

Liberty County, FL

Liberty County Board of County Commissioners - Regular Meeting

Thursday, February 5, 2026 at 6:00 pm

ZOOM LINK AND CALL IN NUMBER

Time: Feb 5, 2026 06:00 PM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87999060146?pwd=INuBdPmGkvVymrFzwZIEd91RvPV4Iv.1>

Meeting ID: 879 9906 0146

Passcode: 088615

One tap mobile

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Join instructions

[https://us02web.zoom.us/join/87999060146/invitations?signature=A0q-1IJ-](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/87999060146/invitations?signature=A0q-1IJ-BjEx473tLki5Yx96cfDoGWAvmPmmpjKyvBnl)

[BjEx473tLki5Yx96cfDoGWAvmPmmpjKyvBnl](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/87999060146/invitations?signature=A0q-1IJ-BjEx473tLki5Yx96cfDoGWAvmPmmpjKyvBnl)

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Invocation**
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4. Awards and Recognitions**
- 5. Audience Concerns**

Public comment shall be limited to three minutes per person. Topics to be addressed by speakers should pertain to items on the agenda. Comments shall be directed to the chair and not be directed to engage commissioners or other members of the public in debate. Speakers may not give their time to other people.

COUNTY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Monthly Department Briefing

- Brian Eddins – Fire Control Coordinator
 - Mr. Brian shared that Panama City has offered to donate a fire truck to the county. The truck is in good condition and is expected to pass the pump test. Panama City will vote on the donation at its February 12 meeting.
- Marie Arick – Extension Director
 - Mrs. Marie updated on recent and upcoming student activities. Sixteen students attended the Capitol, where they met with Jim Patronis and discussed Liberty County, providing strong representation. It was also noted that a trip to Washington, D.C. is planned during which five students will present at a workshop. Additionally, a senior team will travel to Tampa next

weekend to compete in the State Fair food challenge. If the team places first, they will qualify to advance to the national competition at the State Fair of Texas in Dallas.

- Deanna Bryant – Recreation Director
 - Not in attendance, but Boo Bryant updated on her behalf.
 - Mr. Boo provided an update on lighting issues at Veterans Park. Several lights fell, with one crossarm reusable and the other damaged beyond repair due to internal rust not visible from the outside. The area has been roped off due to safety concerns. It was noted that similar failures may exist on other poles, creating potential risk with upcoming ball season and increased public use.
 - A lift capable of reaching up to 120 feet is needed to safely inspect and address the remaining poles; however, availability is limited. Discussion included renting a lift to inspect all poles and potentially replace deteriorated bolts to improve safety, rather than continuing repeated temporary repairs.
 - The board was reminded that a Veterans Park grant (over \$1 million) was largely intended to replace the lighting system, but grant funds cannot yet be used due to required environmental review and state approvals. Clerk Ford is actively working with Tallahassee to seek authorization to use grant funds for emergency repairs. If not approved, county funds may be required at an estimated cost of approximately \$2,500 per pole.
 - Boo and Clerk Ford emphasized the urgency of addressing the issue for public safety and requested direction from the board, noting that efforts are being made to resolve the problem in the most cost-effective way while avoiding unnecessary duplication of work prior to the grant project moving forward.
- Melissa Peddie – Ambulance Director
 - On Agenda
- Cole Maloy – Solid Waste Director
 - Cole Maloy provided an update regarding the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day scheduled for Saturday, April 4, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Items to be accepted include chemicals, old paint, gasoline, and batteries.
 - Discussion followed regarding the use and placement of flashing signs to help advertise the event throughout the county. It was noted that multiple departments have flashing signs available, and coordination with Mr. Ben and Boo was suggested to place them in strategic locations to increase visibility.
- Boo Bryant – Road and Bridge Superintendent
 - Mr. Boo Bryant provided updates on current road maintenance efforts, including grading and drainage improvements. Recent work has performed well despite heavy rainfall, and crews continue to address areas incrementally across the community.
 - A concern was raised by Chairman Branch regarding activity at Rock Bluff, specifically near the restroom building. Questions were asked about whether work crews or inmates were using the restroom facility, as they should only be using the restroom on the trailer. An incident involving an unknown individual at the site prompted additional concern. It was discussed that locks may be installed on the restroom doors, with keys provided to authorized users such as the fire department and county staff, to prevent unauthorized access while keeping the facility usable.
 - Additional discussion included a reported issue at Johnson's Crossing near the branch, where repeated work has not resolved a larger underlying problem.
 - Additional discussion included a reported beaver issue at Johnson's Crossing near the branch, where repeated work has not resolved the problem.
 - Boo shared that DOT provided 5 flashing solar-powered stop signs. Proposed locations to place the new signage included Blue Creek, County Road 20, County Road 12 (cutoff), the Y intersection, and along County Road 67/State Road 67.
- Monica Welles – Transit Director

- Not in attendance.
- Holly Shuler - Building Department
 - Not in attendance.
- Ben Guthrie – Emergency Management Director
 - Not in attendance.
- Kaly Barfield – Grants and Special Projects Coordinator
 - Kaly reported that bids for administrative and engineering services for the Veterans Park project are due March 3. The board approved forming a three-member committee (Mr. Boo, Mrs. Marie, and Mrs. Lisa) to open and score the bids, with a recommendation to be presented at the March 5 meeting.
 - Updates were also provided on the Rock Bluff Community Center, which is nearing completion and will have a final walkthrough and ribbon cutting. Biweekly EMS building meetings are ongoing, the County Road 67 project design is complete and moving toward construction, and the EMS project is expected to take approximately one year.
- County Engineer - Dewberry
 - Not in attendance.
- Code Enforcement - Adam Walker
 - Not in attendance.
 - Clerk Ford gave an update on Mr. Walker's behalf regarding county code enforcement and public safety concerns. It was noted that there is currently no ordinance prohibiting overnight camping at county parks or other county property. Several instances of transient individuals camping, building fires, and using power at county facilities were reported, particularly at Rock Bluff and the Bristol boat landing. It was suggested that an ordinance be drafted or amended to prohibit unauthorized camping on all county property to provide enforcement authority.
 - Additional code enforcement issues were discussed regarding trash and fencing ordinances. Some property owners are bypassing existing requirements by using inadequate fencing materials, which reduces enforceability. It was recommended that the ordinance be revised to specify fence types and standards to give enforcement personnel clearer authority.
 - Clerk Ford proposed working with Mr. Walker and other relevant parties to review and strengthen the ordinances, including addressing specific problem properties on Highway 65. The board was asked to confirm agreement with reviewing and updating these ordinances to improve enforcement and public safety.

6. Motion to Amend Agenda

7. Adoption of the Agenda

8. Motion to Approve Consent Items

CONSENT ITEMS

9. Motion to Approve Board Minutes

Attachments:

- **Jan. 8th 2026 - Regular Meeting Minutes Draft** (Jan._8th_2026_-_Regular_Meeting_Minutes_Draft.docx)

10. Motion for the Clerk to Pay the Bills

Attachments:

- **Check Warrants 01-26** (Check_Warrants_01-26.pdf)
- **Warrant List 01-26** (Warrant_List_01-26.pdf)

11. Letters of Support

12. Human Resource Management

New Hires
Resignations
Retirements

Attachments:

- **HR - Update** (HR_-_Update.docx)
- **Presidents Day - 2026** (Presidents_Day_-_2026.docx)
- **Resignation - H Shuler** (Resignation_-_H_Shuler.pdf)

13. Next Month Meeting Schedule

- Next regular BOCC Meeting to be held on March 5th, 2026, at 6:00 PM EST.

14. Monica Welles - Updated Transit 2nd Chance Policy

- BOCC to consider the updated Liberty County Transit 2nd Chance policy.

Attachments:

- **2026-FDOT-Second-Chance-Drug-Alcohol-Policy-2026** (2026-FDOT-Second-Chance-Drug-Alcohol-Policy-2026.docx)

15. Emergency Management - Generator Project

- BOCC to consider an agreement and contract for the state-funded generator project for the Hosford and Tolar generators.

Attachments:

- **T0401 State Executed** (T0401_State_Executed.pdf)
- **contract** (contract.docx)

16. Emergency Management - Extension of Interlocal Agreement

- BOCC to consider an addendum that extends the interlocal agreement with the Liberty County School District to ensure ongoing emergency shelter services for individuals and families in need.

Attachments:

- **EXTENSION OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY SHELTER SERVICES** (EXTENSION_OF_INTERLOCAL_AGREEMENT_TO_PROVIDE_EMERGENCY_SHELTER_SERVICES.docx)
- **Interlocal Agreement** (Interlocal_Agreement.pdf)

17. Chamber of Commerce - Banquet Fees

- BOCC to consider waiving the Civic Center rental fee for the Chamber of Commerce Banquet

ACTION ITEMS

18. FY 25-26 Resolution 2026-02 (BR#5)

- BOCC to consider Resolution 2026-02 (BR#5). Resolution to increase the Supervisor of Elections budget.

Attachments:

- **BR #5 Quote** (BR_5_Quote.pdf)
- **FY2526_BR#5 2026-02** (FY2526_BR_5_2026-02.pdf)

19. FY 25-26 Resolution 2026-03 (BR#6)

- BOCC will consider Resolution 2026-03 (BR #6). The resolution states that the grant award from FDLE has been received, and the budget for the jail project will increase.

Attachments:

- **BX001 Contract signed.** (BX001_Contract_signed..pdf)
- **FY2526_BR#6 2026-03** (FY2526_BR_6_2026-03.pdf)

20. Culpepper - Change Order #17

- BOCC to consider change order #17, which corrects errors in previous change orders and reflects the new contract sum.

Attachments:

- **22063- CO #17** (22063-_CO_17.pdf)

21. Culpepper - Change Order #18

- BOCC to consider change order #18 that corrects an error in OCO 14 DPO 5 being incorrectly applied to the contract sum.

Attachments:

- **OCO 18 AIA Adjustment for Markup LC Jail** (OCO_18_AIA_Adjustment_for_Markup_LC_Jail.pdf)

22. Culpepper - Change Order #19

- BOCC to consider change order #19 for the construction of the Phase 2 Housing Pod Addition.

Attachments:

- **Liberty County Jail Phase 2 - Proposal Letter** (Liberty_County_Jail_Phase_2_-_Proposal_Letter.pdf)
- **OCO 19 ICE Addition - LC Jail** (OCO_19_ICE_Addition_-_LC_Jail.pdf)

23. School Zone Camera Proposals

- BOCC to consider Altumint and RedSpeed school zone camera proposals.

Attachments:

- **FL - Liberty County - Cooperative Purchasing-Lake Wales Rider 1.26.2026** (FL_-_Liberty_County_-_Cooperative_Purchasing-Lake_Wales_Rider_1.26.2026.pdf)
- **Liberty County Commission Meeting updated for Feb. 5th 2026** (Liberty_County_Commission_Meeting_updated_for_Feb._5th_2026.pptx)
- **Red Speed Liberty County Contract** (Red_Speed_Liberty_County_Contract.pdf)

24. HWY 12 S - Resolution 2026-04

- BOCC to consider agreement and resolution for HWY 12 S sidewalk project.

Attachments:

- **455235-1_Off System Project Maintenance Agreement_LEGAL FINAL** (455235-1_Off_System_Project_Maintenance_Agreement_LEGAL_FINAL.doc)
- **455235-1_Off System Project Maintenance Resolution_LEGAL FINAL** (455235-1_Off_System_Project_Maintenance_Resolution_LEGAL_FINAL.docx)

25. Little Gully Creek - Resolution 2026-05

- BOCC to consider Resolution 2026-05 for Little Gully Creek bridge repairs.

Attachments:

- **CR 12 Little Gully Creek Bridge Repair B-SCOP - Task Order** (CR_12_Little_Gully_Creek_Bridge_Repair_B-SCOP_-_Task_Order.PDF)

- **Resolution 2026-5 CR 12 Little Gully Creek Bridge Repair (457419-1-54-01) - Resolution** (Resolution_2026-5_CR_12_Little_Gully_Creek_Bridge_Repair_(457419-1-54-01)_-Resolution.docx)

26. FDOT Roadways - Resolution 2026-06

- BOCC to consider resolution 2026-06 for the FDOT Roadways Grant.

Attachments:

- **2026 FDOT Liberty County - Resolution** (2026_FDOT_Liberty_County_-_Resolution.docx)

27. Melissa Peddie - Rock Bluff Polling Building

- Mrs. Melissa Peddie to discuss the Rock Bluff polling building with the BOCC.

28. Charles Stewart - Annual IT Exercise

- Charles Stewart to discuss with the BOCC the scheduling of the annual IT and Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise.

29. Stan Whittaker - Old Sheriff's Office

- Mr. Stan Whittaker would like to talk with the BOCC about opening a clinic in the old sheriff's office.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

30. Dewayne Branch, Commissioner - District 1

31. Hannah Causseaux, Chairwoman - District 2

- Nothing to discuss.

32. Jim Johnson, Vice Chairman - District 3

33. Doyle Brown, Commissioner - District 4

34. Derrick Arnold, Commissioner - District 5

35. Ken Hosford, County Attorney

36. Dusty Arnold, Liberty County Sheriff

37. Jace Ford, Liberty County Clerk of Court and Clerk to the Board

38. Motion to Adjourn

39. Signature

- Dewayne Branch, Chairman _____
- Jace Ford, Clerk _____

Florida Statute 125.001 requires that due public notice be given of all regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners of a County in the State of Florida. Florida Statute 286.0105 requires that notices of any meeting or hearing, if a meeting or hearing is required, must include the following language, "if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing he will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based."

Contact: Jace Ford (jford@libertyclerk.com (850) 643-2215) | Agenda published on 01/30/2026 at 3:28 PM