting County infrastructure, buildings, or property. He emphasized that these funds would make immediate repairs or the replacement of critical assets possible without the wait for relief funds from the federal government.

Ms. Jacqueline Rozier addressed the recent increase in the fire millage rate. She expressed hope that the additional revenue generated for the Fire Department would facilitate the assignment of a newer fire truck to the fire stations serving north Houston County. She noted that the current fire truck at that station appears to be older than other trucks in the County. Additionally, she stated she did not know if there was a firefighter at the fire station in the north full-time but requested consideration in keeping a firefighter there if that was not the case.

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Mr. Fabio Gomez stated that he lived in the City of Warner Robins and was concerned about the lack of recycling in the city and the need for funds to be given to recycling efforts since the tax millage rate is being increased.

Chairman Perdue commented that since he lived in the City of Warner Robins, his concern would need to be addressed by City officials. He also explained that the County does offer recycling to County residents who live in the unincorporated areas of the County who wish to have and sign-up for that service.

With no further comments, Chairman Perdue closed the Public Hearing and reopened the regular portion of the meeting.

Motion by Mr. Gottwals, second by Mr. Byrd, and carried unanimously by all to approve adjourning the meeting. Meeting adjourned.

Robbie Dunbar
Director of Administration

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner