Oconee County Board of Commissioners Meeting
Administrative Building Commission Chambers
November 25, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.
Minutes

Members Present:
Chairman John Daniell
Commissioner Mark Thomas
Commissioner Chuck Horton
Commissioner Amrey Harden
Commissioner Mark Saxon

Staff Present:
Daniel Haygood, County Attorney
Holly Stephenson, County Clerk
Melissa Braswell, Finance Director
Donna Norton, Budget Officer
Lisa Davol, Parks and Recreation Director
Adam Layfield, Water Resources Director
Guy Herring, Planning and Code Enforcement Director
Jody Woodall, Public Works Director
Justin Milligan, IT Director

Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.
Chairman John Daniell called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance:
County Clerk Holly Stephenson led the Pledge after a moment of silence.

Approval of Agenda:
ACTION:

Motion:	Chuck Horton made a motion to approve the November 25, 2025 Agenda.
Second:	Mark Thomas
Voted in Favor of Motion:	Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion:	None
Final Action:	**Motion Passed.**

Statements and Remarks from Citizens:
Jane Amos, Presbyterian Village, addressed the Board about an accident her friends were involved in on SR 53 at the Rays Church Road/Malcom Bridge Road intersection.

Lynn Merrill, 1165 Cypress Court, discussed an accident she and her husband were involved in at the intersection of Rays Church Road/Malcom Bridge Road at SR53. She praised the citizens of Oconee County who stopped to help them.

Allen Merrill, 1165 Cypress Court, thanked the Commissioners for their service. Then, he discussed the dangers of the intersection where the accident occurred.

Statements and Remarks from Commissioners:
Chairman Daniell explained the plans for a roundabout led by GDOT at the SR53 and Rays Church Road/Malcom Bridge Road intersection.
Commissioner Harden thanked the citizens for attending and making their comments.

Chairman Daniell reminded all that Oconee County offices will be closed on Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28 for the Thanksgiving holidays.

Presentation of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs PlanFirst Designation to the Planning and Code Enforcement Department:

Presented by: Daniel Gaddis, DCA Program Coordinator

Discussion: Georgia Department of Community Affairs Outreach and Training Project Coordinator Daniel Gaddis delivered congratulatory remarks and a certificate to the Planning and Code Enforcement Department and Board of Commissioners for receiving the PlanFirst Community Designation for the 2025-2028 period, the third time the county has received this designation.

Discuss and Consider the District Attorney's Funding Request:

Presented by: Melissa Braswell, Finance Director

Discussion: Finance Director Melissa Braswell explained the District Attorney has requested funding for expenses related to the State of Georgia v. Ahkil Crumpton trial, scheduled to begin the first week of December. The recommendation is for a budget amendment for $16,900 to cover these trial expenses not included in the FY26 budget.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

ACTION:

Motion:	Chuck Horton made a motion to approve the District Attorney's Funding Request.
Second:	Mark Saxon
Voted in Favor of Motion:	Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion:	None
Final Action:	**Motion Passed.**

Discuss an Amendment to the Real Estate Agreement for a Contract Extension of 1621 Daniels Bridge Road:

Presented by: Daniel Haygood, County Attorney

Discussion: County Attorney Daniel Haygood explained a contract extension is needed for the purchase of 1621 Daniels Bridge Road to extend the closing date to be on or before January 16, 2026.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the December 2, 2025 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

Discuss the Epps Bridge Parkway Sewer Upgrade Bid Award:

Presented by: Adam Layfield, Water Resources Director

Discussion: Water Resources Director Adam Layfield recommends awarding the bid for the expansion of existing gravity sewer to a 12-inch line between the Oconee Connector and Parkway Boulevard to the lowest bidder, Matthews Development Corporation, at a not to exceed price of $658,923.50. The request includes all necessary budget amendments up to the contract amount for the life of the project.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the December 2, 2025 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

Update on the LAS Decommission Project Components:

Presented by: Adam Layfield, Water Resources Director

Discussion: Water Resources Director Adam Layfield gave an update on the next two components of the LAS decommission process. First, he explained the upcoming contract #2 for the Oconee Veterans Park Pump Station upgrade to receive all LAS flows which will be presented to the Board for approval on December 2, 2025. Second, he explained the current LAS on-site demolition process which will be presented to the Board for approval on January 6, 2026.

Discuss the Senior Center Amended Transportation Agreement:

Presented by: Melissa Braswell, Finance Director

Discussion: Since receiving the renewal of the FY26 Transportation Services Memorandum of Understanding to provide transportation services to eligible Department of Human Services consumers, there has been a change in vendor to Verida. The request is for approval of this contract change and authorizing Chairman Daniell to sign the contract. The contract period is December 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 with no financial impact to the county.

On consensus, these items will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the December 2, 2025 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment for either item.

Discuss the OVP Pump Station Replacement:

Presented by: Lisa Davol, Parks and Recreation Director

Discussion: Parks and Recreation Director Lisa Davol explained there has been a price increase due to tariffs since the approval of the bid for the OVP Pump Station replacement with a concrete wet well structure for irrigation. Even with the price increase, Shoemaker Irrigation LLC is still the lowest bidder. The recommendation is to approve the revised cost of $327,450 and all necessary budget amendments up to the contract amount for the life of the project.

Commissioner Harden asked what materials were affected by the tariffs.
Ms. Davol responded that the building itself and its materials are affected by tariffs.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the December 2, 2025 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

Discuss the Heritage Park Central Schoolhouse Rehabilitation Design Proposal:

Presented by: Lisa Davol, Parks and Recreation Director

Discussion: Parks and Recreation Director Lisa Davol recommends approval of funding for the rehabilitation design proposal for the Heritage Park Central Schoolhouse to Architectural Collaborative, LLC for $88,015. This firm specializes in historic structures. The request includes all necessary budget amendments from Historic SPLOST, up to the contract amount for the life of the project.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the December 2, 2025 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

Discuss the OVP Gym Floor Replacement:

Presented by: Lisa Davol, Parks and Recreation Director

Discussion: Parks and Recreation Director Lisa Davol recommends a budget amendment from SPLOST 2021 for the OVP gym floor replacement due to sub-par product being previously used and additional water damage. The request is to allow Success Sports Surfacing, LLC through Sourcewell Connor Sports to complete the project at a not to exceed price of $232,000 and approval of all budget amendments up to that amount for the life of the project.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the December 2, 2025 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

Discuss the Final Contract Modification for Snows Mill Road at Lane Creek Road Roundabout Project:

Presented by: Jody Woodall, Public Works Director

Discussion: Public Works Director Jody Woodall recommends a final contract modification on the Snows Mill Road at Lane Creek Road roundabout project to reconcile actual quantities placed during the construction of the project. The modification request is $55,215.09 bringing the total contract amount to $513,056.09, approving a budget amendment in the FY26 budget, and including all budget amendments up to the contract amount for the life of the project.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the December 2, 2025 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

Discuss Extension of Cell Tower Lease with Prime Tower at OVP:

Presented by: John Daniel, Chairman

Discussion: Chairman Daniell requests approval of a lease extension with Prime Tower for the OVP Site for tower engineering and construction.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the December 2, 2025 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

Discuss the Board of Commissioner's Meeting Schedule for 2026:

Presented by: Holly Stephenson, County Clerk

Discussion: County Clerk Holly Stephenson requests approval of the proposed 2026 Meeting Schedule to include the State of the County and Town Hall Meetings.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agent at the December 2, 2025 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

Discussion of the Board of Commissioner's Vice-Chairman Schedule for 2026-2029:

Presented by: Holly Stephenson, County Clerk

Discussion: County Clerk Holly Stephenson requests approval of the proposed Vice-Chairman Schedule for 2026-2029.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agent at the December 2, 2025 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

Discuss the Quarterly Acceptance of Deeds, Easements, Etc:

Presented by: Holly Stephenson, County Clerk

Discussion: County Clerk Holly Stephenson requests acceptance of Quit Claim Deed from ADC Capital, LLC to SRC Development, LLC and Warranty Deed from SRC Development, LLC to Oconee County, both dated March 3, 2025, and recorded September 29, 2025, for Stonewood Subdivision Phase 3.

On consensus, these items will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the December 2, 2025 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment for either item.

Executive Session:

Motion:	Mark Saxon made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss personnel and litigation.
Second:	Mark Thomas
Voted in Favor of Motion:	Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion:	None
Action/Motion:	**Motion Passed.**
Adjourn into Executive Session:	6:34 p.m.

No action was taken in Executive Session.
Executive Session Adjourned: 7:05 p.m.

Regular Session:

Motion:	Mark Saxon made a motion to adjourn back into Regular Session.
Second:	Chuck Horton
Voted in Favor of Motion:	Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion:	None
Action/Motion:	**Motion Passed.**
Adjourned into Regular Session:	7:06 p.m.

Chairman Daniell announced a postponement in the Board Initiated Rezone scheduled for December 2, 2025 due to an error in advertising. The rezone will be re-scheduled for the January 6, 2026 BOC meeting after advertisement.

Adjourned:

Motion:	Mark Saxon made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Second:	Mark Thomas
Voted in Favor of Motion:	Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion:	None
Action/Motion:	**Motion Passed.**
Meeting Adjourned:	7:06 p.m.

J. Daniell
Chairman John Daniell

Holly Stephenson
Holly Stephenson, County Clerk

12.2.25
Date