JACKSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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PRESS RELEASE **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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November 10, 2026

Jackson County BOCC Regular Meeting Highlights

Jackson County, FL. – On November 10, 2026, at 9:00 AM, 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: Jackson County Honors Commissioner Crutchfield for His Years of Dedicated Service



The Board recognized **District 2 Commissioner Edward Crutchfield** for his years of dedicated public service, presenting him with a commemorative plaque in appreciation of his commitment to Jackson County and its citizens.

A lifelong Jackson County resident and longtime local business owner, Commissioner Crutchfield served District 2 from **2006–2014 and again from 2022–2026**. Throughout his tenure, he was known for his steady leadership, thoughtful decision-making, kindness, and willingness to listen and help others. He consistently demonstrated a sincere commitment to serving his constituents and the broader community.

Beyond the Board Room, Commissioner Crutchfield supported **Jackson County Citizens Academy**, participated in community service projects, and made a genuine effort to understand County departments and the employees who serve them. His thoughtful approach, humility, and willingness to learn earned the appreciation of those who worked alongside him.

Jackson County expressed its heartfelt gratitude to Commissioner Crutchfield for his leadership and service, extending best wishes as he concluded his time on the Board and began his next chapter.

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RECOGNITION: Employee Years of Service



The Board of County Commissioners recognized Correctional Officer LaDexter Sims for 10 years of dedicated service to the Jackson County Correctional Facility. Corrections Chief Jammie Jeter presented the recognition, honoring Sims for his professionalism, dependability, and commitment to serving Jackson County.

Since joining the Correctional Facility in 2016, Sims has earned a reputation as a reliable and hardworking team member who consistently takes initiative. Whether fulfilling his daily responsibilities or stepping in to assist fellow staff, he approaches his work with a positive attitude, strong work ethic, and willingness to go above and beyond without being asked.

Beyond his daily duties, Sims leads by example, demonstrating professionalism and respect in his interactions with coworkers, inmates, and the public. His steady leadership and dedication reflect the important role Corrections employees play in maintaining a safe, secure, and professional facility.

Jackson County congratulates Officer Sims on this milestone and extends its sincere appreciation for his 10 years of loyal service and continued commitment to excellence!

SUSTAINABLE SERVICES & BUDGETING

Adoption of Resolution Authorizing Sale of Former Sheriff's Office Property

The Board adopted Resolution 2026-38, authorizing the sale of the former Sheriff's Office property located at 4012 West Lafayette Street (Highway 90) in Marianna to Stillwater Ministries for $500,000.

The resolution formally approved the sale of the approximately 6.33-acre property, which the County previously designated as surplus and determined was no longer needed for County operations. The Board had already approved and executed the purchase agreement, with the resolution providing the necessary authorization to move forward with closing.

As part of the agreement, the County will retain an easement to maintain access to the communications tower located on the property, ensuring continued access to essential public safety communications infrastructure. The sale will return the former government facility to private use while generating revenue for the County and potentially adding the property back to the local tax base.

SUSTAINABLE SERVICES & BUDGETING

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Public Hearing Scheduled for Proposed Telecommunications Tower on Dickson Road

The Board approved to schedule a public hearing for December 8, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., to consider a proposed wireless telecommunications tower on Dickson Road in unincorporated Jackson County.

The request involves Freebird Communications IV's proposal to construct a 250-foot-tall telecommunications tower with an additional 5-foot lightning rod on privately owned property leased from Jimmie and Patricia Williams. The proposed site is located approximately 0.23 miles south of the intersection of Oscar Road and Dickson Road, on the east side of Dickson Road. The Jackson County Planning Commission reviewed the application on November 2 and recommended approval.

The proposed facility would support wireless communications infrastructure and is subject to County development regulations, including requirements for setbacks, landscaping, security, and applicable permits. The Board's November 10 action established the public hearing date but did not authorize construction of the tower. The December 8 hearing will provide an opportunity for public input before Commissioners consider final approval of the proposed development.



VIBRANT & GROWING ECONOMY

Schedule Change for November 24 Commission Meeting

The Board approved changing the time of its regularly scheduled November 24, 2026, meeting from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. The proposed adjustment was intended to better accommodate the Thanksgiving holiday schedule while maintaining the Board's regular meeting date.



Great Oaks Concessionaire Selection

The Board approved the selection of Charlene Trickey-Durham and Travis Durham as the preferred concessionaire operators for Historic Great Oaks in Greenwood, authorizing County staff to begin contract negotiations for the management and operation of the historic property.

The recommendation followed a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process that received two submissions. A review committee consisting of Interim Tourist Development Council Director Chastity Sheffield, Administrative Services Director Lynsey Darragh, and District 3 Commissioner Paul Donofro Jr. evaluated the proposals and recommended the highest-ranked submission.

The Durhams' proposal outlines a vision to preserve the historic character of Great Oaks while expanding its use as a destination for weddings, private celebrations, community gatherings, and historic tourism. Plans include maintaining public access through free historic tours,

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offering event rentals, and promoting the property to attract visitors and support local businesses.

The Board's approval authorizes negotiations rather than finalizing a concessionaire agreement. Specific operating terms, financial arrangements, and responsibilities will be determined through the negotiation process. The goal is to establish a sustainable operating model that protects this County-owned historic landmark while creating new opportunities for tourism and community engagement.



VIBRANT & GROWING ECONOMY

Approval of FY 2026-2027 Budget Amendments

The Board approved a series of amendments to the Fiscal Year 2026–2027 County Budget, aligning funding with previously approved capital projects, departmental needs, and adjustments to constitutional officers' budgets.

The amendments incorporate funding for capital projects approved during the Board's October 27 meeting, including investments in roads, Fire Rescue, information technology, water infrastructure, and County facilities. The amendments also reflect the transfer of Animal Control Services to the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, including a $229,302 budget allocation to support the transition.

Additional adjustments include $30,060 for the Property Appraiser's Office and $942 for the Tax Collector's Office, primarily reflecting state-mandated salary changes and related personnel costs. The amendments also provide for maintenance, equipment, and operational needs across several County departments.



SUSTAINABLE SERVICES & BUDGETING

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LEGEND:



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