



GORDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 3, 2026

Judicial Building Assembly Room

Work Session - 5:00 PM

Regular Session - 6:00 PM

PRESENT: Commissioners M.L. “Bud” Owens, Chair, Kevin Cunningham, Vice-Chair, Chad Steward, Randy Abernathy, and Kurt Sutherland; County Administrator Jim Ledbetter, County Clerk Hollis Barton, Assistant Administrator Keith King, County Attorney Chris Jackson; Jennifer Ruddell, Dustin Wilbanks

WORK SESSION

Mr. Ledbetter gave an overview of the agenda. Senior Center Director Jennifer Ruddell presented the department report for the Commission.

REGULAR SESSION

- I. **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance** - Commissioner Abernathy; Commissioner Sutherland
- II. **Call To Order** - Chair Owens called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.
- III. **Approval of the Agenda** - Vice-Chair Cunningham made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Sutherland. The motion carried 5-0.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes** - Commissioner Steward made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted, seconded by Vice-Chair Cunningham. The motion carried 5-0.
 1. **Adopt minutes of Work and Regular Session of February 17, 2026.**
- V. **Special Recognition** - Commissioner Steward recognized the employees with service dates in March; Vice-Chair Cunningham drew Beau Nicholson as the recipient of the additional vacation day.

1. **March Employees Years of Service**

Keith King, Administration, 29 years
Shea Hicks, Board of Elections, 36 years
Lacie Ralston, Board of Assessors, 5 years
Tray Patterson, Board of Assessors, 3 years
Christina Maness, E-911, 8 years
Matthew Holder, E-911, 6 years
Kaycee Conroy, E-911, 1 year
Courtney Taylor, EMA, 9 years
Zelda Gregg, Finance, 31 years

Beau Nicholson, Fire Rescue, 25 years
Erik Amador Mercado, Fire Rescue, 4 years
Lorie Moss, Juvenile Court, 5 years
Eric Bohannon, Sheriff's Office, 26 years
Michael Hill, Sheriff's Office, 20 years
Kenneth Hollaran, Sheriff's Office, 18 years
Sandra Gibbs, Sheriff's Office, 17 years
Chad Stafford, Sheriff's Office, 16 years
Ryan Silvers, Sheriff's Office, 15 years
James Scott Blackstock, Sheriff's Office, 13 years
Brian Brannon, Sheriff's Office, 11 years
Rebecca Bray, Sheriff's Office, 9 years
Gavin Phillips, Sheriff's Office, 6 years
James Tyler Gregg, Sheriff's Office, 3 years
Ben Turner, Sheriff's Office, 3 years
Randyn Burns, Sheriff's Office, 2 years
Amanda Ochart, Sheriff's Office, 1 year
Rusty Hogan, Public Works, 27 years
Brian Bennett, Public Works, 10 years

VI. Administrator's Report

Mr. Ledbetter presented the report to the Commission.

VII. Commissioner's Report

1. Vice-Chair Cunningham

No report.

2. Commissioner Steward

Stated he attended the Chamber luncheon as well as visited the radio.

3. Chair Owens

Stated he has been extremely busy the last few weeks with ACCG and policy council meetings.

4. Commissioner Abernathy

No report.

5. Commissioner Sutherland

Attended the Chamber luncheon, a few visits at the upcoming event center, and answered a few calls regarding culverts.

VIII. First Reading

IX. Public Hearing

X. Unfinished Business

XI. New Business

- 1. Consideration of request to appoint or reappoint someone to the Department of Children & Family Services Board. This will be a five-year term that will begin immediately and expire March 31, 2031.** - Chair Owens presented the item to the Commission. Commissioner Sutherland made a motion to reappoint Steve Bayzid, seconded by Commissioner Steward. The motion carried 5-0.
- 2. Consideration of request from EMA to approve debris removal contracts with CrowderGulf, DRC Emergency Services LLC, and Southern Disaster Recovery for debris removal and disposal services. This item comes at no cost to the County.** - Chair Owens presented the item to the Commission. Commissioner Steward made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Abernathy. The motion carried 5-0.
- 3. Consideration of request from EMA to approve Debris Management Plan.** - Chair Owens presented the item to the Commission. Vice-Chair Cunningham made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Sutherland. The motion carried 5-0.
- 4. Consideration of request from IT to approve a three-year renewal agreement with AT&T for landline phone services in the annual amount of \$29,592. This will be budgeted using the Communication line item for each pertaining department.** - Chair Owens presented the item to the Commission. Vice-Chair Cunningham made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Sutherland. The motion carried 5-0.

XII. Adjourn

Commissioner Sutherland made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Abernathy. The motion carried 5-0.