



Hart County Board of Commissioners

Tuesday September 22, 2026

6:00 p.m.

Hart County Administrative and Emergency Services Center

1. PRAYER
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. CALL TO ORDER
4. WELCOME
5. APPROVE AGENDA
6. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)
 - 09/08/2026 Regular Meeting
 - 09/08/2026 Called Meeting
7. REMARKS BY INVITED GUESTS, COMMITTEES, AUTHORITIES
Hart County IBA Update, Terri Partain, Director
Hart County W&S Update, Charles Cawthon, Director
8. REPORTS BY CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS & DEPARTMENT HEADS
Frankie Gray, Clerk of Court
Mike Adams, EMS Director - **REMOVED**
9. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
10. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
11. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS
12. OLD BUSINESS
 - a) Amendment to Chapter 6 Article I (Kratom) (3rd and Final Reading)
 - b) Bid Opening Basketball Uniforms
 - c) Public Hearing for FY 27 GF Budget
 - d) FY 27 GF Budget Approval
 - e) Tax Year 26 LOST Millage Rollback Rate (Draft Approval) (Tentative)
 - f) Tax Year 26 County Wide Millage Rate (Draft Approval) (Tentative)
 - g) Transfer Station Rates
13. NEW BUSINESS
 - a) Advertisement for Applications for Upcoming Vacancy on Water and Sewer Authority Board
14. PUBLIC COMMENT
15. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Litigation – Personnel – Real Estate
16. ADJOURNMENT

HART COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Sept 22, 2026
6:00 PM

Hart County Board of Commissioners met Sept 22, 2026, at the Hart County Administrative and Emergency Services Center.

Chairman Marshall Sayer presided with Commissioners Michael Bennett, Frankie Teasley, Jeff Brown, and Joey Dorsey present at the meeting.

1. PRAYER

Chairman Marshall Sayer offered prayer.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood in observance of the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sayer called the meeting to order.

4. WELCOME

Chairman Sayer welcomed all those in attendance via in person, HTC Channel 3, and Board of Commissioners YouTube site.

5. APPROVE AGENDA

Commissioner Bennett moved to amend and approve the agenda. Commissioner Teasley provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

6. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

09/08/2026 Regular Meeting

09/08/2026 Called Meeting

Commissioner Teasley moved to approve the 09/08/2026 Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Bennett provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Bennett moved to approve the 09/08/2026 Called Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Brown provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

7. REMARKS BY INVITED GUESTS, COMMITTEES, AUTHORITIES

Hart Conty IBA Updates, Terri Partain, Director

Hart County W&S Update, Charles Cawthon, Director

IBA Director, Terri Partain, presented its annual report, highlighting support for existing-industry expansion, workforce development, site readiness, and increased visibility with regional and state partners. Existing industry remained the authority's top priority. Workforce initiatives included advancing the Hart County Workforce Task Force through the Archway Partnership and launching the Hart Connects educator externship.

Mr. Cawthon reported that the Water Authority had established standard operating procedures covering initial response, communications, operations, customer support, recovery, and after-action review. He also discussed a recent lightning-related break in a 12-inch water main and

thanked Water Authority staff, contractors, and 911 personnel for their prompt assistance. He stated that the Water and Sewer Authority recently applied for a grant that would strengthen communication, system resilience, drought and emergency-response planning, GIS mapping, and field access to system information. Mr. Cawthon also gave updates on future expansions.

8. REPORTS BY CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS & DEPARTMENT HEADS

Frankie Gray, Clerk of Court

Mike Adams, EMS Director - **REMOVED**

Clerk of Court Frankie Gray presented a plaque to Ms. Connie Brown for her 30 years of dedicated service to the Clerk of Courts office and the citizens of Hart County.

9. COUNTY ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

None.

10. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Sayer thanked all county elected officials and department heads for being reasonable and frugal with the taxpayers money.

11. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Bennett thanked all county employees for all that they do.

Commissioner Teasley thanked all county employees and all military past present and future.

Commissioner Brown requested from County Administrator Terrell Partain a breakdown of the total spent on each repair and improvement that has been done at each of the fire stations.

Commissioner Dorsey also thanked the Elected Officials, Department Heads and county employees for how well each handles the taxpayers money. Asked County Administrator Terrell Partain to send a letter to the City concerning the water line issue on Ridge Road.

12. OLD BUSINESS

a) Amendment to Chapter 6 Article I (Kratom) (3rd and Final Reading)

Commissioner Bennett moved to adopt and approve the 3rd and final reading of the Amendment to Chapter 6 Article I (Kratom) Ordinance. Commissioner Brown provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

b) Bid Opening Basketball Uniforms

Commissioner Dorsey moved to turn the bids, except for the bid from Go Sports USA, which was received after the deadline, over to the County Administrator, Public Works Director and Recreation Director for their recommendation. Commissioner Bennett provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

c) Public Hearing for FY 27 GF Budget

County Administrator Terrell Partain went over the draft FY 27 GF and special purpose budgets. He also announced there would be a Called meeting Oct 1 at 1:00pm to approve the budget.

d) FY 27 GF Budget Approval

Commissioner Bennett moved to approve the Draft GF FY 27 M&O Budget and for County Administrator Terrell Partain to move forward with advertising. Commissioner Teasley provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

e) Tax Year 26 LOST Millage Rollback Rate (Draft Approval) (Tentative)

Commissioner Dorsey moved to approve the Draft Tax Year 26 LOST Millage Rollback Rate of 2.235 mills (Draft Approval) (Tentative). Commissioner Brown provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

f) Tax Year 26 County Wide Millage Rate (Draft Approval) (Tentative)

Commissioner Bennett moved to approve the Tax Year 26 Draft County Wide Millage Rate of 3.892. Commissioner Brown provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

County Administrator Terrell Partain expressed appreciation to Tax Commissioner Karen Martin and Chief Tax Appraiser Shane Hix

g) Transfer Station Rates

Commissioner Brown moved to no longer take any yard waste at the Transfer Station. The motion died for the lack of a second.

Commissioner Brown moved for the following rates for the Transfer Station to be effective October 1, 2026:

Solid Waste: Local \$60/ton Out of Town \$250/ton Commercial \$100/ton
Yard Waste: Local \$60/ton Out of Town \$100/ton

Chairman Sayer provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

13. NEW BUSINESS

a) Advertisement for Applications for Upcoming Vacancy on Water & Sewer Authority Board

Chairman Sayer moved to advertise for the upcoming vacancy on the Water & Sewer Authority Board to complete the remaining term of Commissioner Elect Patti York. The term expires March 1, 2030. Commissioner Teasley provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

14. PUBLIC COMMENT

Leah Tolbert of Hart Hope and Freedom requested funds from the Opioid settlement funds for her recovery community organization.

Chairman Sayer stated that at this time the Board does not know how the money is to be dispersed legally.

County Attorney Kim Higginbotham stated that she would research the legal requirements for distributing the funds and report her findings to the Board.

Commissioner Dorsey expressed that the Board is going to do what is right and best for Hart County based on regulations and the advice of legal counsel.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Litigation – Personnel – Real Estate

Commissioner Bennett moved to exit the Regular Meeting and enter Executive Session Litigation – Personnel – Real Estate. Commissioner Teasley provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Bennett moved to exit Executive Session and reconvened the regular meeting. Commissioner Teasley provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Dorsey moved to authorize County Administrator Terrell Partin to pay public safety employees for leave, consistent with prior years. Commissioner Brown provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Bennett moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Teasley provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

Marshall Sayer, Chairman

Lisa Evans, County Clerk