REGULAR MEETING

LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

September 8, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was held on September 8, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. in the BoCC meeting room at the Levy County Government Center.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Tim Hodge called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

INVOCATION: Given by Comm. Hiers

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Comm. Kennedy

ROLL CALL:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

District 1: Vice Chairman Charlie Kennedy
District 2: Comm. Rock Meeks
District 4: Chairman Tim Hodge
District 5: Comm. Johnny Hiers

COMMISSIONERS NOT PRESENT:

District 3: Comm. Desiree Mills

ALSO PRESENT:

County Manager, Mary-Ellen Harper

County Attorney, (Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete LLP)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

- **Amendments: Move item 4 to item 3**

  Add item 3A

  Add item 5A

  Flip items 6 & 7

- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Kennedy motion to approve
  - Second Comm. Meeks
- **Vote Outcome** 4-0 motion passes

RECOGNIZE ELECTED OFFICIALS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Shawn Wolford (Bronson) – Expressed issue with his temp power pole being denied inspection. Mr. Wolford exercised his 3 minutes, additional 3 minutes was donated by another citizen. Mr. Wolford demanded his issue be resolved immediately. Mr. Wolford was instructed by the Chair to take a seat after his time was up. He refused to comply with meeting rules which resulted in him being removed from the meeting by the Levy County Sheriff's Office.

Linda Cooper (Williston) – Expressed concern with how Mr. Wolford was handled.

Renate Cannon (Chiefland) – Can and how do citizens get issues put on the agenda?

BUSINESS OR INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Approve Resolution Number 2026-33: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 IN THE AMOUNT OF $274,835 DUE TO RECEIPT OF ADDITIONAL REVENUE FROM MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (*Audio 19:18)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE – Tammy Meadows, Finance Director
- **Discussion:** Additional revenue of grant reimbursements, auto insurance claims, workers comp reimbursements, overtime and other reimbursements.
- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion — Comm. Meeks motion to approve
  - Second — Comm. Kennedy
- **Vote Outcome** — 4-0 motion passes

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2. Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the State-Funded Agreement for Support for Fiscally Constrained Counties' Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), Agreement No. DMS-P3-26-07-05. (*Audio 20:49)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE – Erica Lesher, Dispatch
- **Discussion:** The agreement provides $99,739.69 in state funding from the Florida Department of Management Services (DMS). Approval will also recognize the associated grant revenue.
- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion — Comm. Hiers motion to approve
  - Second — Comm. Meeks
- **Vote Outcome** — 4-0 motion passes

****ORIGINAL AGENDA ITEM 4***

3. Approve ORDINANCE NUMBER 2026-05: AN ORDINANCE OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF LEVY COUNTY ON THE SUBMISSION, ACCEPTANCE, PROCESSING, REVIEW, APPROVAL, OR ISSUANCE OF APPLICATIONS AND COUNTY APPROVALS FOR DATA CENTERS, LARGE-SCALE DATA CENTERS, LARGE LOAD CUSTOMER FACILITIES, AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES; DIRECTING COUNTY STAFF TO STUDY AND PREPARE PROPOSED REGULATORY AMENDMENTS ADDRESSING SUCH FACILITIES; PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY, EXCEPTIONS, DURATION, ENFORCEMENT, SEVERABILITY, NONCODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *(Audio21:37)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT – Bernard "Bo" Cox, Building Official
- **Discussion:**
- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion — Comm. Hiers motion to approve
  - Second — Comm. Kennedy
- **Vote Outcome** — 4-0 motion passes

ORIGINAL AGENDA ITEM 3

4. Approve **PETITION NO. SE 26-01**: A request by Kirby Family Farm for a Special Exception pursuant to Policy 3.7(c) in the Future Land Use Element of the Levy County Comprehensive Plan to allow a Civic/Community Use on approximately 110.35 acres of land located in Section 07, Township 13 S, Range 19 E, Levy County, Florida. This parcel is located in R-1 Land Use and Zoning district. Parcel Number: 05110020A. *(Audio 23:29)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT – Bernard "Bo" Cox, Building Official
- **Daryl and Tracy Kirby-** Kirby Family Farm

- **Discussion:** The goal of the special exception is to bring Kirby Family Farm, Inc. into compliance with Levy Zoning regulations and allow it to continue operating with Levy County Zoning framework.

- **Quasi-Judicial- No Ex parte**

- **Public Comment**:

  Tim Haines (Planning Commission) – This request is not consistent with current comp plan.

  Cody Hath (Williston) – Kirby kid spoke in favor of Kirby Farms.

  Stacey Peters (Williston) – Burden of proof relies on the applicant, not in favor of using special exception.

- **Action Taken:** Temporary special exception granted for 18 months, Code-Enforcement action paused.

  - Motion — Comm. Hiers motion to approve
  - Second — Comm. Meeks

- **Vote Outcome** — 3-1 motion passes (Comm. Kennedy voted No)

NON AGENDDA ITEM ADDED

4(A). Comprehensive Plan update. *(Audio 2:25:14)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT – Bernard "Bo" Cox, Building Official

- **Discussion:** Asked for direction from the board to all the consultant to review the comprehensive plan before it gets submitted to state to make sure all requirements are meet.

- **Action Taken:** Consensus taken to delay turning in of the comp plan at this time until updated local data has been considered. NO VOTE TAKEN

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5. Approval of the Deferred Payment Loan Agreement and Promissory Note in the amount of $30,000.00 under the SHIP Housing Strategy of Purchase Assistance for Dylan and Heavyn Buchanan to provide assistance with eligible closing costs and/or down payment costs, as authorized by the approved Levy County Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP) 2025-2028.
(Audio 2:29)

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES - Katie Holder, Coordinator

- **Discussion:**

- **Action Taken:**

  - Motion — Comm. Meeks motion to approve
  - Second — Comm. Hiers

- **Vote Outcome** — 4-0 motion passes

NON AGENDDA ITEM ADDED

5(A). Authorize the Chair to sign ADDENDUM NO. 1 TO RETENTION AND FEE AGREEMENT BETWEEN LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA AND KUTAK ROCK LLP to expand the scope of services available under the agreement to permit Kutak Rock to provide hourly legal services for additional scopes of work as may be authorized in writing by the County Manager. *(Audio 2:28)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY MANAGER – Mary-Ellen Harper, County Manager
- **Discussion:** The fees remain unchanged from the original agreement and will be paid by the requesting department.
- **Action Taken:**
    - Motion — Comm. Kennedy motion to approve
    - Second — Comm. Hiers
- **Vote Outcome** — 4-0 motion passes

ORIGINAL AGENDA ITEM 7

6. Approve RESOLUTION NO. 2026-39: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, DECLARING CERTAIN PROPERTY AS SURPLUS; PROVIDING CERTAIN FINDINGS; AUTHORIZING A LICENSE AGREEMENT OF SAID SURPLUS PROPERTY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *(Audio 2:31)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY MANAGER – Mary-Ellen Harper, County Manager
- **Discussion:** This office space will be used by Senator McClain.
- **Action Taken:**
    - Motion — Comm. Hiers motion to approve
    - Second — Comm. Kennedy
- **Vote Outcome** — 4-0 motion passes

ORIGINAL AGENDA ITEM 6

7. Approve a License Agreement for Use of County Office Space – State Senator. Providing this space will allow Levy County residents to meet with Senator McClain and his staff without having to leave Levy County. *(Audio 2:32)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY MANAGER – Mary-Ellen Harper, County Manager
- **Discussion:**
- **Action Taken:**
    - Motion — Comm. Kennedy motion to approve
    - Second — Comm. Meeks
- **Vote Outcome** — 4-0 motion passes

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8. Approve RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-42: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, REGARDING SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL; PROVIDING FINDINGS AND DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING A SCHEDULE OF RATES, FEES AND CHARGES; PROVIDING REGULATIONS FOR DISPOSAL AND PAYMENT; PROVIDING

FOR REPEAL OF PRIOR RESOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *(Audio 2:33)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY MANAGER – Mary-Ellen Harper, County Manager
- **Discussion:** This change is estimated to generate approximately $640,000 in additional revenue during the upcoming fiscal year.
- **Action Taken:**
    - Motion Comm. Kennedy motion to approve
    - Second Comm. Hiers
- **Vote Outcome** 4-0 motion passes

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9. Approve Resolution 2026-34: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT OF RESOLUTION 2014-51; ADOPTING A REVISED SCHEDULE OF PERMIT FEES AND SERVICE CHARGES FOR AMBULANCE AND ASSOCIATED EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE LEVY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING FEE SCHEDULES; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *(Audio2:34)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY – Mitch Harrell, Director
- **Discussion:** The will update the EMS rates to reflect 200% of the 2026 Medicare allowable rates.
- **Action Taken:**
    - Motion Comm. Meeks motion to approve
    - Second Comm. Kennedy
- **Vote Outcome** 4-0 motion passes

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10. Approval of the property site for the construction of the new Emergency Management Operations Center (EOC) from 319 Mongo Street, Bronson to 601 N. Court Street, Bronson. *(Audio 2:41)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – Leatha Keene, Director
- **Discussion:**
- **Action Taken:**
    - Motion Comm. Hiers motion to approve
    - Second Comm. Kennedy
- **Vote Outcome** 4-0 motion passes

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11. Services Authorization #001 Civil Fee Proposal Authorize the Chair to execute the Additional. *(Audio 2:42)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – Leatha Keene, Director
- **Discussion:** Due to the recent change in sites for the new EOC, additional/expanded civil scope of services effort will be required.
- **Action Taken:**
    - Motion Comm. Meeks motion to approve

- Second Comm. Kennedy

- **Vote Outcome** 4-0 motion passes

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12. Authorize the Chair to execute the federally funded subaward and grant agreement – FM5632 Cow Creek Fire between State of Florida, Division of Emergency Management and Levy County. Agreement will provide Levy County with access to federal grant funding administered thru FDEM. *(Audio 2:43)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – Leatha Keene, Director
- **Discussion:**
- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Hiers motion to approve
  - Second Comm. Meeks
- **Vote Outcome** 4-0 motion passes

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13. Approve the purchase of two 2026 Chevrolet 1500 Crew Cab trucks from Hardy Chevrolet in the amount of $46,334.03 each, utilizing the Florida Sheriffs Association Light Vehicle Contract FSA25-VEL33, contract term October 1, 2025 - September 30, 2027. *(Audio 2:44)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY FLEET DEPARTMENT – Jessie Robinson, Director
- **Discussion:** Vehicles being replaced have exceeded their useful service life.
- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Meeks motion to approve
  - Second Comm. Kennedy
- **Vote Outcome** 4-0 motion passes

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14. Approve the purchase of two 2026 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 vehicles from the Florida Sheriff's Association Contract FSA25-VEL33.0 (Item 195) Pursuit, Administrative, and Other Vehicles. *(Audio 2:46)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY FLEET DEPARTMENT – Jessie Robinson, Director
- **Discussion:** This request is due to the addition of inspectors at the Building Department. Funding is already in the department budget.
- **Public Comment:**

  Linda Cooper (Williston) – Confirmed if vehicles already come equipped with GPS devices or if county upfitted. Jessie Robinson answered Mrs. Cooper stating the County handles GPS after vehicle purchase.
- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Kennedy motion to approve
  - Second Comm. Meeks
- **Vote Outcome** 4-0 motion passes

Public Comments: None

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15. Request for Approval of Expenditures in the amount of $ 1,783,467.52. *(Audio 2:49)*

PAYMENT NUMBER	**158642-158734/1109-1155**	
FUND		**AMOUNT**
GENERAL REVENUE		912,470.32
ROAD		189,438.71
MOSQUITO CONTROL		8,068.58
TRANSPORTATION		4,729.34
COURT FACILITIES		9,633.49
MISC GRANTS		155,786.43
EMS		33,740.44
FIRE		25,107.97
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT		1,835.50
UTILITIES		89.02
BLDG INSPECT & SAFETY		13,820.73
CAPITAL PROJECTS		13,546.81
ROAD IMPRV & RESTORE		280,846.15
LANDFILL		134,354.03
TOTAL	**$**	**1,783,467.52**

- **Presenter:** Chairman Tim Hodge
- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion — Comm. Meeks motion to approve
  - Second — Comm. Kennedy
- **Vote Outcome** — 4-0 motion passes

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS: None

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:04 P.M.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

LEVY COUNTY, FL

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Clerk of Court, Matt Brooks

Chairman, Tim Hodge

Minutes Submitted by: Matt Brooks, Clerk of Court & Comptroller
Date Submitted: 09/08/2026