Warren County Board of Commissioners
Regular Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, July 14, 2026
4:00 p.m.

The Warren County Board of Commissioners met for their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. This meeting was held at the Warren County Community Service Building located at 48 Warren Street.

Call Meeting to Order
Chairman Graham called the meeting to order.

Prayer
Commissioner Burley led the prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

County Clerk, Porsha Johnson did roll call. The following were present.

- ✓ John R. Graham, Chairman
- ✓ Richard Burley, Jr., Commissioner District 1
- ✓ Allen L. Troy, Commissioner District 2

Staff Attending:

Jeffrey Fowler, Community Relations & Project Director
Danyelle Rus, Technology Director
Porsha Johnson, County Clerk

Guest Attending:

Tammy Carden
Kay Debeaugrine
Diane Whitaker
Gloria Parker
Adam Heagy, Ogeechee River Keepers
Quamid Green

Approval of Minutes June 2026:
Commissioner Burley made a motion to approve June 2026 minutes and dispense with the reading of them. Commissioner Troy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Finance Report for June 2026:
County Clerk, Porsha Johnson read the Finance Report for June 2026.

A copy of this report will be placed in the Attachments to the 2026 Minutes.

DHS Coordinated Transportation System Agreement – Verida
Chairman Graham announced that the Regional Commission is no longer responsible for coordinating transportation services within the transit system. The contracted provider has been transitioned to Verida. The state has an agreement with Verida to administer the coordinating transportation services in our area. Warren County will be the subrecipient for this service in Warren County. Reimbursement will be received based on the contract rate and the number of transports completed for senior citizens.

Commissioner Burley made a motion to approve the DHS Coordinated Transportation Agreement. Commissioner Troy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

A copy of this Agreement will be placed in the Attachments to the 2026 minutes.

DFACS Board Appointment
Chairman Graham informed the Board that Ms. Naheede Brooks, a former member of the DFACS Board submitted her resignation. Therefore, we now need to appoint a new member to complete the unexpired term. Chair Graham had the pleasure of speaking with Mrs. B.J. Evans, who has expressed willingness to serve.

Commissioner Troy made a motion to appoint Mrs. B.J. Evans to the DFACS Board. Commissioner Burley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Mrs. B.J. Evans – Unexpired Term Ending June 30, 2029

Chairman Graham informed the Board that Mrs. Linda Story's term as a DFACS Board member has expired. As a result, we will need to either reappoint Mrs. Story or consider appointing a new individual. Chair Graham had the pleasure of speaking with Mrs. Story, and she expressed her willingness to continue serving on the Board.

Commissioner Troy made a motion to reappoint Mrs. Mrs. Linda Story to the DFACS Board. Commissioner Burley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Linda Story – Term Expires June 30, 2031

Library Board Appointment
Chairman Graham shared with the Board the heartbreaking news of Mrs. Dorothy Boartwright's passing on June 7, 2026— a beloved and dedicated member of the Warren County Library Board whose unwavering commitment was greatly appreciated. As a result, we will need to appoint a new board member. Chair Graham spoke with Mrs. Rochelle Carter, who has generously expressed her willingness to serve. He recommends appointing Mrs. Carter.

Commissioner Burley made a motion to appoint Mrs. Rochelle Carter to the Library Board. Commissioner Troy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Rochelle Carter – Unexpired Term Ending June 30, 2029

PTRLOST
Chairman Graham informed the Board that PTRLOST was previously referred to as FLOST (HB581). It was placed on the ballot for the November 2025 election and received approval in Warren County with a vote of 73.17% in favor. With passage by the voters' collections started on January 1, 2026, for this sales tax in Warren County. The taxes will be collected and disbursed to Warren County and then the county will disburse the appropriate amounts to the county, and each city based the approved intergovernmental agreement. The funds can only be used to roll back millage rate on property taxes.

The FLOST was changed by the state to PTRLOST—Property Tax Relief Lost. Funds received from January through June 30, 2026, totaled $336,359.63 and will be allocated to the county and three participating cities solely for the purpose of the rollback.

The cities and county are scheduled to receive their respective allocations no later than Friday, July 17, 2026. The allocation percentages for the county and the three cities are included in the table below.

Warren County	86.1%
City of Camak	1.4%
City of Norwood	1.1%
City of Warrenton	11.4%

No Action Taken

SPLOST 2027-2032
Chairman Graham informed the Board that the current SPLOST (2022-2027) is scheduled to end on June 30, 2027. Therefore, approval will be required for the new SPLOST covering the period from 2027-2032. Please note that SPLOST funds are allocated exclusively for capital projects. Additionally, the Board of Commissioners conducted a joint meeting with representatives from the three cities on June 18, 2026, during which a detailed explanation was provided regarding the operation of the SPLOST and the distribution of funds among various departments. The proposed allocation is as follows: Economic Development will receive 10%, Recreation 10%, Water and Sewer 40%, and Emergency Services 40%.

- **Resolution #2026-07-01**
  Commissioner Troy made a motion to adopt Resolution #2026-07-01. Commissioner Burley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.
- **Resolution #2026-07-02**
  Commissioner Burley made a motion to adopt Resolution #2026-07-02. Commissioner Troy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

A copy of Resolution #2026-07-01 and Resolution #2026-07-02 will be placed in the Attachments to the 2026 Minutes.

Intergovernmental Agreement
Chairman Graham informed the Board that the Intergovernmental Agreement has been in use for several years. It authorizes a one percent (1%) County SPLOST to finance capital outlay projects benefiting the County and qualified municipalities, as well as to retire existing general obligation debt of the County and qualified municipalities. The County and municipalities met on June 18, 2026, to discuss potential projects for the SPLOST and the possibility of including it on November 3, 2026, ballot. Chairman Graham provided additional details regarding the proposed allocation of funds: 40% for water and sewer projects, 40% for emergency services, 10% for recreation, and 10% for economic development. He emphasized that all these areas are important; however, water and sewer infrastructure and emergency services are expected to require a greater share of the funding.

Commissioner Troy made a motion to approve the 2027 Intergovernmental Agreement. Commissioner Burley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

A copy of this agreement will be placed in the Attachments to the 2026 Minutes.

Zoom Telcom Internet
Chairman Graham announced that Warren County plans to establish internet service along the eastern region of the county. Approximately one year ago, he was informed that Soom Telcom received a grant to support this project in sections of Warren County. It is anticipated that work will start soon. He stated additional updates will come in the future.

No Action Taken

New 911/EOC Building
Chairman Graham provided an update on the 911/EOC Building project. He informed the Board that construction has started, with site clearing completed. The proof roll of the site was scheduled, but due to recent rain, it will be postponed until Friday, June 17, 2026. The project is progressing as planned and is expected to be completed by April 2027. Upon completion, a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house will be organized with the help of Warren County's Chamber of Commerce staff.

No Action Taken

Emerging Technology Ordinance
Chairman Graham informed the Board that, during last month's meeting, the potential adoption of an Emerging Technology Ordinance was discussed. The draft of the ordinance is a work in progress, and the county attorney is currently reviewing it. The ordinance will need to be presented to both the Planning Commission and the Board of Commissioners. It is anticipated that the ordinance will be completed and ready for review by the Planning Commission during their meetings scheduled for August or September. The purpose of this ordinance is to amend the Warren County Land Use Ordinance to address Emerging Technology Projects, including cryptocurrency facilities, data centers, power storage facilities, research and development facilities, and solar energy collection facilities. If approved, and if ever required for legal purposes, the ordinance will provide a comprehensive framework to address these projects.

No Action Taken

Chairman Graham informed the Board that he had received notification regarding the upcoming closure of Asama Coldwater Manufacturing (ACM) located at 975 Thomson Highway, Warrenton, GA, scheduled for the end of the year. He indicated that this action will be a full and permanent shutdown of the site. The first layoffs are scheduled to begin September 18, 2026, or within a 14-day window starting on that day. The full facility closure is expected to be December 31, 2026. He noted that 107 employees will be affected by this closure. ACM filed an official notice with the Technical College System of Georgia State Rapid Response Unit to ensure that dislocated worker services and career transition resources are made available to their employees. It is the Board's hope that the facility and its operations will be purchased by new owners, as the property is currently being listed for sale.

Citizens Comments
Chairman Graham thanked all the citizens for attending the meeting and asked if anyone had any questions or concerns. Chairman Graham opened the floor.

Jeffrey Fowler, Community Relations & Project Director, kindly reminded all citizens of upcoming events scheduled for 2026. The Ice Cream Social will take place on August 1, 2026, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm and the Turtle Feast is scheduled for September 5, 2026.

Dialogue took place between the citizens and the commissioners.

Credit Card bill was reviewed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

John R. Graham, Chairman

Porsha Johnson, County Clerk