

Minutes of Public Hearing

Elbert County Board of Commissioners

Monday, May 11, 2026

- 1) Discussion and consideration of a request by Bobby Maxwell to rezone 3.92-acres from A(Agricultural) to R1(Single Family Residential at 2295 Fork Creek Rd., Bowman, GA. This request is to allow for a portion to be split out and gifted to a family member for a future homesite. Map and parcel 012 008. Planning and Zoning recommended approval by a 7-0 vote.

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- 1) Chairman Lee Vaughn called the meeting to order. Present were Commissioner David Hunt, Commissioner Casey Freeman, Commissioner Chris Alexander, Commissioner Mike Scoggins, Commissioner Freddie Jones, County Administrator Allen Hulme, CFO Macie Witcher, County Attorney Bill Daughtry, County Clerk Tamara Butler and media.
- 2) After the pledge to the United States flag the invocation was given by Mr. Daughtry.
- 3) Adoption of the Agenda. Chairman Vaughn asked for a motion to add, 14b) Executive Session to discuss personnel. Commissioner Alexander made the motion to adopt the agenda as amended. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.
- 4) Adoption of the Minutes of April 13, 2026. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to adopt the minutes of April 13, 2026. Commissioner Scoggins seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.
- 5) Public Comments on Agenda Items. Ms. Angela Jones asked the board to please allow Mr. Hulme to act on behalf of the county to pursue reopening the railroad crossings on Hwy 17 in the Thornton Drive, Allen Circle community. She wanted to thank Mr. Hulme and Mr. Chuck Almond for all of their help to the community.

Chairman Vaughn wanted to mention that he received a call from Dr. Andrea Daniel with Athens Tech, stating we are hopeful that the Governor will sign off on a bill for \$2.4 million for an addition on the Jenkins Road CDL truck driver training facility project.

- 6) Discussion and consideration of a request by Bobby Maxwell to rezone 3.92-acres from A(Agricultural) to R1(Single Family Residential at 2295 Fork Creek Rd., Bowman, GA. This request is to allow for a portion to be split out and gifted to a family member for a future homesite. Map and parcel 012 008. Planning and Zoning recommended approval by a 7-0 vote. Commissioner Scoggins made a motion to approve this rezone request. Commissioner Hunt seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.
- 7) Discussion and consideration of the purchase of a dump truck. Mr. Hulme stated we received sealed bids, but after contacting the vendors, the bids we received would be for newly ordered trucks that would take 6-12 months to deliver. He said that he talked to some vendors with vehicles already in stock. It is his recommendation for the board to commit to a maximum of \$200,000 to negotiate the purchase of a new dump truck. Commissioner Alexander made the motion to approve this request. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.
- 8) Discussion and consideration of the 2026 SAP Project for striping and marking on county roads. Mr. Hulme stated this is an extra LMIG project that he applied for and has received the funds. We received two (2) bids and it is his recommendation to contract with the low bid from Peek Pavement and Marking for \$290,716.00. Our match is 30% to be taken from TPLOST. Commissioner Freeman made the motion to approve the bid Mr. Hulme recommended. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

- 9) Discussion and consideration of a Beer/Wine application for MIRA 2379, Inc. d/b/a Quick Stop. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve this application. Commissioner Hunt seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.
- 10) Discussion and consideration to reappoint Chuck Almond to the Northeast Georgia Region 10 EMS Council for another 3-year term expiring June 30, 2029. Commissioner Jones made the motion to approve the reappointment of Mr. Chuck Almond to the Northeast Georgia Region 10 EMS Council. Commissioner Scoggins seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.
- 11) Discussion and consideration of the renewal of the LEOP (Local Emergency Operation Plan). Commissioner Freeman made the motion to renew the LEOP with the condition that all ordinances that are incorporated in this plan are included in this document. Commissioner Scoggins seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.
- 12) Discussion and consideration of allowing the County Administrator to act on behalf of the Board of Commissioners to pursue reopening the railroad crossings on Hwy 17 in the Thornton Drive, Allen Circle community. Commissioner Scoggins made a motion to allow Mr. Allen Hulme to act on behalf of the Board to pursue the reopening of the railroad crossings in the Thornton Drive, Allen Circle community. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.
- 13) Tammy Blackmon to address the board regarding residential zoning. Ms. Blackmon who lives on Drake Road wanted to address the issue of the cost of a permit that she thinks the buyer of the property she wants to sell should be responsible for. She said that she talked to Chairman Vaughn and a couple of the commissioners along with a member of planning and zoning. Chairman Vaughn stated the reason for the permit is due to a land size restriction on the property she owns as it would fall below the 5-acres to be classified as R1.
- 14) Finance Report. Ms. Witcher reported that the General Fund was under budget thru April. General Fund expenditures are \$1,193,474 more than this time last year. General Fund revenues are \$194,725 more than this time last year. TSPLOST has a cash balance of \$3,779,057 and SPLOST has a balance of \$2,148,326. Hotel/Motel tax has a balance of \$23,506 for local projects.
- 15) Executive Session. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel. Commissioner Hunt seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Upon returning, Commissioner Alexander made a motion to enter General Session; seconded by Commissioner Freeman. The motion passed 5-0.

Chairman Vaughn stated no action was taken.

- 16) Adjournment. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Scoggins. The motion passed unanimously.