HALL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD RETREAT MINUTES
The Ridges Resort
3499 US Highway 76 W
Hiawassee, GA 30546
October 27-28, 2026

Meeting on Tuesday, October 27, 2026 began at 1:00 p.m.

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

Also present were: Interim County Administrator John Gentry, Assistant County Administrator Casey Ramsey, County Attorney Justin Lawhon, Commissioners Elect Tyler Crawford and Mark Turner

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

Executive Session called to order at 1:14 p.m.

Executive Session paused at 3:25 p.m.

Executive Session reconvened at 3:47 p.m.

Executive Session adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

Tyler Crawford left the meeting.

Various Legal Items *(Justin Lawhon, County Attorney)*

- Board Meeting Procedures and Orderly Conduct Ordinance
- Special Events Ordinance

Meeting ended at 5:41 p.m.

Meeting on Wednesday, October 28, 2026 began at 8:30 a.m.

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

Also present were: Interim County Administrator John Gentry, Assistant County Administrator Casey Ramsey, County Attorney Justin Lawhon, Commissioner Elect Mark Turner

Commissioner Gregg Poole and Commissioner Elect Tyler Crawford absent.

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

- Overview of maintenance and operations assessments of additional potential USACE properties

Tyler Crawford arrived.

Development Services *(Barry Shaw, Interim Development Services Director)*

- Short-term rentals: review of current code, including advertising and occupancy limits

PTR-LOST/LHOST *(Sarah Crowe, Communications and Strategic Engagement Manager and Taylor Samples, Financial Services Director)*

- Discussion about differences and opportunities for potential property tax relief programs

Commissioner Gregg Poole arrived.

Cybersecurity Briefing *(Adam Welker, Cybersecurity Administrator)*

Ethics Training *(Justin Lawhon, County Attorney)*

- Requirements and processes

Fire Apparatus Replacement *(Jerry Smith, Fire Rescue Chief and Taylor Samples, Financial Services Director)*

- Proposal for apparatus replacement plan

P25 Radio System Renewal *(Zach Brackett, Emergency Management Director and Taylor Samples Financial Services Director)*

Solid Waste Update *(Jorge Gomez, Public Works and Utilities Director)*

- Solid Waste update and discussion

County Administrator Round Table *(John Gentry, Interim County Administrator)*

- Summary opportunity

Meeting ended at 3:15 p.m.

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