HALL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION SUMMARY MINUTES
Hall County Government Center 2nd Floor
2875 Browns Bridge Road
Gainesville, GA 30504
Streamed Live on Hall County Government's Website - www.hallcounty.org
Monday, July 06, 2026 - 03:00 PM

Call to Order

Chairman Gibbs at 3:00 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, Commission Clerk Jennifer Rivera, Deputy Commission Clerk Ana Dominguez, and Senior Assistant County Attorney Nathaniel Anderson

Appointments for Consideration

Ms. Rivera addressed the Board.

1 Appointment to the Planning Commission to serve an unexpired term to January 31, 2027. Chairman's Appointment.

Remove from agenda by acclamation.

2 Appointment to the Planning Commission to serve an unexpired term to January 31, 2027. Commission District 3.

Remove from agenda by acclamation.

Community Services and Parks

Brent Holloway, Director of Community Services and Parks, addressed the Board.

3 Approve the waiving of membership fees for all Hall County students (grades 12 and under) at Hall County Parks & Leisure Services Community Centers.

Consent

Emergency Management

Zach Brackett, Director of Emergency Management (EMA), addressed the Board.

4 Approve the annual contract for priority dispatch licensing for Central Communications 911 to Medical Priority Consultants Inc. (dba Priority Dispatch Corp.) of Salt Lake City, UT. The estimated total cost is $79,260.00.

Consent

5 Approve the application and award of the 2025 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) for the Hall County Emergency Management Agency in the amount of $50,000.00, and if awarded, appoint the Grants Manager as the Program Designee, and authorize the Chairman to execute all related award documents. An in-kind match of $50,000.00 will be required.

Consent

Financial Services

Taylor Samples, Director of Financial Services, addressed the Board.

6 Approval and authorization for the Chairman to execute a resolution, request for release of property, and an amendment to the Installment Sale Agreement between the Gainesville and Hall County Development Authority and Hall County, GA to release a portion of unimproved property attached to the Sewage Treatment Facility under the Series 2020 Revenue Bonds for the purpose of construction of a future park in the southern portion of Hall County along Spouts Springs Road, and to authorize, through execution of such amendment, the use of budgeted SPLOST VIII funds to recognize a value of land transfer in the estimated amount of $645,691.00 for the purposes of making an installment sale agreement payment on the Series 2020 Bonds debt service, subject to review and approval of the County Attorney.

Consent

7 Approval and authorization for the Chairman to execute a Request for Transfer of Property that will terminate an Intergovernmental Agreement between Hall County, Georgia and the Gainesville and Hall County Development Authority and deed back a portion of unimproved property to Hall County, Georgia for the purposes of constructing a future park in South Hall along Spout Springs Road, subject to review and approval of the County Attorney.

Consent

Commissioner Poole inquired about a bond and funding for paving for Highland Gates subdivision. Mr. Samples and Jorge Gomez, Director of Public Works & Utilities addressed the Board regarding the matter. Commissioner Poole requested that all bonds be reviewed for cost accuracy.

Fire Rescue

Chief Jerry Smith, Fire Rescue, addressed the Board.

8 Approve the renewal of annual contract for IFB# 021-45 Firefighting Boots, Gloves and Hoods for Fire Rescue to ProFire and Tactical, LLC of Woodstock, GA and Ten-8 Fire and Safety, LLC of Bradenton, FL. The estimated annual cost is $90,000.00.

Consent

Human Resources

Dr. LisaRae Minor, Director of Human Resources, addressed the Board.

9 Approve the resolution to adopt, restate, and amend Hall County Retirement Benefits; authorization for the Chairman to execute all related documents, subject to review and approval by the County Attorney.

Consent

Planning & Zoning

Katie Ahmed, Director of Planning & Zoning, addressed the Board.

10 **6250 & 6255 Old Dawsonville Road | Special Use |** for event facility | on two tracts totaling 3.59± acres located on the north and south side of Old Dawsonville Road approximately 230 feet from its intersection with Cool Springs Road | Zoned V-C; Tax Parcels 10035 000006A and 10035 000008B **| Proposed use: Event facility |** Commission District 2 **| The Ark at Lake Lanier, LLC c/o Jeff Hylton, applicant**

11 **6250 & 6255 Old Dawsonville Road | Variance to Section 8.1 |** to parking standards | on two tracts totaling 3.59± acres located on the north and south side of Old Dawsonville Road approximately 230 feet from its intersection with Cool Springs Road | Zoned V-C; Tax Parcels 10035 000006A and 10035 000008B **| Proposed Use: Event facility with off-site shared parking |** Commission District 2 **| The Ark at Lake Lanier, LLC c/o Jeff Hylton, applicant**

Commissioner Powell inquired about parking. Commissioner Poole questioned the history of fire code violations, compliance and inspections. Fire Marshal Michael Vieira addressed the Board regarding the topic. Chairman Gibbs questioned Ms. Ahmed about event venues within zoning districts. Business License Director Brandi Smith addressed the Board regarding the rental website posting with regards to beds available.

12 **1161 Candler Road | Variance to Article 8 |** site development standards | on a 4.58± acre tract located on the east side of Candler Road at its intersection with I985 Exit 20 Northbound | Zoned I-2; Tax Parcel 15035 000056 **| Proposed Use: Commercial addition |** Commission District 3 **| Carroll Daniel Construction, applicant**

Public Works and Utilities

Mr. Gomez addressed the Board.

13 Approval and authorization for the Chairman to execute a resolution authorizing the execution of a permanent drainage easement agreement accepting the grant of a drainage easement located at 1553 Biscayne Place, Gainesville, GA from Brian Lipscomb (owner); authorization for the Chairman to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the transaction, subject to review and approval by the County Attorney.

Consent

14 Approval and authorization for the Chairman to execute a Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) traffic signal application to install a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon on Thompson Bridge Road (SR 60) near the intersection of Thompson Bridge Road (SR 60) and Hubert Stevens Rd. Commission Districts 2 & 3.

Consent

Sheriff's Office

Captain Chris Dale, Sheriff's Office, addressed the Board.

15 Approve the ratification of the application, award, and any further supplemental funding for the U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance's State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) for the Sheriff's Office to reimburse the cost of housing and personnel for incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens in the amount of $250,556.22, and if awarded, appoint the Grants Manager as the Program Designee and authorize the Chairman to execute all related application and award documents. No match is required.

Consent

16 Approve the renewal of the annual contract for RFQ/P# 46-009 Inmate Telephone Systems for the Hall County Jail to Inmate Calling Solutions, LLC (dba ICSolutions) of San Antonio, TX.

Consent

17 Approve the purchase order change order #2 for Contract #45-006 Inmate Food Services for the Hall County Jail to Kellwell Food Management of Beattyville, KY. The estimated cost is $92,716.00.

Consent

Solicitor of State Court

Inez Grant, Solicitor General, addressed the Board.

18 Approve the purchase of Axon Justice Premier Plus Software for the Hall County Solicitor's Office from Axon Enterprises, Inc. of Scottsdale, AZ. The total cost is $443,338.56.

Consent

County Administrator

Mr. Gentry addressed the Board and stated that the annual fireworks show on July 4, 2026 at Laurel Park was a success and thanked Captain Barry Shaw (Marshals Office) and Brent Holloway (Parks) for their work.

Public Comments

The following people addressed the Board:

- *Susan Smith, 4345 Chamblee Road, Oakwood*
- *Mandy Harris, 1459 Douglas Drive, Gainesville*
- *Jodi White, 5166 Whitehall Road, Lula*
- *Bobby Watkins, 6143 Cool Springs Road, Gainesville*

Commission Time

Commissioner Billy Powell, District 2, mentioned Little Hall Park and the possiblity of upgrading the bathrooms. Also reminded citizens to use the assigned designated parking areas.

Commissioner Gregg Poole, District 3, stated that the next town hall meeting regarding the judicial complex expansion will be held on July 8, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Hall County Government Center. Also spoke about a potential IGA with Gainesville and funding regarding the project.

Chairman David Gibbs also mentioned the town hall and encouraged everyone to attend.

Adjourn

Commissioner Stowe/Commissioner Cooper — adjourn at 4:16 p.m. — Vote: 5 to 0

Commissioner Cooper — aye

Commissioner Powell — aye

Chairman Gibbs — aye

Commissioner Poole — aye

Commissioner Stowe — aye

Motion passed.