

Staff Report

Subject: FY26 Inmate Labor Agreement Amendments with the Cities of Guyton, Springfield, Rincon, and Port Wentworth

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Department: Purchasing / Prison

Meeting Date: November 18, 2025

Item Description: Consideration to approve FY26 amendments to the inmate labor agreements with the Cities of Guyton, Springfield, Rincon, and Port Wentworth for one-year renewals and fee updates based on FY26 correctional officer salary averages and Service Delivery Strategy (SDS) cost-share adjustments.

Summary Recommendation: Staff recommends the Board approve the following amendments to existing inmate labor agreements for Fiscal Year 2026:

- Amendment No. 4 – City of Guyton
- Amendment No. 4 – City of Springfield
- Amendment No. 4 – City of Rincon
- Amendment No. 2 – City of Port Wentworth

Executive Summary/Background:

Effingham County maintains agreements with several municipalities to provide inmate labor crews for public works and maintenance operations. These agreements are updated annually to reflect cost changes and contract renewals.

For FY26 (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026), the amendments include:

- Renewal for one (1) additional year
- Fee updates based on the FY26 average salary/benefits of a Correctional Officer: \$71,600
- Application of SDS-based cost-sharing credits where applicable
- Continuation of program requirements and operational coordination with each municipality

Note: The City of Pooler elected not to renew its inmate labor agreement for FY26, citing the distance and time required to transport crews between Pooler and the Effingham County Prison as a limiting factor.

Alternatives for Commission to Consider

1. Approve the four inmate labor agreement amendments for FY26.
2. Do not approve the amendments and direct staff to renegotiate.
3. Defer action pending further review.

Recommended Alternative: 1

Other Alternatives: 2, 3

Department Review: Purchasing, Prison, and Finance

Funding Source: N/A – These are cost-recovery agreements billed to each participating municipality.

Attachments:

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