

Official Minutes

April 16, 2025

Board of Commissioners Meeting

In Attendance:

Randy Church, Chairman
Mike LaBrose, Vice Chairman
Jeff Branch, Commissioner
Donnie Potter, Commissioner
Interim County Manager, Wayne Rash
Chief Financial Officer, Tony Helton
Abigail Rich, County Clerk

Chairman Church called the meeting to order at 4:07 PM.

The first department to present was Building Inspections.

Due to recent staffing changes in the department, the budget was not changed significantly. CFO Tony Helton reminded the Board that Building Inspections charges enough in fees to make the department self-sustaining. Building Inspections largest request is a new vehicle that will be paid for by Building Inspections fees.

The Board and Building Inspections Director Crystal McCall discussed the need for another level 3 inspector and the salary of the County's building inspectors compared to neighboring counties.

The second department to present was the Tax Office.

Tax Administrator Josh Angle told the Board the Tax Office was able to cut some from travel/training and mileage. Additionally, there was an increase for postage fees due to the changes in rates and the increase in demand letters and other notices being sent out. Mr. Angle noted a decrease in some other line items due to this being a non-reval year. The Board discussed not making these decreases because they would need to be increased again in a reval year.

There was a discussion held concerning the Tax Office located in the Town of Granite Falls. The Board brainstormed ideas for how to address there only being one employee at this location. One of the ideas that stemmed from this conversation was the possibility of moving this collection site to the Library's Southern Branch.

The third department to present was the Board of Elections.

Board of Elections Director Chad Barnes told the Board there was an increase in contractual fees for the elections firewall. Another request from the Board of Elections is to replace ballot machines.

A brief intermission was taken from 5:40-5:49 PM.

The Fourth department to present was the Veteran's Services Office. Veteran's Services Director Joe Calloway noted there was a small increase for professional fees due to fee increases for certifications. Additionally, the Veteran's Services Office also asked for a phone for Director Calloway.

The last department to present was the Public Library. Library Director Leslie Griffin noted there are no large changes or asks to the Library's budget. Most increases are related to salaries and benefits.

There was a discussion held about the Hudson Library, its utilization, and if the County could remove this branch.

With there being no more business to attend to, Commissioner Potter made the motion to adjourn at 6:44 PM.

The motion carried unanimously.