

**MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING
WARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
THURSDAY JUNE 18, 2026
10:00 a.m.**

The Ware County Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing, Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 10:00 a.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 Jon Tindall
COMMISSIONERS ABSENT	Timmy Lucas
STAFF PRESENT	County Manager James Shubert; Assistant County Attorney Jennifer Dorminey Herzog; County Clerk Melinda Brooks
PRESS	Danny Bartlett - WJH
INVOCATION	Commissioner Jon Tindall
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	Chairman Elmer Thrift

Presentation of Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2027

Accounting Supervisor Beverly York presented a slide show with the proposed budget for FY2027. (Presentation included with minutes as part of the official record.)

Director Erica Stembridge asked for the library's budget to be increased by \$10,600. She explained when Pierce County pulled out of the regional library system, that affected the budget.

Tax Commissioner Roger Collins requested a new position for his office to help collect delinquent taxes, which are increasing every year. He also mentioned that he does get a refund on his advertising fees that is put back into his budget.

Human Resources Director Theresa Young also requested a new position for her department to help with efficiency. Human Resources handles personnel issues and all benefits, including medical and retirement.

Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor Joe Meadows made a request for a tire changing machine using SPLOST funds. He said having County employees install tires would save on the cost of tire purchases.

Assistant Police Chief Dave Hanson and Planning Director Dustin Minchew explained to the Commission that Ware County fees are much lower than the surrounding counties, so

they are looking into increasing the fees.

CLOSURE

Commissioner Burse made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Tindall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

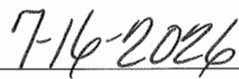
The public hearing was closed at 11:42 a. m.

Date proposed to be approved: July 13, 2026


Elmer Thrift, Chairman

ATTEST:


Melinda L. Brooks, County Clerk


Date

