

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON NOVEMBER
4, 2025 AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING
PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:

Present: Eric F. Hinson, Chair, District 1
Ronterious Green, Vice-Chair, District 5
Alonzetta Simpkins, District 2
Shawn Wood, District 3
Brenda A. Holt, District 4
Reginald James, Interim County Administrator
Louis Baptiste, Interim County Attorney
Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk

1. Call to Order, Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Vice-Chair Green called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Rev. Simmons led into invocation and Commissioner Green led into the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Amendments to the Agenda

Mr. James requested to add under general business the below items:

Item 11.e., *Approval of Amendment Three to CDBG-DR Subrecipient Agreement M0026*
11.f., *Approval of Resolution No. 2026-004 Authorizing the County to Pay for Streetlight Electricity Costs within Magnolia Forest Subdivision*
11.g., *Review and Approval of the 2026 Gadsden County Legislative Priorities*
11.h., *Approval of 2-year renewal of Fire and Rescue Interlocal Agreement between Gadsden County, FL and Town of Havana*
11.i., *Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Department Contracts (Gretna)*
11.j., *Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Department Contract (Concord)*
11.k., *Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Department Contract (Wetumpka)*
11.l., *Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Department Contract (Greenshade)*
11.m., *Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Department Contracts (Sycamore)*
11.n., *Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Department Contracts (Midway)*
11.o., *Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Department Contracts (Greensboro)*
11.p., *Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Department Contracts (Chattahoochee)*
11.q., *Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Department Contracts (Mt. Pleasant)*
11.r., *Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Department Contracts (Robertsville)*
11.s., *Approval of a study facilitated by Vibrant Medical Professionals to examine Medicaid billing processes and resulting revenues*
11.t., *Approval to move funding from a Due to Liability owed to the Gadsden Senior Center 2025-26 budget*
11.u., *Approval of Grant Agreement between Gadsden County and the FL Division of Emergency Management for HMGP funding of the Robertsville Fire Station Generator*

5. **Approval of Agenda**

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE.

Chair Hinson appeared at 6:06 p.m.

6. **Awards, Presentations, and Appearances**

6.a. **Presentation of Legislative Agenda**

Ms. McGlonn appeared before the board to present their legislative agenda. She stated their 3 project categories are Community projects, Public Safety, and Water/Infrastructure projects.

Under Community projects, they have the Town of Greensboro requesting \$2.5 million for the replacement of its historic Town Hall. They also have the City of Chattahoochee requesting \$700,000 to upgrade an existing building to serve as an emergency command center and City Hall.

Ms. McGlonn went on to Public Safety projects. She stated the total cost for all five districts to have lighting improved would be \$9.4 million. They also have City of Gretna who was requesting \$750,000 for a new fire truck.

Ms. McGlonn went on to water and infrastructure projects. The City of Chattahoochee requested \$250,000 for a Lift Station (Congo Road). The Town of Havana also requested a Lift Station (Dogwood Ave PS and 5th Ave PS) in the amount of \$1,650,000. The City of Quincy has requested \$3,789,424.76 for South Trunk Inflow/ Infiltration Sewer Project. The City of Gretna has requested \$2.5 million for a 300,000-gallon ground storage tank and booster pumps. The City of Midway has requested \$6.2 million for their Phase 1B Septic-to-Sewer Conversion project.

Ms. McGlonn stated the Board of County Commissioners, along with the City of Quincy, were requesting \$4.5 million through the community project funding process to extend the City of Quincy's water line along FL State Road 267 to exit 181 off Interstate 10.

Commissioner Green asked about the timeframe they have to make these decisions. Ms. McGlonn stated they have to submit these by November 10. Mr. James stated the timeline was short due to Mrs. Bradley having difficulties getting their requests. Since they could not get a response from the commissioners, they had to go with what they have.

Commissioner Wood stepped out at 6:23 p.m. and returned at 6:24 p.m.

6.b. **Presentation of Right Sizing Vehicle Inventory**

Mr. James stated they had a number of high-end vehicles that were considered luxury SUV's and he did not think they needed those types of vehicles. He stated this was phase 1 of the presentation and there will be more coming.

Mr. Meeks appeared before the board. He stated they identified 6 luxury vehicles (4 LT Tahoe, 2 XLT Expeditions) with an annual cost of \$99,055. Removing these vehicles would achieve immediate savings. He mentioned reassigning pool vehicles for shared staff locations and using the sign-out system for occasional vehicle use.

Mr. Meeks went on to the Take-Home Vehicle Policy recommendations where they recommended to limit vehicles to essential services and public safety operations. Only department heads in these areas are authorized to take home vehicles. This would lead to reduced fuel and maintenance costs and increased accountability and fairness. He also mentioned benefits with using GPS.

Chair Hinson asked how soon are the seniors receiving those vans. Mr. James stated they should arrive sometime in January.

7. Consent

Mr. Baptiste asked to pull item 7.e. and move it to general business as item 11.v.

COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AND TO MOVE ITEM 7.E. TO ITEM 11.V. COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

7.a Ratification Memo

7.b. BOCC Meeting/ Workshop Minutes:

1. October 21, 2025, BOCC Meeting

7.c. Approval of Authorization for Chairperson to Execute Agreement

7.d. Approval of Surplus Personal Transfer from Wakulla County BOCC to Gadsden BOCC for show hog pens and livestock equipment for the Inman Ag Pavilion

7.e. Approval of IOPS 360 Software Agreement Renewal

8. Items Pulled for Discussion

9. Citizens Requesting to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items (3-Minute-Limit)

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners welcomes and encourages public participation at all meetings of the Board. Citizens are free to speak for up to three (3) minutes on non-agenda items. Public comments and participation are also encouraged for items on the agenda. Additionally, if you are unable to attend a meeting in person, comments from the Public can also be submitted via email to CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov until noon on the date of the meeting. Comments submitted after the deadline, but prior to the meeting, will be added to the official record, but the County cannot guarantee that Commissioners and staff will have adequate time to review comments prior to the meeting. Citizens are further encouraged to participate on the County's website at www.gadsdencountyfl.gov.

Chair Hinson read aloud the above statement.

Akirria Robinson, 805 S. Russ St. Bainbridge, GA 39819

Ms. Robinson appeared before the board to check on the progress of a complaint she submitted on October 26. She trusted that the board would take her concerns seriously.

Mr. Baptiste advised to have limited discussion on this issue.

10. Public Hearing

11. General Business

11.a. Approval for EMS Ambulance Remounts and Stryker Power-Pro 2 stretcher

Mr. James presented the above item.

Chief Ford appeared before the board and stated this item would allow them to remount 2 ambulances and there would be no fiscal impact on their side. They need to replace ambulances that exceed 200,000 miles. Next year, he will be looking at grants for remounting ambulances.

COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 11.A. AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.b. Approval of the Return of Enterprise Rental Vehicles and payout for early return

Mr. James presented the above item.

COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 11.B. AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.c. Approval of Addendum to Engineering & Design Services Agreement with Consolidated Design Professionals, LLC for the South Adams Street Sidewalk Project – Project No. 18-02

Mr. Baptiste presented the above item.

COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 11.C. AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.d. Approval of an Amendment between the FL Department of Health and Gadsden County to supervise and facilitate the Prescription and Ambulatory Medical Services (PAMS) program.

Mr. James presented the above item.

Commissioner Green asked if they were shifting this from the organization structure that it is currently under. Mr. James stated yes, the Gadsden County Health Council was no longer eligible to host the program. Commissioner Green asked if they have looked into whether or not the Health Council could be eligible.

Mr. Baptiste stated it was his understanding that there was an agreement made to where the Health Department would take this over without the objection of the Gadsden County Health Council.

Ms. McGlenn appeared and stated Reverend Hannah has agreed to shift it over to the Health Department.

COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 11.D. AND COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 TO APPROVE. COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED.

11.e. Approval of Amendment Three to CDBG-DR Subrecipient Agreement M0026 with the FL Department of Commerce

Mr. James presented the above item.

COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 11.E. AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.f. Approval of Resolution No. 206-004 finding a public purpose and Authorizing the County to assume responsibility for the electricity costs associated with streetlights located within County rights-of-way in the Magnolia Forest Subdivision, and approval of a related agreement with the Magnolia Forest Homeowners Association

Mr. Baptiste presented the above item. He stated this was an ongoing issue and this item could help put it to rest.

Commissioner Green stated there was no dollar amount for this and wanted more details on the cost factors. Mr. Baptiste stated the agreement requires that Magnolia Forest transfer their current lighting system to LED within 180 days. So, the current cost projections would be entirely different. In regards to the terms of the agreement, the county was only responsible for the electricity that goes into the poles and maintenance of the poles.

Commissioner Holt stated she could not vote for this because it was not providing to all citizens. She stated this could set a precedent.

Commissioner Green stated he would prefer to have some kind of financial cost analysis. He stated it would be fair for everyone in the county to know about the cost estimates.

Commissioner Wood stepped out at 7:21 p.m. and returned at 7:22 p.m.

Jackie Johnson, President of Magnolia Forest HOA, appeared before the board. She stated they have approximately 95 light poles. The maintenance would be \$6 per pole and in total about \$6800 annually.

COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 11.F. WITH A LIMIT OF \$10,000 ANNUALLY AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 TO APPROVE. COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED.

11.g. Review and Approval of the 2026 Gadsden County Legislative Priorities

Mr. James presented the above item.

Commissioner Green stepped out at 7:34 p.m. and returned at 7:36 p.m.

Commissioner Simpkins stepped out at 7:35 p.m. and returned at 7:37 p.m.

COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 11.G. WITH THE AMENDMENT OF ADDING A COUNTY-WIDE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.h. Approval of a two-year renewal of the Fire and Rescue Interlocal Agreement between Gadsden County and the Town of Havana

Mr. James presented the above item.

Commissioner Wood stated he would like to see a \$10,000 increase across the board for all fire departments.

Ms. Raynak stated if they go across the board for all 11 fire departments to receive \$10,000, it would cost \$110,000 annually. There was enough money in the fire budget to cover that. They would have to look at it again in the next budget year.

CHAIR HINSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 11.H. AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.i. Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Contracts (Gretna)

COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM WITH THE AMENDMENT OF A \$10,000 INCREASE AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.j. Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Contracts (Concord)

COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM WITH THE AMENDMENT OF A \$10,000 INCREASE AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.k. Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Contracts (Wetumpka)

COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM WITH THE AMENDMENT OF A \$10,000 INCREASE AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.l. Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Contracts (Greenshade)

COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM WITH THE AMENDMENT OF A \$10,000 INCREASE AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.m. Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Contracts (Sycamore)

COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM WITH THE AMENDMENT OF A \$10,000 INCREASE AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.n. Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Contracts (Midway)

COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM WITH THE AMENDMENT OF A \$10,000 INCREASE AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.o. Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Contracts (Greensboro)

COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM WITH THE AMENDMENT OF A \$10,000 INCREASE AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.p. Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Contracts (Chattahoochee)

COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM WITH THE AMENDMENT OF A \$10,000 INCREASE AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.q. Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Contracts (Mt. Pleasant)

COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM WITH THE AMENDMENT OF A \$10,000 INCREASE AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.r. Approval to amend existing Volunteer Fire Contracts (Robertsville)

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM WITH THE AMENDMENT OF A \$10,000 INCREASE AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

Commissioner Green asked about estimated costs for fire hydrants. Chief Walker appeared and stated it was about \$10,000 or higher, depending on the area.

11.s. Approval of a study facilitated by Vibrant Medical Professionals to examine Medicaid billing processes and resulting revenues

Mr. James presented the above item.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 11.S. AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.t. Approval to move funding from a Due To Liability owed to the Gadsden Senior Center 2025-26 budget

Ms. Raynak presented the above item. She stated \$20,000 has been sitting there and they are asking for it to be moved to the 2025-26 senior budget.

COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO TABLE ITEM 11.T. AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.u. Approval of Grant Agreement between Gadsden County and the FL Division of Emergency Management for HMGP funding of the Robertsville Fire Station Generator

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 11.U. AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

11.v. Approval of IOPS 360 Software Agreement Renewal

Mr. Baptiste presented the above item.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 11.V. AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

12. Clerk of Court

No updates.

Al Lawson appeared to discuss legislative priorities. He stated they need to determine 4 or 5 that they want to recommend to the legislative delegation.

Commissioner Simpkins stated she has not heard from their lobbyist. Out of respect, they should come and speak to the board to discuss what they are doing for their citizens. She felt like this county was not valued enough.

Commissioner Simpkins stepped out at 8:37 p.m. and returned at 8:39 p.m.

13. County Attorney

No updates.

Commissioner Green asked about a policy regarding employee issues and complaints on employees. He asked for a meeting or workshop on a policy.

Mr. Baptiste stated the board currently does not have a policy regarding investigating employees that were appointed by the board. They are evaluating the complaint.

14. County Administrator

Mr. James stated he was pleased with the progress on building projects.

15. Discussion Items by Commissioners

15.a. Commissioner Alonzetta Simpkins, District 2

Commissioner Simpkins stated on November 8, there will be a garage sale at Magnolia Hills at 7 a.m. and she will also be having a Community Meeting on November 6 at the Havana Library at 6 p.m.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at 8:52 p.m.

Commissioner Holt returned at 8:54 p.m.

Commissioner Simpkins mentioned bonds and having discussions on it.

15.b. Commissioner Shawn Wood, District 3

Commissioner Wood stated to Mr. Lawson it was concerning that they give \$90,000 to someone who does not show up.

Commissioner Wood stated the staff did an amazing job at the Sawdust Park. He also mentioned needing cameras at these parks.

Commissioner Wood mentioned Gadsden High and he thought it was not a good idea.

15.c. Commissioner Brenda A. Holt, District 4

Commissioner Holt stated she agreed with what Commissioner Wood stated regarding the school; she was never in favor of large schools. If they were to spread it out, there would be less discipline problems and more of a community environment.

Commissioner Holt stated there needs to be event signs at the parks.

Commissioner Holt mentioned the Federal Lobbyist and stated she was not in favor of losing the \$1.7 million dollars. They should reconsider that.

Commissioner Wood stepped out at 9:09 p.m. and returned at 9:11 p.m.

Commissioner Holt stated they have not addressed employee raises and would like for it to be on the next meeting's agenda.

15.d. Commissioner Ronterious Green, District 5

Derrick Elias appeared to ask about their grievance process. He stated they were standing on thin ice if they do not have a process when it comes to complaints.

Commissioner Green asked for an update on Cane Creek Road. Mr. Young appeared and stated it was under construction now. Estimated time of completion was March 1.
mentioned operation green light for veterans

Commissioner Green asked Mr. James for the latest salary updates; specifically for directors, supervisors.

Commissioner Green mentioned having Operation Green Light at the courthouse for the veterans.

15.e. Commissioner Eric F. Hinson, District 1

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR A PROCLAMATION FOR MS. BONNIE FRANCIS AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO MOVE THE NOVEMBER 18 REGULAR MEETING TO NOVEMBER 17 AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 TO APPROVE. CHAIR HINSON AND COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS OPPOSED.

Chair Hinson mentioned the second harvest and thanked everyone who contributed.

16. Motion to Adjourn

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:39 PM.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

**ERIC F. HINSON, Chair
Board of County Commissioners**

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk