

# Staff Report

**Subject:** Amendment 1 (Purchasing & Procurement Policy and Standards)

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**Department:** Procurement, Engineering

**Meeting Date:** March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026

**Item Description:** Consideration and Adoption of Amendment No. 1 to the Effingham County Purchasing & Procurement Policy and Standards.

**Summary Recommendation:** Staff recommends the Board adopt Amendment No. 1 to the Purchasing & Procurement Policy and Standards and authorize County Administration, Procurement, and the County Attorney to implement related conforming/non-substantive edits and updates reflected in the amendment.

## Executive Summary / Background:

Amendment No. 1 updates the County's procurement policy to reflect changes in state law (including public works thresholds under HB 137 (2025)), clarifies approval authorities (Assistant County Manager; Accounting Manager), addresses county road contract alignment under Title 32, codifies local emergency procurement controls, and adds clarifications for builder's risk insurance, audit independence options, and contingency limitations/approvals.

The County's policy was adopted April 15, 2025, and this amendment is intended to keep the policy aligned with current state requirements and County organizational structure while providing clearer internal controls and documentation expectations.

Amendment No. 1 cites authority and alignment with relevant Georgia law, including:

- O.C.G.A. § 36-91-22 (public works bidding threshold; as amended by HB 137 (2025))
- O.C.G.A. § 32-4-63 (county road contracts)
- O.C.G.A. § 36-81-7 (annual audit)

## Alternatives for Commission to Consider:

1. Approve Amendment 1 as presented.
2. Do not approve the amendment and give recommendations.

**Recommended Alternative:** 1

**Other Alternatives:** 2

**Department Review:** Procurement, County Manager and County Attorney

**Funding Source:** N/A

**Attachments:** Amendment 1, Procurement Policy as adopted April 15, 2025