

HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Commission Chamber, Room 215, Harris County Courthouse
REGULAR SESSION
January 6, 2026
6:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Rob Grant, Susan Andrews, Bobby Irions, Greg Gantt, Scott Lightsey. Staff Present: Clark Harrell, County Manager; Russell Britt, County Attorney; Andrea Dzioba, County Clerk; Brian Williams, Community Development Director.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Grant called the Regular Session to order at 6:30 p.m.

Chairman Grant stated that he hoped that everyone had a good Christmas and a Happy New Year.

2. **INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Vice-Chair Andrews gave the invocation. Chairman Grant led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **MINUTES** The motion to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2025 Regular Session was made by Commissioner Lightsey, seconded by Vice-Chair Andrews, and passed unanimously.

4. **ORGANIZATION OF COMMISSION**

- A. Election of Chairman.
Election of Vice-Chairman.

A motion to appoint Scott Lightsey as Chairman and Bobby Irions as Vice-Chairman was made by Commissioner Grant and failed for a lack of a second.

A motion to appoint Susan Andrews as Chairman and Bobby Irions as Vice-Chairman was made by Commissioner Lightsey, seconded by Commissioner Irions, and passed with four in favor (Andrews, Irions, Gantt, Lightsey) and one opposed (Grant).

Chair Andrews stated that she wanted to thank Commissioner Grant for the last three years and she especially appreciated for all of his hard work when the County was without a County Manager.

- B. Appointment of County Attorney. A motion to reappoint Russell Britt as County Attorney was made by Commissioner Grant, seconded by Commissioner Irions, and passed unanimously.
- C. Appointment of County Clerk. A motion to reappoint Andrea Dzioba as County Clerk was made by Commissioner Lightsey, seconded by Commissioner Irions, and passed unanimously.

5. **APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS**

- A. **Dan McMichael - Sons of the American Revolution 250th Project.** Mr. Dan McMichael, citizen who lives on Sam Jones Road, addressed the Board and discussed the 250th SAR Liberty Tree Program. Mr. McMichael informed the Board that the goal is to plant 250 Liberty Trees for the 250th Anniversary with at least one tree in each state on or before July 4, 2026; that he would like permission to plant a tree at the Library; that it would be an American Princeton Elm Tree; that it would be planted in front of the windows of the children's section of the Library; that the tree has already been purchased and paid for; that he has worked with Alyson Nesnick, Library Director, Jamie Webb, Facility Maintenance Director, and utilities have been checked; and that, if allowed, that a dedication ceremony would be held on February 10, 2026 at 11:30 a.m.

A motion to allow Mr. McMichael to plant a tree at the Library for the 250th SAR Liberty Tree Program was made by Commissioner Grant, seconded by Vice-Chairman Irions, and passed unanimously.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **Appointments to the Planning Commission.** Chair Andrews introduced the item related to the expired terms of the Planning Commission District 1 and District 4 positions and stated that Commissioner Lightsey is recommending the reappointment of Gene Weldon and Vice-Chairman Irions is recommending the reappointment of Tommy Hutcherson. A motion to approve the reappointment of Gene Weldon and Tommy Hutcherson to the Planning Commission for the terms effective from January 1, 2026 until December 31, 2029 was made by Commissioner Gantt, seconded by Vice-Chairman Irions, and passed unanimously.
- B. **Appointment to the Harris County Board of Health.** Chair Andrews introduced the item related to the need for an appointment to the Harris County Board of Health. Chair Andrews stated that Dr. Kimberly Brown-Gullatt, Chief Medical Officer for Valley Healthcare System, Inc., has expressed her willingness to serve on the Harris County Board of Health. A motion to approve the appointment of Dr. Kimberly Brown-Gullatt to the Harris County Board of Health for the unexpired term that expires December 31, 2029 was made by Commissioner Grant, seconded by Commissioner Lightsey, and passed unanimously.

7. **COUNTY MANAGER.**

- A. **County Manager Correspondence.** County Manager Clark Harrell stated that Georgia Power is working on the east embankment at the Bartlett's Ferry Dam; that they began last month and expect to be finished in December; that he has provided the Board with a copy of the bank balances as of today; that he has assurances from Steven Voynich that the audit for FYE 2025 will be presented at the meeting on January 20, 2026; and that a survey crew will begin working on the southern portion of the Man O'War Trail. Discussion included that GDOT is supposed to fix the Man O'War Trail that they encroached upon during their construction and that there is a business just past 315 that is using the Man O'War Trail bed for storage.

8. **COUNTY ATTORNEY.**

- A. **Memorandum of Understanding Between the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia by and on behalf of The University of Georgia Cooperative Extension and Harris County.** County Attorney Russell Britt informed the Board that due to changes in the structure with the AG Agent that there are some required changes to the Memorandum of Understanding and that it will be brought back to them for consideration.

Chair Andrew recessed the meeting at 6:51 p.m. until the 7:00 p.m. public hearing.

Chair Andrews called the meeting back to order at 7:00 p.m.

9. **PUBLIC HEARINGS AT 7:00 P.M.**

- A. **Application of Jamie and Teresa Snider, to rezone 6.4 acres, located on Map 024A, Parcel 006, Land Lot 323, Land District 20th; Rezoning from C-4 (Highway Commercial) with a Special Use Permit to A-1 (Agricultural/Forestry) and removal of Special Use; Current use is R/V and Boat Storage; proposed use is for a residence; property located at 16389 GA Hwy 219, West Point, GA.** Chair Andrews called the Public Hearing to order and introduced the Application of Jamie and Teresa Snider. Mr. Jamie Snider was available to respond to any questions from the Board.

Chair Andrews asked if there was anyone that would like to speak in favor of this application.

There being none, Chair Andrews asked if any one would like to speak in opposition to the application. There being none, Chair Andrews closed the public hearing at 7:02 p.m.

A motion to approve the Application of Jamie and Teresa Snider, to rezone 6.4 acres, located on Map 024A, Parcel 006, Land Lot 323, Land District 20th; Rezoning from C-4 (Highway Commercial) with a Special Use Permit to A-1 (Agricultural/Forestry) and removal of Special Use; Current use is R/V and Boat Storage; proposed use is for a residence; property located at 16389 GA Hwy 219, West Point, GA. with the staff recommended conditions as follows:

1. The applicant shall clarify and demonstrate that the intended setbacks of the proposed residence will comply with the Harris County UDC (Table 4-1: Minimum Development Standards for Lots and Principal Building Setbacks and Height) which requires the following dimensions for buildings constructed in the A-1 zoning classification:
 - a. Minimum lot width at street: 100 feet
 - b. Minimum setbacks:
 - i. Front: 50 feet
 - ii. Side: 20 feet; street side: 50 feet

was made by Commissioner Grant (as corrected to reflect A-1 not A-2 after executive session), seconded by Commissioner Irions, and passed unanimously.

10. **REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Commissioner Grant stated that he had a need for an executive session for personnel.
11. **RECESS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Commissioner Grant made the motion to go into Executive Session for personnel at 7:02 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lightsey, and passed unanimously.
12. **RESUME REGULAR SESSION.** The motion to go back into Regular Session was made at 7:44 p.m. by Commissioner Lightsey, seconded by Vice-Chair Irions, and passed unanimously.
13. **COUNTY MANAGER.** Chair Andrews made a motion to add \$6,000.00 to his base salary effective this pay period and authorize the Chairman to execute the necessary addendum to the contract, seconded by Commissioner Lightsey, and passed unanimously.
14. **ADJOURNMENT.** The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Susan Andrews, Chairman

Attest:

Andrea Dzioba, County Clerk