



**HALL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD RETREAT MINUTES
The Ridges Resort
3499 US Highway 76 W
Hiawassee, GA 30546
May 6-7, 2026**

Meeting on Wednesday, May 6, 2026 began at 1:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman David Gibbs, and Commissioners Billy Powell, Gregg Poole and Jeff Stowe

Also present were: Interim County Administrator John Gentry, Assistant County Administrator Casey Ramsey, and County Attorney Justin Lawhon

Commissioner Kathy Cooper was absent.

Welcome/Introduction (*John Gentry, Interim County Administrator*)

Strategic Plan Update (*Sarah Crowe, Communications & Strategic Engagement Manager*)

FY 2027 Budget & SPLOST IX Cash Flow (*Taylor Samples, Finance Director*)

- Presentation of the current FY 2026 Financial Status, proposed FY 2027 Budget, and FY 2027 SPLOST IX projects

Legal Services (*Justin Lawhon, County Attorney*)

- Special Events Permitting Process
- Packaged Sale of Distilled Spirits

Meeting on Wednesday, May 6, 2026 ended at 5:30 p.m.

Meeting on Thursday, May 7, 2026 began at 8:23 a.m.

Present: Chairman David Gibbs, Vice Chairman Kathy Cooper and Commissioners Billy Powell, Jeff Stowe and Gregg Poole

Also present were: Interim County Administrator John Gentry, Assistant County Administrator Casey Ramsey, and County Attorney Justin Lawhon

Capital Projects Update (*Doug Straughon, Capital Projects Manager*)

- East Hall Library, 3rd Floor Renovation, South Hall Park, Joint Training Center

Community Services & Parks (*Brent Holloway, Community Services & Parks Director*)

- Healan's Head's Mill, USACE Parks

Building Inspections – IMPC (*Kristie Turner, Development Services Director*)

- Discussion about International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC), Title 15 and Inspection/Permit policy updates

Public Works & Utilities (*Jorge Gomez, Public Works and Utilities Director*)

- Discussion about stormwater regulations, prepaid sewer and the Lula sewer agreement

Impact Fee Study Updates (*Jordan Wallace, Transportation Program Manager*)

- Discussion about potential changes to current impact fee structure

Cybersecurity Training (*Adam Welker, Cybersecurity Administrator*)

UDC Updates (*Katie Ahmed, Planning and Zoning Director*)

- Discussion and overview of UDC revisions to be submitted for public outreach

Meeting on Thursday, May 7, 2026 ended at 2:30 p.m.

*Minutes Prepared by: Sarah Crowe,
Communications and Strategic Engagement Manager*