

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
PIKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

The Pike County Board of Commissioners held a Special Called Meeting on Thursday, May 21, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the Courthouse, Main Courtroom, 16001 Barnesville Street, Zebulon. Chairman Briar Johnson convened the meeting and Commissioners Tim Daniel, Tim Guy, and James Jenkins attended. County Attorney/County Manager Rob Morton and County Clerk Angela Blount were also present. (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1(e) (2)). Due to unforeseen circumstances, Commissioner Ken Pullin was unable to attend the meeting.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER.....Chairman J. Briar Johnson**
- 2. INVOCATION..... Silent Invocation**
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.....Chairman J. Briar Johnson**
- 4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – (O.C.G A. § 50-14-1 € (1))**

Motion/second by Commissioners Guy/Daniel to approve the agenda, , motion carried 4-0.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Approve/deny Second Reading of the FY 2026-2027 Budget.

County Manager Rob Morton stated that the proposed budget includes a 3% salary increase for County employees, Sheriff's Department personnel, and Jail staff, as presented during the second reading of the budget. Mr. Morton advised that the estimated cost of the 3% increase is approximately \$217,000.00, noting that each 1% salary increment costs approximately \$71,500.00. The 3% COLA and benefit calculations do not include the Constitutional Officers, Authorities, or other entities since their budget requests included increases for their respective employees.

Mr. Morton further stated that updates were made across multiple departments as a result of the proposed 3% cost-of-living adjustment, lower than projected insurance benefit costs, and the proration of a \$9,237.00 contract for camera system upgrades. He noted that the Public Works Department requires renewal of a backhoe lease and anticipates leasing a new skid steer. Mr. Morton advised that the sale of old and damaged equipment is expected to generate approximately \$50,000.00 in revenue.

Clint Chastain, Finance Administrator, noted that the budget guide includes County accomplishments, an organizational chart, and a budget calendar. He stated that the General Fund budget decreased from more than \$20 million in the previous fiscal year to approximately \$19.63 million, primarily due to a one-time land sale that had been included in the prior year's revenue. Mr. Chastain explained that the total budget exceeds the General Fund budget because it includes special revenue funds, including SPLOST funds. He further advised that approximately \$13 million has been allocated in special funds for major road projects, including Old Zebulon Road, Blanton Mill Road, and Wood Creek Road. Mr. Morton stated that the increase in the total budget is attributable to these SPLOST-funded projects and not to property tax revenue.

Motion/second by Commissioners Daniel/Guy to approve the Second Reading of the FY 2026-2027 Budget, motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Morton asked the Board if they wished to hold an additional public hearing to allow more citizens the opportunity to provide input regarding the budget. The Board agreed, pending confirmation of courthouse availability.

Motion/second by Commissioners Jenkins/Daniel to approve the scheduling of an additional Public Hearing for the FY 2026-2027 Budget to be held during evening hours on either June 8 or June 9, 2026, motion carried 4-0.

County Manager Rob Morton clarified the use of the Courthouse Grounds previously approved by the Board of Commissioners on April 28, 2026. Mr. Morton stated that the Board approved an application submitted by the NAACP Pike County Branch for use of the Courthouse Grounds on June 20, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., in connection with a Juneteenth event. Mr. Morton noted that the approved application identified an anticipated attendance of approximately 150 to 250 individuals. He further clarified that advertisements referencing attendance of 1,500 to 2,000 individuals were not approved by the Board.

- b. Award Bid for the parking lot paving project located at 331 Thomaston Street, Zebulon, GA.

County Manager Rob Morton stated that bids were received for the parking lot paving project at 331 Thomaston Street, Zebulon, Georgia. Mr. Morton advised that the initial low bid submitted by Southeast Paving in the amount of \$37,792.00 did not include the transition apron to Highway 19. Following clarification of the project scope, Southeast Paving submitted a revised bid in the amount of \$38,888.00, which remained the lowest responsive bid. The bids received are as follows:

- Tajrish General Contracting \$65,383.21
- Piedmont Paving \$53,589.35
- McLeroy \$51,807.00
- MHB Paving \$43,436.94

- Atlanta Paving \$43,371.60
- Southeast Pavement original \$37,792.00, revised \$38,888.00

Motion/second by Commissioners Daniel/Guy to award the contract for parking lot paving services to Southeast Pavement in the amount of \$38,888.00, motion 4-0.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. County Manager Rob Morton requests Executive Session for discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee or interviewing applicants for the position of the executive head of an agency, as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2), germane to personnel.

Motion/second by Commissioners Daniel/Guy to adjourn Regular Session and enter into Executive Session at 7:03 p.m., motion carried 4-0.

CLOSED MEETING AFFIDAVIT

[A copy of the affidavit must be filed with the minutes of the meeting]

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF PIKE

AFFIDAVIT OF PIKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Members of the Pike County Board of Commissioners, being duly sworn, state under oath that the following is true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief:

1.

The Pike County Board of Commissioners met in a duly advertised meeting on 5-21-2026.

2.

During such meeting, the Board voted to go into closed session.

3.

The executive session was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

4.

The subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting was devoted to the following matter(s) within the exceptions provided in the open meetings law:

No Consultation with the county attorney, or other legal counsel, to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the county or any officer or employee or in which the county or any officer or employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1);

No Discussion of tax matters made confidential by state law as provided by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(2) and _____ *insert the citation to the legal authority making the tax matter confidential*);

No Discussion of the future acquisition of real estate as provided by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(4);

Yes Discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee or interviewing applicants for the position of the executive head of an agency, as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2);

No Other – Germane to authorizing negotiations to purchase, dispose of or lease property.

Pike County Board of Commissioners:

J. Briar Johnson, Chairman	(L.S.)
Tim Daniel, Commissioner	(L.S.)
Tim Guy, Commissioner	(L.S.)
James Jenkins, Commissioner	(L.S.)

This the 21st day of May 2026.

Sworn to and subscribed
Before me this 21st day of May 2026.

Robert L. Morton
Morton & Morton Associates
County Attorney and Notary Public

My commission expires: August 10, 2026.

Motion/second by Commissioners Daniel/Guy to adjourn Executive Session and enter into Regular Session at 7:18 p.m., motion carried 4-0.

County Manager Rob Morton stated that he has hired Cassandra Jones as the Planning and Development Director, with an anticipated start date of June 15, 2026. Mr. Morton advised that the terms of employment include the provision of two (2) weeks of vacation leave upon commencement of employment and the accrual of sick leave effective on the employee’s start date.

Motion/second by Commissioners Guy/Daniel to approve the County Manager’s hiring of Cassandra Jones as Planning and Development Director, with a start date of June 15, 2026. The terms of employment include the provision of two (2) weeks of vacation leave upon commencement of employment, and the accrual of sick leave beginning on the start date, motion carried 4-0.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/second by Commissioners Guy/Daniel to adjourn at 7:19 p.m., motion carried 4-0.

J. Briar Johnson, Chairman

Angela Blount, Clerk