REGULAR MEETING

LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

September 22, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was held on September 22, 2026 at 9:00 A.M. in the BoCC meeting room at the Levy County Government Center.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Tim Hodge called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

INVOCATION: Given by Comm. Meeks

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Comm. Kennedy

ROLL CALL:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

District 1:	Vice Chairman Charlie Kennedy
District 2:	Comm. Rock Meeks
District 3:	Comm. Desiree Mills
District 4:	Chairman Tim Hodge
District 5:	Comm. Johnny Hiers

ALSO PRESENT:

County Manager, Mary-Ellen Harper

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

- **Amendments:**
- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Mills motion to approve
  - Second Comm. Meeks
- **Vote Outcome** 5-0 motion passes

RECOGNIZE ELECTED OFFICIALS: None

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS:

1. **Presentation of Milestone Service Awards.**

David Meeks	Landfill	25 Years
Mitch Harrell	Public Safety	10 Years
JoAnn Brannen	Public Works	5 Years
Keith Stephens	Road & Bridage	30 Years

2. **Presentation of Retirement Plaques.**

Jimmy Willis	Fleet	30+ Years
Brantley Studstill	Road & Bridge	23+ Years
David Weatherford	Solid Waste	38+ Years

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Linda Cooper (Williston) – Read email from County Attorney regarding her request to get on the agenda to request permit fee audit.

BUSINESS OR INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

3. Approve the 2027 Board Meetig dates as presented. (*Audio* 14:52)

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY MANAGER – Mary-Ellen Harper, County Manager
- **Discussion:**

• January 5th	A.M	July 6th	A.M
• January 19th	P.M	July 20th	A.M
• February 2nd	A.M	August 3rd	A.M
• February 16th	P.M	August 17th	A.M
• March 2nd	A.M	September 7th	P.M
• March 16th	A.M	September 21st	A.M
• April 6th	A.M	October 5th	A.M
• April 20th	A.M	October 19th	A.M
• May 4th	A.M	November 2nd	A.M
• May 18th	A.M	November 16th	A.M
• June 8th	A.M	December 7TH	A.M
• June 22nd	A.M	December 21st	A.M

- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion — Comm. Hiers motion to approve
  - Second — Comm. Mills
- **Vote Outcome** — 5-0 motion passes

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4. Approve the 2027 Holiday Schedules as presented. (*Audio* 15:27)

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY MANAGER – Mary-Ellen Harper, County Manager
- **Discussion:**

• New Year's Day	Friday, January 1, 2027
• Martin Luther King Day	Monday, January 18, 2027
• Presidents Day	Monday, February 15, 2027
• Good Friday	Friday, April 2, 2027
• Memorial Day	Monday, May 31, 2027
• Independence Day (Observed)	Monday, July 5, 2026
• Labor Day	Monday, September 6, 2027
• Veterans Day	Thursday, November 11, 2027
• Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 25, 2027
• Friday After Thanksgiving	Friday, November 26, 2027
• Day Before Christmas	Thursday, December 23, 2027
• Christmas Day (Observed)	Friday, December 24, 2027

- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion — Comm. Mills motion to approve
  - Second — Comm. Meeks

- **Vote Outcome** 5-0 motion passes

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5. Approve RESOLUTION NO. 2026-47: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO THE COUNTY MANAGER, OR THE COUNTY MANAGER'S DESIGNEE, TO ADMINISTER, APPROVE, AND EXECUTE CERTAIN INDIVIDUAL AWARDS AND RELATED DOCUMENTS UNDER THE LEVY COUNTY STATE HOUSING INITIATIVES PARTNERSHIP ("SHIP") PROGRAM; ESTABLISHING CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS UPON SUCH AUTHORITY; REQUIRING REPORTING TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS; PROVIDING FOR RATIFICATION OF CERTAIN PRIOR ACTIONS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *(Audio 15:55)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY MANAGER – Mary-Ellen Harper, County Manager
- **Discussion:** This should help speed up the process once application is approved.
- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Mills motion to approve
  - Second Comm. Kennedy
- **Vote Outcome** 5-0 motion passes

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6. Request Board approval to proceed with the proposed upgrades to the County's Property and Casualty Insurance coverage with Florida League of Cities effective October 1, 2026. *(Audio 17:55)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY MANAGER – Mary-Ellen Harper, County Manager
- **Discussion:** Total cost associated with this request is $194,799 and will be funded by the General Fund.

  Four Years Prior Acts Coverage- $8,992: Provides coverage for eligible claims arising from acts occurring during the four years prior to the effective date of the new policy.

  Multi-Class Liability- $65,000: Increase the county's liability and Errors and Omissions coverage.

  Property Coverage-$113,090: Expands coverage to include wind coverage for piers, wharves, docks, boardwalks, and bridges, providing additional protection for these County-owned structures.

  Auto Comp & Collision-$7,697: Reduces the County's deductible from $10,000 to $5,000.
- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Kennedy motion to approve
  - Second Comm. Mills
- **Vote Outcome** 5-0 motion passes

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7. Approve the application for a full reduction of the Code Compliance Lien in the amount of $9,350, contingent upon satisfaction of the conditions set forth below, and authorize the County Manager to confirm satisfaction of the conditions and approve the lien reduction on behalf of The County upon such confirmation: 1. The property is legally conveyed to the applicant; and 2. The applicant, as the new property owner, brings the property into full compliance with all requirements set forth in the Order entered in Case No. CE#2022-0055 within thirty (30) days after acquiring the property. *(Audio 21:31)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY CODE ENFORCEMENT – Dave Banton, Code Enforcement Officer

- **Discussion:** Property owner does not have many options, his neighbor wants to purchase property and he will have 30 days from date of purchase to bring property up to code or lien will revert back.

- **Public Comment:**

  Linda Cooper (Williston) – If approved this would set a bad precedent

- **Action Taken:**

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

- **Vote Outcome** — 5-0 motion passes

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8. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-46: 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 $105,806.00 DUE TO THE RECEIPT OF ADDITIONAL REVENUE FROM 2026-2027 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PREPAREDNESS AND ASSISTANCE GRANT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.; And approve the Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Grant Agreement (A0701). *(Audio 42:33)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – Leatha Keene, Director

- **Discussion:**

- **Action Taken:**

  - Motion — Comm. Mills motion to approve
  - Second — Comm. Kennedy

- **Vote Outcome** — 5-0 motion passes

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9. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-45: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; And approve the 2026 Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. *(Audio 43:53)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY MANAGER – Mary-Ellen Harper, County Manager

- **Discussion:**

- **Action Taken:**

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

- **Vote Outcome** — 5-0 motion passes

- **Recess at 9:51 A.M for 20-30 seconds to correct issue with sound.**

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10. Approve Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Levy County Professional Paramedic and EMT's International Association of Fire Fighters, Local #4069. *(Audio 51:58)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY HUMAN RESOURCES - Jacqueline Martin, Director
- **Discussion:**
- **Action Taken:**
    - Motion — Comm. Kennedy motion to approve
    - Second — Comm. Meeks
- **Vote Outcome** — 5-0 motion passes

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11. Authorize the Chairman to execute the attached Certificate of Participation electing for Levy County to decline to serve as the coordinating unit of government for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant. *(Audio 53:40)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION – Kari Bastow, Interim Director
- **Discussion:**
- **Action Taken:**
    - Motion — Comm. Mills motion to approve
    - Second — Comm. Meeks
- **Vote Outcome** — 5-0 motion passes

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12. Adopt Resolution 2026-50: 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 $89,103.00 TO RECOGNIZE GRANT FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD FROM FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *(Audio 54:28)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY FINANCE AND ADMIN – Kari Bastow, Interim Director
- **Discussion:**
- **Action Taken:**
    - Motion — Comm. Meeks motion to approve
    - Second — Comm. Mills
- **Vote Outcome** — 5-0 motion passes

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13. Adopt Resolution Number 2026-44, A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF THE STATE AID TO LIBRARIES GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF FLORIDA, DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR AND ON BEHALF OF LEVY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *(Audio 55:15)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICES - Layce Hallman, Manager
- **Discussion:**

- **Action Taken:**
    - Motion Comm. Hiers motion to approve
    - Second Comm. Mills
- **Vote Outcome** 5-0 motion passes

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14. Approve RESOLUTION 2026-51: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A STATE-FUNDED GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR FINANCIAL PROJECT NUMBER 417319-3-54-01; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE RELATED DOCUMENTS; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS. *(Audio 56:44)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT – Don Clifton, Director
- **Discussion:** Resurface CR 337 (CR121 to CR336), will widen the road about 6 inches to each side.
- **Action Taken:**
    - Motion Comm. Mills motion to approve
    - Second Comm. Kennedy
- **Vote Outcome** motion passes

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15. PUBLIC HEARING - Approve Petition No. TA 26-03 A request by Levy County Board of County Commission on behalf of Lorenzo's Paradise Marketing LLC for the Text Amendment to Sec. 50-700 Generally; Use Table to add "Self Storage RV/boat storage facility" to the zoning district use table as a special exception in the Rural Mixed Use (RMU) zoning district. And add Special exception requirements to include Sec. 50-762. *(Audio 58:29)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT – Bernard "Bo" Cox, Building Official
- **Comm. Hiers sustained from voting due to possible conflict**.
- **Discussion:** Board advised staff to make changes regarding acreage and site plan requirements. Once changes are made this will be come back to board
- **Public Comment:**

  Linda Cooper (Williston) – Why does agenda state this is on behalf of Lorenzo?

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

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16. PUBLIC HEARING- Approve ORDINANCE NO. 2026-06: AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY FLORIDA, CREATING A PRIVATE RECREATION USES WITHIN THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; AMENDING SECTION 50-1. OF THE LEVY COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE RELATED TO DEFINTIONS; AMENDING SECTION 50-700. OF THE LEVY COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE RELATED TO PERMITTED USES; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR

SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *(Audio 1:33)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT – Bernard "Bo" Cox, Building Official
- **Discussion:** Board wants this to be site specific so it always has to come before the board for approval.
- **Public Comment:**

  Emily Cassey (Gulf Hammock) – These type of request need to be site specific.

  Kim Wheeler (Williston) – Everything needs to be site specific.

  Terry Witt (Bronson) – If approved as a text amendment does this still have to come back to board?

  Denate Cannon (Chiefland) - Deny request and keep as special exception.

  Linda Cooper (Williston) – Text amendments are not good, should be special expections. Seems to be a lot of text amendments lately.

- **Action Taken:** Comm. Kennedy made motion to approve to bring back as special exception. He later rescinded his motion. Comm. Meeks then made motion to approve so to allow special exceptions to come before board. Request have to be written into code before people can apply to have a special exception.
  - Motion — Comm. Meeks motion to approve
  - Second — Comm. Kennedy
- **Vote Outcome** — 5-0 motion passes

- Recess for 10 minute break at 11:45 A.M- Reconvened at 11:57 A.M

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17. Quasi-Judicial - Approve Petition No. SE 26-01: A Special Exception pursuant to Sec. 50-760 of the Levy County Land Development Code to allow a civic organization or membership club with outdoor uses located at 19630 NE 30th ST, Williston, FL 32696 in Section 07, Township 13 S, Range 19 E, Levy County, Florida, Parcel ID Number: 051110020A. *(Audio 2:43)*

- **Presenter:** LEVY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT – Bernard "Bo" Cox, Building Official
- **Discussion:** This special exception states the property owner must have direct access to a paved county road. He either has to purchase the right of way that current road is on OR he will have to be allowed by current owner to pave said road. If he owns the right of way, road he will not have to pave it.
- **Public Comment:**

  Stacey Peters (Williston) – If all requirements are not meet you don't have the evidence for approval.

- **Action Taken:** Temporary special exception with conditions that include the road access.
  - Motion — Comm. Mills motion to approve
  - Second — Comm. Hiers
- **Vote Outcome** — 5-0 motion passes

Public Comments: None

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18. Approve August 2026 Minutes. *(Audio 3:58)*

- **Presenter:** Matt Brooks, Clerk of Court
- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Mills motion to approve
  - Second Comm. Meeks
- **Vote Outcome** 5-0motion passes

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19. Request for Approval of Expenditures in the amount of $ 6,127,556.65. *(Audio3:58)*

PAYMENT NUMBER	**158735-158816/1156-1202**	
FUND		**AMOUNT**
GENERAL REVENUE		2,134,125.16
ROAD		118,863.51
SHIP		30,000.00
MOSQUITO CONTROL		113.75
TRANSPORTATION		12,560.70
911		20,197.65
COURT FACILITIES		2,519.68
MISC GRANTS		7,067.23
EMS		48,492.36
FIRE		38,676.81
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT		3,159.89
UTILITIES		1,672.21
BLDG INSPECT & SAFETY		27,596.35
RESTORE ACT		263,787.17
CAPITAL PROJECTS		1,666,615.52
ROAD IMPRV & RESTORE		1,510,069.59
LANDFILL		242,039.07
MSBU'S		
TOTAL	**$**	**6,127,556.65**

- **Presenter:** Chairman Tim Hodge
- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Meeks motion to approve
  - Second Comm. Mills
- **Vote Outcome** 5-0 motion passes

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS *(Audio3:59)*

Commissioner C. Kennedy- None

Commissioner R. Meeks- None

Commissioner D. Mills- None

Commissioner T. Hodge- Permit questions to Bo Cox regarding 400 sq ft structure.

Commissioner J. Hiers- None

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 1:15 A.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: 09/22/2026