MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
WARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026
5:00 p.m.

The Ware County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting, Monday, May 11, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. in the Ware County Commission Chambers, 305 Oak Street, Suite 201, Waycross, Georgia 31501, with Chairman Elmer Thrift presiding.

CALL TO ORDER	Chairman Elmer Thrift
COMMISSIONERS PRESENT	Commissioner Leonard Burse; Commissioner Barry Cox, Commissioner Timmy Lucas; and Commissioner Jon Tindall
COMMISSIONERS ABSENT	None
STAFF PRESENT	County Manager James Shubert; Assistant County Attorney Jennifer Herzog; County Clerk Melinda Brooks
PRESS	Danny Bartlett, WJH
INVOCATION	The invocation was waived from the Work Session
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	The Pledge of Allegiance was waived from the Work Session

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Commissioner Burse made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Tindall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA
Commissioner Cox made a motion to amend the agenda by moving Items J, K, L, M to the top of the agenda so that action could be taken on those items first.

GUEST SPEAKER: None

CONSENT ITEMS:

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes:
- April 13, 2026 – Work Session, Public Hearing, Regular Meeting
- April 30, 2026 – Called Meeting

Commissioner Tindall made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEMS

A. Bid Award – 2026 LMIG Resurfacing Projects
Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item.

Commissioner Burse made a motion to approve the bid award to East Coast Asphalt, LLC for the 2026 LMIG resurfacing projects in the amount of $459,455.54. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion.

Discussion: none

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Jon Tindall-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-ABSENT; Commissioner Barry Cox-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

B. Bid Award – 2026 Safety Action Plan for Restriping County Roads
Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item.

Commissioner Tindall made a motion to approve the bid award to NPR South, LLC. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Jon Tindall-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-ABSENT; Commissioner Barry Cox-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

C. Bid Award – Audit Services
Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item.

Commissioner Burse made a motion to approve the bid award to Carr, Riggs, & Ingram for $325,815. Commissioner Tindall seconded the motion.

Discussion: The term of this contract is four years with a single audit.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Jon Tindall-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-ABSENT; Commissioner Barry Cox-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

D. Surplus Items – Office Phones
Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item.

Commissioner Tindall made a motion to surplus the County phones. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion.

Discussion: none

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Jon Tindall-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-ABSENT; Commissioner Barry Cox-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

E. Approve Contract for Iron Bridge Landfill Water Monitoring Services
Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item.

Commissioner Tindall made a motion to approve the water monitoring services contract with Bunnell Lammons Engineering (BLE) for $10,500. Commissioner Burse seconded the motion.

Discussion: Commissioner Tindall explained that the contract is for semi-annual reports on the Iron Bridge Landfill groundwater analysis and that consulting will be on call, if needed.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Jon Tindall-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-ABSENT; Commissioner Barry Cox-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

F. Recreation Department – Select Concept 1 or Concept 2 for Pickleball Courts
Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item.

Commissioner Burse made a motion to select Concept 1 for the pickleball court design on the Wadley Road side due to the lower amount of construction required. Commissioner Tindall seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Jon Tindall-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-ABSENT; Commissioner Barry Cox-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

G. Request to Accept Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Agreement
Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item.

Commissioner Cox made a motion to accept the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program agreement with local cost at $8,7321.20. Commissioner Burse seconded the motion.

Discussion: County Manager Shubert noted that the fee will be reduced with in-kind service, meaning staff will attend meetings/trainings.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Jon Tindall-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-ABSENT; Commissioner Barry Cox-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

H. Request to Extend Crowder Gulf Contract for 1 Year
Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item.

Commissioner Tindall made a motion to approve the contract extension with Crowder Gulf for one year. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion.

Discussion: Commissioner Burse noted that this company picked up the debris after Hurricane Helene, but the contract must be activated before the County is charged. Commissioner Tindall stated the bid for a 5-year contract was approved last year, and a contract extension has to be approved each subsequent.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Jon Tindall-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-ABSENT; Commissioner Barry Cox-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

I. Request to Extend Thompson Monitoring Contract for 1 Year
Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item.

Commissioner Tindall made a motion to approve the one-year contract extension for Thompson Consulting. Commissioner Burse seconded the motion.

Discussion: Commissioner Tindall explained a company is required to monitor the debris collection to receive reimbursement from FEMA.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Jon Tindall-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-ABSENT; Commissioner Barry Cox-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

J. Request to Submit 2026 Joint Comprehensive Plan to DCA for Approval

Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item.

Commissioner Tindall made a motion to approve the submission of the 2026 Joint Comprehensive Plan to DCA for approval. Commissioner Burse seconded the motion.

Discussion: none

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Jon Tindall-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-ABSENT; Commissioner Barry Cox-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

K. Request to Change the Name of Cameron Lane to Taylor Bristow Lane
Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item.

Commissioner Tindall made a motion to approve the request to rename Cameron Lane to Taylor Bristow Lane. There was no second, so the motion died.

Discussion:

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Jon Tindall-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-ABSENT; Commissioner Barry Cox-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

L. Request to Close/Abandon Roscoe Mixon Road
Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item.

Commissioner Burse made a motion to approve the road closure/abandonment request. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion.

Discussion: Commissioner Burse explained this is a land swap, old road for new. Land was donated by the church to the County for the construction of a new road. Now that is complete, the County will close the old road and deed it back to the church.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Jon Tindall-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-ABSENT; Commissioner Barry Cox-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

M. Request to Rezone 2401 Adams Street from R-75 MH
Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item.

Commissioner Tindall made a motion to approve the request to rezone 2401 Adams Street from R-75 MH to A-1. The motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Burse made a motion to deny the request to rezone 2401 Adams Street from R-75 MH to A-1. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion.

Discussion: none

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Jon Tindall-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-ABSENT; Commissioner Barry Cox-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

COUNTY MANAGER REPORT:
County Manager Shubert reminded the Commission that he will be out of the office Tuesday, May 12 through Thursday, May 14 to receive his Public Manager certification.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:
Commissioner Cox raised the idea of a trash-dump day for local residents. He asked to find out the costs of getting dumpsters for a weekend.

ADJOURN
Commissioner Tindall made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Regular Meeting adjourned at 6:01 p. m.

Date proposed to be approved: June 8, 2026

Elmer Thrift, Chairman

ATTEST:

Melinda L. Brooks, County Clerk

6-12-2026

Date

WARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS GEORGIA