

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 8, 2025**

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chairman James Dowdy, III, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in Room 305 of the Crisp County Government Center with Commissioners James Nance, Sam Farrow, Larry Felton and Mark Crenshaw in attendance. Others present were Interim County Administrator Mickey Dunnavant, County Attorney Rick Lawson, Finance Director Sherrie Leverett and County Clerk Monica Irwin. Commissioner Nance gave the invocation and Interim County Administrator Mickey Dunnavant led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Chairman Dowdy welcomed all in attendance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnavant, stated he needed to make an amendment to the agenda, adding Mr. Ivory Corbin allowing him to address the Board regarding the Reginald Barry Senior Center. Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to amend and adopt the July 8, 2025 Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of June 10, 2025 seconded by Commissioner Nance, motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to approve the Called Meeting minutes of June 27, 2025 seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion carried unanimously.

SHERIFF REPORT

Chief Deputy, Denise Youngblood, stated, the Sheriff is out of town this morning and I have letter from the Sheriff I would like to read:

Dear Chairman, Members of the Board, and County Administrator, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to you for approving the operating budget for the Crisp County Sheriff's Office for the upcoming fiscal year. Your continued support demonstrates a strong commitment to public safety, ensuring our staff and operations are well-equipped to meet the needs of our community. Finance Director, Leverett, has devoted many hours to a challenging task this year. Please accept my apologies for my absence today. I am currently out of state speaking at a conference of government insurers such as ACCG on the topic of law enforcement risk management. It is an honor to represent Crisp County in this capacity and share the proactive efforts we have taken locally to reduce risk and enhance operational integrity. I am also pleased to report that the U.S. Marshals Service conducted a visit last week to our detention facility and expressed their satisfaction with the condition, operations, and professionalism demonstrated throughout the facility. Their favorable impression further affirms the quality of service at the Crisp County Jail. Additionally, I want to inform you that contract negotiations are currently underway with the U.S. Marshals Service regarding an increase in the daily per diem rate. We are hopeful that these discussions will result in a revised agreement that will be even more

beneficial to the County and will continue to support the safe and efficient housing of federal inmates. Thank you again for your leadership and your steadfast support of the Sheriff's Office and its mission. Respectfully,
H.W. Hancock
Sheriff, Crisp County

CRISP COUNTY POWER COMMISSION

Crisp County Power Commission General Manager, Chris Hewitt, stated, the Pateville substation is coming together really well and hopefully will be in operation by the fall of this year. Linemen are out in the community changing out poles and making upgrades. The Data Center is still in contract negotiations.

REGINALD BARRY SENIOR CENTER

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnavant, invited Mr. Ivory Corbin to the podium to address the Board. Mr. Corbin stated, he was present on behalf of Crisp County Senior Citizens regarding the Reginald Barry Senior Center. Mr. Corbin stated, the building needs a new air conditioning unit as well as other upgrades such as flooring. Mr. Corbin also stated, the grass and landscaping around the building needs maintaining. Commissioner Felton stated, the County maintains the building so the yard/landscaping maintenance should be the responsibility of the tenant.

NEW BUSINESS

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnavant, advised the Commissioners of several items under new business needing their consideration:

2025 CRISP COUNTY DISASTER RECOVERY AND REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnavant, stated, the Disaster & Recovery Redevelopment Plan was put together by Crisp County Sheriff Office, EMA, and River Valley Regional Commission. The plan is revised/readopted every five years. This is the re-adoption of the plan and request of a signature for re-adoption. **Motion was made by Commissioner Farrow to adopt the 2025 Crisp County Disaster Recovery & Redevelopment Plan, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

POLICY AMENDMENT

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnavant, stated the policy amendment is pertaining to the Political Neutrality Policy in the handbook. This amendment is adding political activities to the policy. Mr. Dunnavant read the amended policy. **Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to adopt the policy amendment 2.12 Political Neutrality/Political Activities, seconded by Commissioner Nance, motion carried unanimously.**

FINANCE REPORT

Mrs. Leverett stated, I did not include the Financial Summary report in today's packet. With the meeting falling so early in the month and it being year-end, there was just too much data yet to be received and recorded before we can accurately calculate those numbers. I will distribute that report later.

I will start with the cash on hand report as of June 30. Ended the month with \$16.4 million in the General and Special Revenue Funds combined, \$12.3 million in the proprietary funds and \$18.1 million in the SPLOST & TSPLOST funds giving a county wide total at the end of the month of \$46.8 million. The SPLOST Reports: monthly activity on the 2017 Issue increased the actual expenditure total here to \$21.2 million. Distribution #17 on the 2023 Issue came in at \$501,222, it does exceed the six-year average of June Distributions from the 2017 Issue. It also came 9% above the monthly amount received in June of 2024. It brings issue to date collections up to \$8.2 million while expenditures & encumbrances came in just under \$4.8 million. The final SPLOST Schedule includes a list of all expenditures for the month of June. Projects benefiting from our Special Local Option Sales Tax penny during the month were the Airport, Public Works, Roads, Sanitation/Solid Waste, E911, the Detention Center, the Sheriff's office and the cities of Arabi and Cordele. Next is an updated report on the 2022 TSPLOST: in summary, after 29 months, we have collected almost \$2.7 million through this issue. Combining that with other road revenue sources, have expended and/or obligated \$8.9 million in local road maintenance and capital projects with the use of TSPLOST Funds. L.O.S.T distributions: mirroring SPLOST, this month's distribution is also up over last year by 8.5%. The CDBG Revolving Loan Fund, which includes the balance and status of all our CDBG Revolving Loan Fund Accounts, ended the month of June with a total outstanding balance of \$1.4 due from the five accounts. On another matter....as you know we have been in discussions with the Public Defender regarding their FY26 Budget Request. They have agreed to accept a \$50,000 increase instead of the \$112,376 increase as originally requested. That said, I am recommending that we make a budget adjustment reducing Public Defenders line item in the amount of -\$62,376, offset by and adjustment to Prior Year's Surplus Revenue by that same amount leaving them with \$136,148 in County support for FY26.

FY26 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

Finance Director, Sherrie Leverett, requested the Board's approval to reduce the Public Defenders FY26 line item by \$62,376.00 and decrease the prior Surplus line item by the same amount. **Motion was made by Commissioner Farrow to reduce the Public Defenders FY26 budget line item by \$62,376.00 and decrease the prior Surplus line by the same amount, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnavant, stated, the County had a pretty good month last month. Waste Management has started picking-up cans, so call or email Angela Luke if you need assistance. Restriping the parking lots continues, the only one needing a touch-up is the Recreation Ball Field. Jimmie Mumphery and I just finished our CRS verification audit for the Special Flood Hazard Plains. So far, all looks good but we won't know our score for another 60 days. Hopefully the County's ISO Rating will remain unchanged. The new LMIG funding for 2026 will be \$767,000.00. The Fenn Road project continues and work has started clearing obstructions in the Glide Path at the airport. Amboy Road work is underway, barrels and warning signs remain in place. The appeal deadline for the Tax Assessors' office is July 25, 2025. The process has begun to replace all county phones so the ordering of VOIP phones will begin. Recreation Director, Eric Bozeman, is working with Greg Smith of Buckley & Associates to provide specs for the replacement of the running track. The swimming pools will be closing July 25, 2025. Mr. Bozeman is also working on having lights installed on the west side of the entrance to the Recreation Department.

Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to go into Executive Session at 9:52 am for Personnel, Property, and Litigation. Motion seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to come out of Executive Session at 10:55 am, motion seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN MEETING

By common consent, Commissioners adjourned the meeting at 10:56 am.


James R Dowdy, III, Chairman


Mickey Dunnavant, Interim County Administrator