



JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jackson County BOCC Regular Meeting Highlights

Jackson County, FL. – On January 27, 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.

REQUEST: Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Property

The Board adopted a Resolution authorizing the final sale and transfer of surplus property located at 2667 Hope Lane within Endeavor Park to CHROME Ministries. The property is located within an area designated for economic development and community growth, and this action supports the County's ongoing partnership with CHROME. CHROME operates a residential recovery and life-stabilization program that provides structured support, housing, mentorship, and skill development for those overcoming addiction, homelessness, and other life challenges. This transfer helps expand services that positively impact individuals and families while encouraging continued investment and purposeful development within Endeavor Park.



PUBLIC HEARING: CDBG Small Cities Application to Construct Water Well and Water Storage Facility

The Board held a second public hearing regarding Jackson County's intent to apply for approximately \$3.41 million through the Florida Department of Commerce's CDBG Small Cities Program to support critical water infrastructure improvements. The proposed project includes construction of a new potable water well near the I-10 and Highway 71 intersection and a new water storage facility near Highway 90 and Highway 71. These improvements are designed to address urgent infrastructure needs by strengthening the reliability and capacity of the local water system, helping protect public health and supporting long-term growth for Jackson County, the City of Marianna, and surrounding residents. The Board also approved consulting with the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) to better understand how House Bill 479 may impact counties and well-related projects moving forward.



CONTINUED

REQUEST: Approval of Appointment to Vacant TDC Seat

The Board approved the appointment of Felix George, Mayor of the City of Jacob, to fill the vacant elected official seat on the Tourist Development Council (TDC) representing an outlying municipality. This appointment helps ensure continued regional representation and collaboration as the TDC works to promote tourism and economic opportunities across all areas of Jackson County.



REQUEST: Approval of Appointment to Jackson County Museum Steering Committee

The Board approved the appointment of Melissa Myers to fill a vacant seat on the Jackson County Museum Steering Committee, following a recommendation from the Tourist Development Council. The volunteer committee plays an important role in guiding the planning process for the future Jackson County History Museum at Endeavor Park.



REQUEST: Approval to Award 2526-07 UF/IFAS Parking Lot Paving

The Board approved the award of ITB 2526-07 UF/IFAS Parking Lot Paving to Hollister Asphalt. Staff opened bids on January 15, 2026, and received four competitive responses. Hollister Asphalt submitted the lowest bid and agreed to the County's contract terms, allowing this improvement project to move forward and support continued accessibility and service at the UF/IFAS facility.



REQUEST: Approval to Purchase Leased Caterpillar Motor Graders, Surplus, and Sale

The Board approved a strategic equipment transaction involving five leased Caterpillar motor graders whose leases expire in February 2026. Thompson Tractor, the County's long-time Caterpillar vendor, provided a guaranteed purchase offer for the graders, allowing the County to complete a lease buyout and immediate resale with no financial risk. As part of the plan, the County will retain one grader to strengthen Road & Bridge operations, using proceeds from the sale of the other graders, surplus equipment funds, and the sale of an older County-owned grader. The Board also approved a procurement policy exception to facilitate the same-day buyout and resale, ensuring a smooth, cost-effective transition that maximizes equipment value while maintaining essential fleet capacity.



REQUEST: Direction for Insurance RFP

The Board approved moving forward with a Request for Proposals (RFP) to secure an independent insurance evaluator consultant. This step will take place ahead of the County's upcoming Insurance RFP and will bring in a third-party expert to help review and analyze proposals. The consultant will assist in evaluating coverage and costs across all major County insurance programs, including auto, general liability, property, workers' compensation, health (including dental and vision), and group life insurance, helping ensure a thorough, informed review process as the County plans for future coverage needs.



REQUEST: Board Ranking and Selection of County Attorney

The Board finalized the ranking of legal services proposers as part of its ongoing selection process. Each Commissioner submitted a score from one (most qualified) to six (least qualified), and the results were tabulated and presented publicly during the meeting to ensure transparency. The final rankings were: 1. Casey Bigelow, 2. Knowles & Randolph, 3. Nathan Nolin, 4. Marcus Green, 5. Blankenship Jordan, and 6. Hartman Law Firm. Following the Board's direction, staff will move forward with contract negotiations with Casey Bigelow, the top-ranked firm, continuing a structured and organized approach to securing legal services for the County.



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LEGEND:

