

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
WARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2026
5:00 p.m.**

The Ware County Board of Commissioners held a Work Session, Monday, August 10, 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	Waived from the Work Session
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	Waived from the Work Session

GUEST SPEAKER(S): None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Lucas made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioners Cox and Tindall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Burse made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 13 work session, public hearing, and regular meeting, as well as the July 30 called meeting. Commissioner Lucas seconded the motion.

AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Ware County IT – Purchase of Sonic Security Firewall Software

Commissioner Lucas made a motion to grant the purchase request from the IT department for Sonic Security Firewall. Commissioner Burse seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote:

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

B. Award Bid for Gooding Bay Road from Valdosta Highway Extending 2 Miles

Commissioner Burse asked for a motion on this item. Commissioner Lucas made a motion to award the bid for paving Gooding Bay Road from Valdosta Highway and extending two miles to Thrift Brothers, LLC for \$818,743.78. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote:

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

C. Selection of Garbage Collection and Disposal Company

Chairman Thrift asked for motion on this item. Commissioner Tindall made a motion to award Ryland Environmental the selection as the garbage collection and disposal company for the County. He amended the motion to include the \$19.65 price, which allows citizens to visit the transfer station once per quarter to dispose of 300 lbs of waste at no charge.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Discussion: Commissioner Tindall noted that he likes the benefit of transfer station being open on Saturday as well as the 300 lbs allowed per quarter per household. He also mentioned that the \$15,000 franchise fee being offered by the Republic Waste is not a significant part of a \$34 million budget. Commissioner Burse mentioned citizens not being able to get to transfer station during the week and that he appreciates Ryland committing to one Saturday per month. Commissioner Cox stated he felt the pricing was pretty much equal, but the other benefits offered more for the citizens.

D. Selection of Aviation Consultant for Planning Services for the Waycross-Ware County Airport

Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item. Commissioner Tindall made a motion to select Passero & Associates as the aviation consultant for planning services for the Waycross-Ware County Airport. Commissioner Lucas seconded the motion

Discussion: It was noted that Passero has been working closely with the airport on several projects, some that are getting closer to completion

Roll Call Vote:

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

E. Selection of Aviation Consultant for Design and Construction Services for the Waycross-Ware County Airport

Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item. Commissioner Burse made a motion to approve Passero as the aviation consultant for design and construction services for the Waycross-Ware County Airport. Commissioner Tindall seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

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

F. Ware County Vehicle Maintenance/Public Works/Building Maintenance – Purchase Nova Solutions Software

Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item. Commissioner Burse made a motion to approve the purchase request of Nova Solutions Software for Vehicle Maintenance, Public Works, and Building Maintenance. Commissioner Lucas seconded the motion.

Discussion: Commissioner Burse noted that this software will increase the efficiency of several departments. Commissioner Tindall added that the software will help predict the life the equipment, such as breakdowns.

Roll Call Vote:

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

G. Purchase Office Equipment for E911

Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item. Commissioner Lucas made a motion to approve the purchase of the office equipment for E911, including desk risers, ergonomic chairs, and basic wellness equipment for \$24,453.078. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion.

Discussion: All Commissioners expressed their appreciation for the job done by E911 staff. Commissioner Burse added that the price includes the dismantling and replacement of the old equipment.

Roll Call Vote:

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

H. Recreation Department - Purchase and Install Three (3) 20-Ton HVAC Units

Chairman Thrift asked for a motion on this item. Commissioner Burse made a motion

to approve the purchase of three 20-ton HVAC units from Winsupply (\$147,746.33), crane rental (\$5,000), and installation by Whitaker Heating and Air (\$10,500) for a total purchase price of \$163,246.33. Commissioner Lucas seconded the motion.

Discussion: Commissioner Tindall clarified that the original 15-ton AAON units were quoted at \$138,000 - \$141,000 per unit. By going with CaptiveAire, the replacement units are 20-ton and \$147,746.23 for a total of three units. Commissioner Burse noted that the current thermostat has been controlled by a computer at a remote location. These units will be controlled locally.

Roll Call Vote:

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

I. Executive Session

Commissioner Tindall made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss real estate, litigation, and personnel. Commissioner Lucas seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Commission entered into Executive Session at 6:04 p.m.

The Commission came back into Chambers. Commissioner Tindall made a motion to exit the Executive Session. Commissioner Lucas seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Executive Session was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

COUNTY MANAGER REPORT: None

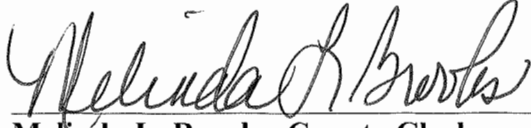
COMMISSION COMMENTS: None

ADJOURN:

Commissioner Tindall made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Commissioner Lucas seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Regular Meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Date proposed to be approved: September 14, 2026


Elmer Thrift, Chairman


Melinda L. Brooks, County Clerk

9-16-2026
Date

