

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 12, 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. Pastor Ivory Corbin 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

Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to adopt the August 12, 2025 Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Nance, motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 8, 2025 seconded by Commissioner Nance, motion carried unanimously.

SHERIFF REPORT

Chief Deputy, Denise Youngblood, handed each Commissioner a July 2025 Stat Report from the Crisp County Sheriff Office. Mrs. Youngblood stated, the Sheriff's Office has a check presented this morning in the amount of \$17,990.00 for Federal Inmate Housing. Chief Deputy Youngblood stated, the Federal Inmate Contract should be finalized soon. Federal Inmate count is gradually increasing due to jail updates coming to a close.

Probate Judge, Amber Roberts, requested to address personnel issues during Executive Session.

PUBLIC REQUEST TO SPEAK

Douglas Dean stated, the old First Baptist Church building is currently being converted into a community center for Crisp County citizens. Mr. Dean stated, the Certificate of Occupancy has been obtained from the City and the center is now open as of Saturday, August 9, 2025. The Center does currently have a website for more information on hours and services. Mr. Dean also stated, the plans for the center is to provide a safe place for parents to bring their kids for entertainment, to serve food, and in the future provide an event center with a stage for music performances, etc. The center currently has a library, movie room, and activity center. Mr. Dean stated, he would really like for businesses to see the economic opportunity here and participate in this project for financial support in building an asset to the Crisp County Community.

PUBLIC HEARING

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnavant, stated, the public hearing is a rezoning request from Judy Crane to rezone property located at 1143 E 8th Avenue from Office Institutional to Neighborhood Commercial. Mrs. Crane owns Judy's Small World. Mr. Dunnavant read the Public Hearing Notice.

Public Hearing Opened 9:28 am

Mrs. Crane spoke in support of the rezoning; requesting the Board's consideration to grant the rezoning request in hopes of her business being able to continue to remain open and to serve the citizens of Crisp County.

No Opposition

Chairman Dowdy stated, no decision will be made at this time.

Public Hearing Closed 9:30 am

NEW BUSINESS

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

ORDINANCE 2025-011

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnavant, stated, Ordinance 2025-011 is an ordinance to amend the Crisp County Code of Ordinances by adding a subsection to Chapter 42 of the Crisp County Code of Ordinances; Article II disorderly conduct; Section 42-31 unlawful acts; relating to possession of less than an ounce of marijuana for law enforcement officers to issue citations rather than effectuating arrest and to repeal conflicting ordinances. Mr. Dunnavant read the Ordinance. It shall be unlawful for any person to possess, have under their control, or use less than one ounce of marijuana on any public or private street or property within the unincorporated area of Crisp County Georgia. **Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to adopt the Ordinance to amend the Crisp County Code of Ordinances by adding a subsection to Chapter 42 Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions, Article II Disorderly Conduct, Section 42-31 Unlawful Acts seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion carried unanimously.**

CONEY VOTING PRECINCT

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnavant, stated, the agreement is between the Crisp County Board of Commissioners and Bethel Baptist Church regarding the use of certain property as a voting precinct. Property location is at 848 Coney Road North. Mr. Dunnavant also stated, Voting & Registration Director, Becky Perkins, informed him there are 800 registered voters for this precinct with an average of 250 voters at this precinct during elections. Mr. Dunnavant read the agreement. **Motion was made by Commissioner Farrow to approve the agreement between the Crisp County Board of Commissioners and Bethel Baptist Church for a polling location at 848 Coney Road North, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

2025 MILLAGE RATE FOR ADVERTISEMENT

Finance Director, Sherrie Leverett, stated, the millage rate is not being adopted at this time but feedback is needed today from the Board on which direction you want to go on the 2025 millage rate. The final consolidation numbers have been received for the tax digest and the first thing that needs to be done is

the 5 year history advertisement. Mrs. Leverett also explained the calculated rollback rates. Mrs. Leverett stated, the advertisement dates will be August 20, 2025 and August 27, 2025 in the Cordele Dispatch Newspaper and on the Crisp County Website. **BY COMMON CONSET, the Crisp County Board of Commissioners agreed to approve the advertisement for the 2025 millage rate of 10.770, 5.87% increase over rollback rate of 10.183, motion carried unanimously.**

Mrs. Leverett also scheduled the three required Public Hearings for the 2025 millage rate:

- 1) August 28, 2025 10:00 pm**
- 2) August 28, 2025 6:00 pm**
- 3) September 9, 2025 9:00 am**

No action will be taken during the Public Hearings.

FINANCE REPORT

Finance Director, Sherrie Leverett, stated, today's packet includes a preliminary executive summary of the financial status on the major funds of the County after just one month of the new fiscal year. First, the financial summary report for the General & three major Special Revenue Funds are showing a net -5% shortfall of -\$1.4 million after the first thirty one days of FY26. Nothing alarming here, we are in that window of our fiscal year where our revenue stream runs pretty lean and we depend on reserves for support of daily operations until the 2025 tax revenues begin to flow in. The Water Fund reporting a preliminary net income of just over \$30,000 at July 31st. Customer usage billed for the month was 8.8 million gallons to a total of 1,540 customers and the USDA Bonds are current at \$1,002,116. The Landfill Fund ended the month basically breaking even with a net loss of less than -\$958.00. 5,233.19 tons of municipal solid waste was delivered to the Landfill during the month of July. Approximately 31% of that was delivered under the commercial waste contract, 8% under the City of Cordele's residential contract and 5% under the County's curbside contract. The GEFA Loan is current at \$335,399. The cash on hand report as of July 31st ended the month with \$14.6 million in the General and Special Revenue Funds combined; \$12.5 million in the proprietary funds; and \$18.5 million in the SPLOST & TSPLOST funds giving a county wide total of \$45.6 million.

SPLOST reports: The 2017 Issue monthly activity brings the actual expenditure total to \$21.1 million. Distribution #18 on the 2023 Issue came in at \$536,671, exceeding last year by about 3%. Issue to date collections up to \$8.7 million while expenditures & encumbrances came at just over \$5.0 million. The final SPLOST Schedule includes a list of all expenditures for the month. Projects benefiting from our Special Local Option Sales Tax penny for the month of July were The Airport, County Buildings, Public Works, County Roads, Sanitation/Solid Waste, Recreation, The Detention Center, the CCSO and the cities of Arabi and Cordele for a total amount expended of \$275,980. Included next is an issue to date reports on the TSPLOST Fund. Including LMIG and GDOT Revenues, we have expended and/or obligated almost \$9.0 million in local road maintenance and capital projects using Transportation Tax Funds. Updated schedule on our L.O.S.T distributions, similar to SPLOST, this month's distribution of \$262,989 exceeds last year by about 3%. The CDBG Revolving Loan Fund monthly report, which includes the balance and status of all our CDBG Revolving Loan Fund Accounts, currently have five loans with a total outstanding balance of \$1.4 million. The final report included in your packet is the revenues by fund and expenditures by department preliminary report for the first month of FY 26. All departments and divisions should actually be at or below 8% of their annual allowances. Overall, the preliminary numbers show the general and special revenue funds slightly over at 9%, the Water Fund is good at 4% and the Landfill is also ok at 8%.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnavant, stated, he and Carl Gamble, Public Works Director, met with Express Disposal last week regarding Bedgood Road and Lane Loop. After much rain, these roads are difficult for the trash trucks to travel. In an effort to keep the trash trucks out of the ditches, these roads have been heavily rocked and the roads are being serviced routinely. The County had new employee orientation with Alissa Wright from Partners Benefit and Ron Rowe from ACCG Benefits. 10 new hires attended. It was very informative and successful; several enrolled in the 457b Plan, long-term disability, and additional life insurance. Also, GDOT has awarded Griffin Grading & Concrete to construct a roundabout on Lamar Road in Sumter County.

Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to go into Executive Session at 10:36 am for Personnel, Property, and Litigation. Motion seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.

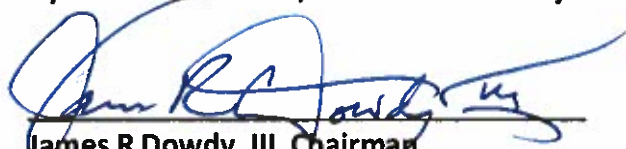
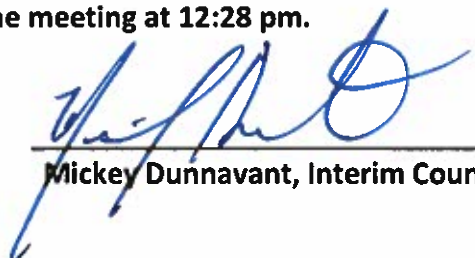
Motion was made by Commissioner Farrow to come out of Executive Session at 12:20 pm, motion seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to appoint Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnavant, as the only candidate for the position of County Administrator, seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN MEETING

By common consent, Commissioners adjourned the meeting at 12:28 pm.


James R Dowdy, III, Chairman
Mickey Dunnavant, Interim County Administrator