



JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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PRESS RELEASE

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August 26, 2026

Jackson County BOCC Regular Meeting Highlights

Jackson County, FL. – On August 25, 2026, at 6:00 PM, the Jackson County Board of County Commissioners held a Regular Meeting. This is a recap of some of the reports and requests included in that meeting.

PRESENTATION: L & K Contractors Update on Blue Springs Sewer Project

Chris Kirkland of L & K Contractors provided the Board with another progress update on Phase 1 of the Blue Springs Sewer Project as work continues toward final completion. Kirkland reported that previously identified leaks have been addressed and crews are continuing work on remaining connections and project completion items. Anderson Columbia is expected to begin paving next week, another step toward completing the remaining roadway improvements associated with the project.



REQUEST: Set Public Hearings for Graceville Correctional Facility Modification and Anderson Columbia Borrow Pit Expansion

The Board approved setting two public hearings for Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. for proposed development projects in unincorporated Jackson County. The first will consider a site plan modification for the Graceville Correctional Facility, located at 5168 Ezell Road, to add three new recreation yards with canopies, associated utilities, and walking paths. The second will consider the proposed expansion of the Anderson Columbia Borrow Pit, formerly known as Baxter's Borrow Pit, on Pittman Hill Road. The proposed expansion would add 77.5 acres of excavation to the existing operation. The Jackson County Planning Commission recommended approval of both requests at its August 17, 2026, meeting.



REQUEST: Approval to Renew Agreement with USDA for Hog/Beaver Removal

The Board approved renewal of the Cooperative Service Agreement between Jackson County Road & Bridge and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service – Wildlife Services for nuisance wildlife management. The program assists

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the County with managing beaver and feral swine populations that can threaten public safety and cause damage to property and infrastructure, utilizing trained USDA Wildlife Services personnel and approved wildlife management methods.

The FY 2027 agreement is effective October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, continuing the County's partnership with USDA to address wildlife-related damage, particularly impacts to County roads, drainage systems, and other infrastructure.



REQUEST: Approval of Evaluation Criteria and Committee for RFP 2526-23- Contingency Food Services

The Board approved the evaluation criteria and committee for RFP No. 2526-23 – Contingency Food Services, which seeks to establish a pre-qualified pool of food service vendors that can be activated as needed during emergencies and disaster response operations. The standby agreements do not guarantee vendors any minimum amount of work and are intended to give the County flexibility to provide meals for Emergency Operations Center staff, Fire Rescue, Road & Bridge, and other personnel supporting response and recovery efforts.

Proposals will be evaluated equally across four categories: qualifications and relevant experience, understanding and implementation of services, quality of references, and fee schedule, with 25 points available in each category. The Board appointed Fire Rescue Deputy Chief Keith Maddox, Road & Bridge Assistant Director Tim Perry, and District 4 Commissioner Donnie Branch to serve on the evaluation committee. The solicitation also incorporates federal procurement requirements applicable to federally funded emergency work, helping position eligible costs for potential state and federal disaster reimbursement.



REQUEST: Approval of Contracts

Special Magistrate Services Contract: Following the Board's August 11, 2026, award of 2526-22 – Special Magistrate Services to John McDaniel, the Board approved the resulting contract with McDaniel for a five-year term. McDaniel will continue providing Special Magistrate services for County code enforcement matters, including conducting hearings related to code enforcement, animal control, building codes, land development regulations, and other County ordinances. The contract establishes a monthly retainer of \$1,100 and runs from September 12, 2026, through September 11, 2031.

Magnolia Blossom Lane Property Purchase: Following previous Board action to pursue property needed for the Indian Springs sewer project, the Board approved the updated Vacant Land Contract to purchase the parcel on Magnolia Blossom Lane for \$37,400. The property will provide a location for a needed lift station serving the Indian Springs area. The negotiated purchase price is above the property's \$34,000 appraised value, but remains below 120% of the

appraisal, or \$40,800. County staff confirmed with the Northwest Florida Water Management District that the purchase remains eligible for grant funding within that threshold. The updated contract reflects the \$37,400 purchase price.



REQUEST: Approval of Change Order and Closeout Documents for the Jail Roof & HVAC Project

The Board approved Change Order No. 4 and project closeout documents for the Jackson County Correctional Facility Roof and Rooftop HVAC Replacement Project with ACME Roofing & Sheet Metal Co. The project included improvements to the facility's roof and rooftop HVAC systems, helping address critical building infrastructure needs.

Change Order No. 4 formally extends the project's substantial completion date to July 20, 2026, allowing for final monitoring and testing of the new HVAC systems. County staff and the project architect determined the work to be substantially complete and ready for closeout. The change order does not increase the project's contract amount, which remains unchanged.



REQUEST: Award 2526-11-Property Liability & Risk Insurance

The Board approved the award of RFP 2526-11 – Property, Liability & Risk Insurance to the County's current provider, FMIT/FACT, following additional consideration of the proposals received. The Board had tabled the award at its August 18 special meeting and revisited the item during this week's regular meeting. Three responsive proposals were received and evaluated, with annual premiums ranging from approximately \$1.28 million to \$1.45 million. The FMIT/FACT renewal totals \$1,446,489, representing a reduction of approximately \$694,916, or 32.5%, from the County's expiring program.

After reviewing the costs, coverage, risk management services, and other considerations associated with the proposals, the Board voted 3-2 to remain with FMIT/FACT. District 5 Commissioner and Board Chairman Jamey Westbrook and District 4 Commissioner Donnie Branch cast the dissenting votes. The County's insurance consultant, Siver Insurance Consultants, had recommended the lower-cost World Risk Management/Public Risk Management proposal; however, the Board ultimately elected to continue with the County's existing insurance program.



LEGEND:



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District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5
Dr. Willie Spires	Edward Crutchfield	Paul Donofro Jr.	Donnie Branch	Jamey Westbrook