



Columbus, Georgia, Board of Tax Assessors

GEORGIA'S FIRST CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT

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Columbus, GA 31906

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Board Members

Jayne Govar
Chairman

Kathy Jones
Assessor

Clay Hood
Assessor

Doug Jefcoat
Assessor

Lanitra Sandifer Hicks
Vice Chairman

Chief Appraiser
Suzanne Widenhouse

MINUTES #01-26

Chairman Jayne Govar calls the Columbus, Georgia Board of Assessors' meeting to order on Wednesday, Jan 7th, 2026 at 9:08 A.M.

FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Chief Appraiser Suzanne Widenhouse informs the Board that the first order of business is to select a new Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary for the 2026 year.

Assessor Lanitra Sandifer Hicks nominates Assessor Jayne Govar as Chairman. Assessor Jefcoat seconds the nomination and the motion carries.

Assessor Lanitra Sandifer Hicks nominates Assessor Jones for Vice Chairman. Assessor Jefcoat nominates Assessor Lanitra Sandifer Hicks for Vice Chairman. Assessor Lanitra Sandifer Hicks withdraws nomination of Assessor Jones. Assessor Govar seconds nomination of Assessor Lanitra Sandifer Hicks. Unanimous for Assessor Lanitra Sandifer Hicks as Vice Chairman.

Assessor Lanitra Sandifer Hicks nominates Chief Appraiser Widenhouse as Secretary. Assessor Jefcoat seconds the nomination and the motion carries.

PRESENT ARE:

Chairman Jayne Govar
Vice Chairman Lanitra Sandifer Hicks
Assessor Kathy Jones
Assessor Doug Jefcoat
Chief Appraiser/Secretary Suzanne Widenhouse
Recording Secretary Katrina Culpepper

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Assessor Jefcoat motions to accept the agenda with noted change. Assessor Jones seconds and the motion carries.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Assessor Jones motions to accept called meeting minutes 44-25 as presented. Assessor Lanitra Sandifer Hicks seconds and the motion carries. Assessor Jones motions to accept meeting minutes 43-25 as presented. Assessor Jefcoat seconds and the motion carries.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- Assessor Jones motions the approval of Board Policies for the 2026 year. Vice Chairman Lanitra Sandifer Hicks seconds and the motion carries.

"An Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Organization"

MEMBERS: Georgia Association of Assessing Officials, International Association of Assessing Officials

At 9:21, Chief Appraiser Suzanne Widenhouse presents to the Board:

- Public Utilities - Assessor Jones motions to accept Public Utilities & Airline values as set by the State & mailing of the notices today. Assessor Jefcoat seconds and the motion carries.
- Veterans Exemption Amount - placed into record.
- Social Security Exemption Amount - placed into record.

At 9:28, Personal Property Manager Stacy Pollard presents to the Board:

- BOE Results - Placed into record.
- No Change Audit Results - placed into record.

At 9:30, Chief Appraiser Suzanne Widenhouse presents for Administrative division to the Board:

- Homesteads - Removals #097 016 036; 180 010 006A; 068 043 002 and Renewals - #090 050 003; 127 011 011; 068 029 024; 059 003 006; 047 016 020; 029 014 001 - Signed & Approved.

At 9:51, Real Property Manager Jeff Milam presents to the Board:

- BOE Results - placed into record.
- Waiver & Releases - signed by Chairman Govar.
- Assessor Jefcoat motions to change this division heading on weekly agenda to Real Property rather than Residential and Commercial as it has been listed in the past. Assessor Jones seconds and the motion carries.

At 10:15, Deputy Chief Appraiser Glen Thomason presents to the Board:

- Map Splits - #086 063 016; 032; 114 001 008; 007; 002; 113 002 008 - Signed & Approved.

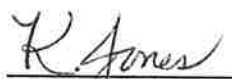
Assessor Jefcoat motions to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Lanitra Sandifer Hicks seconds and the motion carries. At 10:18, Chairman Jayne Govar adjourns the meeting without any objections.

Suzanne Widenhouse
Chief Appraiser/Secretary

APPROVED:  01/14/2026

MIN# 02 - 26 JAN 21 2026


J. GOVAR
CHAIRMAN


K. JONES
ASSESSOR


D. JEFCOAT
ASSESSOR


C. HOOD
ASSESSOR


L. SANDIFER HICKS
VICE CHAIRMAN