October 6, 2026

The Walton County Board of Commissioners held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 6, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Historic Walton County Courthouse. Those participating in the meeting included Chairman David Thompson, Commissioners Amarie Warren, Pete Myers, Timmy Shelnutt, Lee Bradford, and Kirklyn Dixon, County Clerk Rhonda Hawk, County Manager John Ward, Planning Director Kristi Parr, Sheriff Keith Brooks and Kim McCord, County Attorney Chip Ferguson. A list of employees and citizens in attendance at the meeting is on file in the auxiliary file under this meeting date. Commissioner Jeremy Adams was not present.

MEETING OPENING

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Shelnutt gave the invocation.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: *Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Warren, to adopt the agenda. The motion passed 6-0 with all district commissioners voting in favor.*

DISCUSSION

County Manager's Report/Update

County Manager John Ward gave an update and report on county matters to the Board.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Planning & Development Director Kristi Parr presented the Planning Commission recommendations.

LU26-0188 & Z26-0187 - Land Use Change from Rural Residential and Agriculture to Suburban and Rezone 5.99 acres from A1 to R1 to create a 5-lot residential subdivision - Applicant/Owner: Mark Sanchez - property located on Locklin Road - Map/Parcel C1780012Z00 - District 4 (Tabled 9/1/26)

Planning Commission recommended denial.

County Attorney Chip Ferguson opened the public hearing on the matter. Applicant Mark Sanchez spoke in favor. Mr. Sanchez presented a site plan for the proposed 5-lot subdivision which included two letters of support from nearby residents. Mr. Sanchez stated that he believed it was denied by the Planning Commission due to no decel lanes being shown on the original site plan. He stated that the subdivision would have a decel lane and county water. Kecia Fischer spoke in opposition stating she lives adjacent to the proposed development but was not approached concerning the development. In rebuttal, Mr. Sanchez stated that he did not have enough time to speak with everyone. Attorney Ferguson closed the public hearing on the matter.

Motion: *Commissioner Bradford made a motion to accept the Planning Commission recommendation to deny. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion. Commissioners Warren, Myers, Bradford and Dixon voted in favor with Commissioner Shelnutt opposing the motion. The motion carried 4-1.*

At 6:26 p.m., Chairman Thompson took a break from Planning & Development issues and recognized the arrival of Sheriff Keith Brooks. At this time, Sheriff Brooks and County Manager John Ward presented a retirement plaque to Charlie Dalton for 32 years of service. Michael Stamey (who was not in attendance), was also recognized for his service at the Walton County Sheriff's Office.

At 6:29 p.m., the regular meeting resumed.

Z26-0222 - Rezone 6.15 acres from A1 to A to grow and sell fruits and vegetables - Applicant: Ravishankar Doejode/Owners: Ravishankar, Rahul and Shreyas Doejode and Sunitha Rao - property located at 440 Mt Vernon Road - Map/Parcel C1790096 - District 4

Planning Commission recommended approval as submitted.

County Attorney Chip Ferguson opened the public hearing on the matter. Applicant owners Ravishankar and Shreyas Doeiode spoke in favor of the rezone. There was no opposition present. Attorney Ferguson closed the public hearing.

Motion: *Commissioner Shelnutt made a motion to approve per the Planning Commission recommendation. Commissioner Myers seconded the motion; all district commissioners voted in favor. The motion carried.*

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of September 1, 2026 Meeting Minutes
2. Contracts & Budgeted Purchases of $25,000 or Greater
3. Declaration of Surplus
4. Acceptance of Grant - Juvenile Court - Criminal Justice Coordingating Council for Children in Need of Services - Truancy Intervention Program and Consulting Contract with Break the Cycle Consulting
5. 2027 Holiday Schedule
6. Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
7. Appointment - 2026 Legislative Leadership Conference Voting Delegate - Lee Bradford (for the record)
8. Acceptance of Donated Equipment from Takeda for Fire Rescue
9. Acceptance of Donated Equipment from Deputies Beyond the Badge - 2027 Ford Expedition to Walton Co. Fire Rescue
10. Contribution Agreement - Amendment #1 - Georgia Association of Conservation Districts (for the record)

Motion: *Commissioner Bradford made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Myers, to approve the Administrative Consent Agenda. All district commissioners voted in favor. Commissioner*

Bradford thanked Takeda and Deputies Beyond the Badge for their donations.

FINANCE

Resolution - Amendment to Walton County Fiscal Policy

Motion: *Chairman Thomson made a motion to adopt the amendment to the Walton County Fiscal Policy. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion. All voted in favor.*

Resolution - FY27 Budget Amendment and Summary

Motion: *Commissioner Warren made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to adopt the FY27 Budget Amendment and Summary. All district commissioners voted in favor.*

FY27 Capital Funding Request - Vehicles/Equipment/Site Improvements

Motion*: Commissioner Warren made a motion to approve the FY27 Capital Funding Requests in the amount of $2,990,063.00. Commissioner Myers seconded the motion and all district commissioners voted in favor.*

SHERIFF

LeadsOnline, LLC - Total Track Investigation System

Motion: *Commissioner Bradford made a motion seconded by Commissioners Myers to approve the software application. All district commissioners voted in favor.*

BIDS/PROPOSALS

Precision Planning, Inc. - Alternate Solution for Space Needs

Motion: *Commissioner Shelnutt made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Warren to approve the amendment to the space needs contract with Precision Planning, Inc., not to exceed $8,000. All district commissioners voted in favor.*

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: *Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bradford, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.*

All documents of record for this meeting are on file in either the addendum book or auxiliary file under this meeting date.

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DAVID THOMPSON, CHAIRMAN

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RHONDA HAWK, COUNTY CLERK