

Dodge County Board of Commissioners
Monday, February 16, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
Board Meeting Minutes



Commissioners Present: Chairman Dan McCranie, Sharon Cobb Flanagan – District 1, Leigh Ann Greene – District 2, Vice-Chair Brian Watkins - District 3

Also Present: Attorney John Harrington, Manager Conner Bearden, Clerk Kimberly Smith-Parkerson

Absent: Commissioner Jeffrey Jones – District 4

Call to Order

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex on Monday, February 16, 2026, with Chairman McCranie presiding. He called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add “Dumpsters at Old Boat Landing” to Old Business. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to amend the agenda, as detailed. Commissioner Flanagan seconded. All present voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Chairman McCranie then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Next, he gave a devotion from Luke 16. Afterward, he led a prayer.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

A. Michael Johnson – EMS Update

EMS Director Johnson reported 369 calls in January and revenues of \$117,061.91.

B. Malcolm Tyson – Fire Update

Interim Fire Chief Tyson reported 101 calls in January and stated that fire coverage maps are still being finalized.

Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes – February 02, 2026 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the minutes with no additions, corrections, or deletions. Commissioners Flanagan and Greene seconded the motion. All present voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Old Business

A. Dumpster at Old Boat Landing

The issues of trash buildup and unlawful dumping at the old boat landing were discussed. Manager Bearden reported signs were placed informing residents of upcoming meetings and the potential removal of dumpsters, thereby transitioning residents to the Mitchell dump site.

Nearby property owner, Jeff Nichols, stated that the trash at the boat landing is getting out of hand.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Commissioner Greene made a motion to approve the accounts payable report totaling \$24,901.40. Commissioner Flanagan seconded the motion. All present voted in favor, and the motion passed.

B. 4th Quarter Work Order Report

Manager Bearden reported 30 works orders for the fourth quarter of 2025 with an average completion time of 11.5 days. An ongoing culvert replacement project skewed the average.

C. 4th Quarter Financials

Manager Bearden discussed the fourth quarter financials and noted revenues were down due to tax collections in January instead of December, as a result of delays from HB 581.

D. 4th Quarter Building Summary Report

Manager Bearden discussed the building summary report. He stated outstanding issues would be addressed.

E. Road Engineer Authorization

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the road engineer's work order authorization for \$53,500.00, thereby enabling them to bill for upcoming projects, including 2025 LRA, 2026 LMIG, GTIB, etc. Commissioner Flanagan seconded the motion. All present voted in favor, and the motion passed.

F. Request for Community Support

Commissioner Flanagan made a motion to sponsor the annual chamber banquet, thereby reserving a table for eight, for \$1,000. Commissioner Greene seconded the motion. All present voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Commissioner Flanagan made a motion to sponsor the Pondtown Festival in the amount of \$500. Commissioner Greene seconded. All present voted in favor, and the motion passed.

G. Community Facilities Grant

Commissioner Flanagan discussed opportunities through a forgivable loan program from the USDA for funding the courthouse project.

H. Courthouse

Manager Bearden gave a courthouse update, stating there are two designs. The blueprints have been shared with the clerk of court and judges and are in the packet for review. The next meeting with Parrish has been scheduled.

I. Work Session Date

A work session focusing on land planning, data, sanitation, and any other items of concern was scheduled for March 9th at 8:30 a.m., pending Commissioner Jones' availability.

J. Larry Johnson – Solar

Mr. Johnson was unable to attend, but Manager Bearden updated about a potential solar project on the Chester Highway down to Ocmulgee Church Road. According to Georgia Power representative, the Public Service Commission's approval is still pending. Manager Bearden's attempts to meet with the project manager of the project have been unsuccessful.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Flanagan updated regarding recycling projects as funded by grants. She also discussed the airport authority meeting and noted that fuel sales tax issues are still being investigated.

Commissioner Greene stated she would be holding a townhall meeting.

County Manager

Manager Bearden gave a legislative update. He noted that the recreation clean-up day will be scheduled for February 28. Also, SR 257 and the bridge covering Gum Swamp will be closed beginning April 6 due to a bridge replacement for approximately six months.

Public Comments

- Johnny Hall discussed the poor conditions of Chicken Road.
- Wallace Mullis stated that hunting tourism provides a strong economic opportunity for the county.
- Robert Belflower, Gail Floyd, and Lonnie Moss all stated they oppose data centers in the county.

Adjourn

With no other business to come before the board, Commissioner Greene made a motion to adjourn at 7:08 p.m. Commissioner Watkins seconded. All present voted in favor, and the meeting adjourned.

Attested:

Approved:

Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Dan McCranie, Chairman