

**MINUTES**  
**Bleckley County Commissioner Meeting**  
**Bleckley County JC Building**  
**Thursday, April 17, 2025 – 10:00 a.m.**

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Mike Davis, Magistrate Judge Rob Grimsley, Candace Summerall, Derrick Bowen, Ronnie Smith, Randy Thompson, Cindy Newman, Russell Davidson, Sheriff Daniel Cape, Jeff Simpson, County Attorney Brian Arnold, Matt Kelley, Allen Yawn, John Jacobs, Melissa Barker, Richard Newbern, John Roland, Freida Dykes

Commissioner Davis opened in prayer.

Commissioner Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance, and welcomed all to the meeting.

All attendees received the following:

Minutes – March 20, 2025 - County Commissioner Meeting

There were no questions or concerns. The Minutes were approved.

**Topics discussed from Commissioner Davis**

A new Ordinance is being written to stop businesses and citizens placing road signs on the right of way.

Becky Holland was appointed to the Library Board. Her term will begin July 1, 2025 and expire on June 30, 2029.

Russell Davidson Day will be held on May 14th, 2025 at the Courthouse.

**Topics discussed in today's meeting**

Sheriff Cape stated the Sheriff's office is fully staffed. Handguns were purchased for all the deputies, and the fundraiser to benefit the children's home will be held on July 31, 2025. Nick Zachman is the point of contact for the fundraiser. Sheriff Cape said new vehicles are in the budget at the end of the year.

Rob Grimsley gave a report on how many cases he had for the quarter and said Dennis Mullis is now working as a part-time Magistrate Judge.

Derrick Bowen states he is busy working production season and David Hall continues to work with the Irrigation Program.

Randy Thompson stated MGSU is hosting a lunch and learn session beginning in June for the Sheriff's office. A pavilion is being built near the Hendricks House, and Dr. Blake gave a very good presentation on WWI.

Melissa Barker invited all to the Community Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by Bryant Health and Rehab. She announced all upcoming activities.

Candace Summerall stated Trish Gardner won the run-off election held on April 15, 2025. She invited all to the ribbon cutting of the new city park, and the next Collaborative Meeting will be held on April 21, 2025, at the Courthouse.

John Roland said a lot is going on at the hospital. They are renovating the front lobby and adding a new data center. He is currently looking to purchase for a new generator. Commissioner Davis announced John Roland's new title as CEO of Bleckley Memorial Hospital.

Matt Kelley went over his monthly report. The fire department will have a practice house burn across the street from Station 7. The roads in the area will be closed during the practice. A fence was installed around the helicopter pad at the hospital. Flood gates have been installed at Dykes Landing to close the area when flooded. He reported 32 building permits have been submitted this month.

Ronnie Smith said the road department is finishing up with replacing the pipe at the recreation department and will start working on upgrading some of the roads.

Allen Yawn gave an update on the recreation department. The baseball and softball all-star games will begin soon. Soccer opening day is Monday, April 28th, and a wrestling camp will be held in July.

John Jacobs attended the meeting and was concerned with compost left on the side of the roadway and suggested a dumpster at the transfer station to put the compost in. This will help improve the right of way.

Russell Davidson announced the opening of the Farmer's Market for the year. It will begin on May 3rd, in front of the courthouse, from 8:00 to 12:00. This is the 15th year of the Farmer's Market.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

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Mike Davis, County Commissioner

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Date

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Cindy Newman, Finance Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date