

The Turner County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, March 4th, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Turner County Agricultural Center for the monthly Board Meeting with Commissioners James Burgess, Joe E. Burgess, Brad Calhoun, Nick Denham and Dana L. Whiddon present. Staff present were Latrice Wilson, County Clerk and Brent Hyde, County Attorney. Others present were Mr. Ben Baker, Editor of the Wiregrass Farmer, Robby Royal, Sheriff Andy Hester, Ashley Miller, Dustin Beaty, Jonathan Perry, Howard Jordan, Janet Winter, Sami Mastrario, Jim Lumpkin and Bruce Burgess.

Chairman James Burgess called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Ben Baker gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Commissioner Whiddon seconded by Commissioner Calhoun to add Fire Contribution and add Sheriff Andy Hester as a speaker, motion passed with Commissioners James Burgess, Joe E. Burgess, Brad Calhoun, Nick Denham, and Dana L. Whiddon voting in favor of the motion.

Motion by Commissioner Burgess seconded by Commissioner Calhoun to approve financial information for October 2024, November 2023 and December 2023 as presented, motion passed with Commissioners James Burgess, Joe E. Burgess, Brad Calhoun, Nick Denham, and Dana L. Whiddon voting in favor of the motion.

Motion by Commissioner Denham seconded by Commissioner Burgess to approve minutes of previous meetings for February 4th, 2025, and February 25th, 2025, as printed, motion passed with Commissioners James Burgess, Joe E. Burgess, Brad Calhoun, Nick Denham, and Dana L. Whiddon voting in favor of the motion.

Public Comments (Concerning agenda items): None

Speaker:

Sheriff Andy Hester spoke about the need for more kennels for animal control for Turner County.

Motion by Commissioner Calhoun seconded by Commissioner Burgess to adopt Resolution #2025-03-01 authorizing the filing of an application with the Department of Transportation, United States of America, and Georgia Department of Transportation, for a grant under Title 49 U.S.C., Section 5311 and authorize the Chairman to sign resolution on behalf of the County, motion passed with Commissioners James Burgess, Joe E. Burgess, Brad Calhoun, Nick Denham, and Dana L. Whiddon voting in favor of the motion.

Motion by Commissioner Denham seconded by Commissioner Burgess to accept bid for repairs at the Old 911 building, motion did not pass with Commissioner Denham voting in favor. Commissioners James Burgess, Joe E. Burgess, Brad Calhoun, and Dana L. Whiddon opposed the motion.

Motion by Commissioner Burgess seconded by Commissioner Calhoun to approve the agreement for technical assistance services between Turner County and Southern Georgia Regional Commission in the amount of \$11,000.00 upon completion of work and authorized the Chairman to sign agreement on behalf of the County, motion passed with Commissioners James Burgess, Joe E. Burgess, Brad Calhoun, Nick Denham, and Dana L. Whiddon voting in favor of the motion.

Motion by Commissioner Burgess seconded by Commissioner Calhoun to approve a \$1.50 pay increase for Herman McCard, motion passed with Commissioners James Burgess, Joe E. Burgess, Brad Calhoun, Nick Denham, and Dana L. Whiddon voting in favor of the motion.

Motion by Commissioner Whiddon seconded by Commissioner Burgess to approve an ordinance that has specific hours of operation no later than 1:00 a.m. and the primary purpose can not be alcohol sales, motion passed with Commissioners James Burgess, Joe E. Burgess, and Dana L. Whiddon voting in favor of the motion. Commissioners Calhoun and Denham opposed the motion.

Motion by Commissioner Burgess seconded by Commissioner Calhoun to approve the Executive Session Minutes for Tuesday, February 25, 2025, motion passed with Commissioners James Burgess, Joe E. Burgess, Brad Calhoun, Nick Denham, and Dana L. Whiddon voting in favor of the motion.

Motion by Commissioner Denham seconded by Commissioner Whiddon to approve contribution to the Fire Ant Festival in the amount of \$5,000.00, motion passed with Commissioner James Burgess, Joe E. Burgess, Brad Calhoun, Nick Denham, and Dana L. Whiddon voting in favor of the motion.

Public Comments: Partner Benefits will provide lunch for the County's employees and staff on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 12 noon.

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

James Burgess, Chairman

Attest: _____
Latrice L. Wilson, County Clerk