

LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Workshop Meeting
November 13th, 2025
4:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Chairman Traylor called the Workshop meeting to order at approximately 4:30 p.m. Present for the meeting were: Chairman Ryan Traylor, Vice-Chairman Jarrod Fletcher, Commissioner Jason Lovett, Commissioner Ashley Gilles, Commissioner Truman Boyle, County Administrator Townsend, and County Clerk Davidson.

2. Items for Discussion

i. 2018 Dodge Ram 5500 Duralift 43" Bucket Truck – Public Works

The Board discussed the purchase of a 2018 Dodge Ram 5500 Duralift 43" Bucket Truck to be used by Public Works.

Key points included:

- The vehicle has 95,000 miles.
- 2018 Dodge Ram 5500 Duralift 43" Bucket Truck for a sale price of \$37,000.00
- The boom portion has been recertified, making it suitable for work around power lines.
- The truck has been serviced, though it does not come with a warranty.
- Comparable new bucket trucks cost approximately \$200,000.
- Maintenance and Fire Departments both need trucks, but this particular truck is specifically needed by Public Works.
- Limb overgrowth and roadside vegetation conditions are worsening, increasing the need for a functional bucket truck.
- Jerry Moore has resolved issues with the bush cutter; the truck will complement current equipment.
- Considered the best deal available.
- Truck is expected to pay for itself within eight days of work.
- The older unit is no longer usable and will be surplus through TAC.
- A \$5,000 holding fee is required if not purchased today.

3. Motion

Commissioner Lovett made a motion to approve the purchase of the truck.

Vice-Chairman Fletcher seconded the motion. Commissioner Gilles abstained. The motion passed 3-0.

Regular Business Meeting Discussion

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Invocation

The invocation will be given by Pastor Sam Bennett from Ramah Primitive Baptist Church.

4. Approval of Agenda

5. Certificate of Appreciation – Bill Christopher

6. Presentation – Lamar County Department of Health

7. Board Appointments

Recreation Board Appointment-Christa Newman

8. Minutes Approval

The Board approved the following sets of minutes:

1. Workshop Meeting Minutes – October 16, 2025
2. Budget Workshop Minutes – October 17, 2025
3. Public Hearing Minutes – October 21, 2025
4. Regular Business Meeting Minutes – October 21, 2025

9. Old Business

No items were presented under Old Business.

10. New Business

Planning and Community Development Buice presented the following Ordinance and Resolutions to the Board.

1. Ordinance 2025-20 – Rezoning Request (AR to R-2)

Applicant: Ronald and Gloria Cobb

Location: 1307 McCollum Road

Tax ID: 050 072

The applicant wishes to split 2 acres from a 10 acre tract to build a home. The Lamar County Comprehensive Plan shows this parcel (outlined in blue) as Rural Residential, while neighboring properties are shown as a combination of Rural Residential and Suburban Residential.

2. Ordinance 2025-21 – Rezoning Request (R-3 to Neighborhood Commercial)

Applicant: Justin Laney

Location: Francis Street

Tax ID: 049 095

This application is to request a zoning change from R3 to C1 to allow an office and material yard used in the construction of storage barns. This area is located on a county unpaved road steps from Hwy 36 West and is comprised of a mix of single family homes and duplexes. The Lamar County Comprehensive Plan labels this area as Rural Highway Corridor which asks to limit new commercial development, but if allowed, to have it set back at least 50' from the view of the highway. The original request was denied because it was not a part of the land use plan, it did not come directly off of Hwy 36, and issues with what is happening on the property. The Ordinance has all of the original recommendations and conditions.

Planning and Community Development Director Buice stated that the Rezoning Application from A-R TO M-2 AND C-2 Chapel Mill Industrial LLC was tabled for January and will most likely be heard on January 8th and January 20th. The plan is to host the meeting at the Fine Arts Center.

3. Resolution 2025-22 – Special Exception Application

Applicant: T-Mobile

Location: Crane Road

Tax ID: 010 012

T Mobile Wireless has applied to construct and operate a wireless tower located on Crane Road. The request is for a monopole tower with a height of 145' to be located just north of 253 Crane Road.

4. Beer and Wine License Renewal

Planning and Community Development Director Buice presented the 2026 Beer and Wine Licenses for renewal to the Board.

2026 ALCOHOL LICENSE APPLICANTS				
LICENSE TYPE	NAME	BUSINESS	STREET	ELIGIBILITY
Beer By the Drink	Hugh Mangham	Deer Trail Country Club	1782 Hwy 341 South	MEETS
B/W By the Drink	Jennifer Hovis	Honeywood Gardens	894 Hwy 18 West	MEETS
B/W By the Drink	Ronald L. Horton	The Rendezvous Goodwood LLC	134 Crawford Rd	MEETS
B/W Package	Rujuta Patel	Arihant C Stores I, LLC dba TJ Outfitters	1054 Hwy 36 West	MEETS

Farm Winery	Stephanie Thomas	The Goth Gardener	356 Cook Rd	MEETS
B/W Package	Anitaben Patel	A AND S 2023 LLC dba C&B Store	402 Fredonia Church Rd	MEETS
B/W Package	Sohel Battiwala	Majik Market	919 Veterans Pkwy	MEETS

5. Probation Services Agreement – Judicial Alternatives of Georgia (JAG)

The Board reviewed and considered the agreement with JAG for probation services.

11. Administrator’s Report

- Cold weather has caused delays for C.W. Matthews, pushing paving work to May of next year.
- Updates provided on ongoing projects, including:
 - RFP for Rock Springs/Chappell Mill
 - Work on Atlanta Street continues
 - Coordination with Daniel, EXP, and GDOT

12. Public Comment

Elaine Hallada of 131 Steeple Chase addressed the board:

- Mrs. Hallada expressed frustration regarding an issues with the Comprehensive Plan / Redbone Area and someone that did not like her for a recent vote against a zoning.
- Mrs. Hallada attended the Solid Waste Authority (SWA) Hearing on November 10th, with the Special Master. The concerned citizens were there and after discussion they decided their buzz word of the week regarding this hearing was “Stupid.” She said they either have some previous “stupid” Commissioners that went along with the SWA, and/or they have a Commissioner that signed a quick claim deed. She said as a group, maybe they should not be so “stupid” because that man had 37 years of law experience and was the only one with a brain in that room. Mrs. Hallada said she was being sarcastic but that was ridiculous. She said she does not know how that Special Master did not get really angry with him because when you “show your butt and talk over the guy leading the meeting” that must have left a really bad impression, and the County will benefit from what happened.

13. Round Table

- Commissioner Lovett noted that he was “mean,” to him also but he lived through it.
- Commissioner Boyle addressed concerns about calls he is getting on Camps Road, and trucks going through there and issues with construction on 6th Street. He suggested that

law enforcement patrol the area occasionally. Public Works provided a radar truck in the area and that has helped.

- Public Works Director noted that the Sheriff Office has two new radar machines on trailers that they could possibly use.
- Commissioner Gilles noted that this will not help with the trucks because they will continue to come through there.
- Commissioner Boyle noted that from County Line Road from Pike County all the way to Orchard Hill is no thru trucks. He noted that all of Spalding County is no thru trucks. He said that work people are actually seeing are those that working on the bridge and hauling millings from the bridge over to Swint Road.
- Chairman Traylor noted that Spalding County enforcing "no thru trucks," except for gas trucks. He said there was an issue two years ago and they took the signs down. Then they re-installed the no thru truck signs but last week they took them back down again per the Governor's Office.
- Commissioner Boyle said he understood that trucks can come from Hwy 36 to Hwy 41 and unload, but they cannot go back to Hwy 36. He asked if it was a one way no thru trucks. He said he has had complaints in his District where the trucks cannot go back to Hwy 36 from the plant and they can only go up Hwy 41 through Orchard Hill.
- Planning and Community Development Buice said that there are no one-way no thru trucks only. Suggested that Mark Evans could assist with no-thru-truck signage once he gets his truck equipped with lights. There are 27 no-thru truck zones in the Ordinance.
- Commissioner Boyle mentioned that Public Works took care of Old 41 and Morgan Dairy putting down gravel and tar.
- Elaine Hallada suggested that from the bypass to Ingles to Hwy 41 and Hwy 36 bypass having the speed limit reduced.

Concerns and Discussion:

- Grove Street to Hot Spot- State Highway but in the City Limits
- Ingles area (Speed limit 35 mph)
- Need for speed limit evaluation or extension
- Speed limit from Ingles to Grove Street is 45 and then it goes to 60 mph.
- GDOT study referenced, including a study near Farm Supply and a potential R-Cut at Grove Street.
- The R-Cut at Forsyth Street is a plus for the GDOT and when they tour the State they speak on accident numbers when deciding improvements. This R-Cut was State of the Art. Similar action may be taken at the Farm Supply intersection.

- Chairman Traylor thanked staff members for their assistance and thanked Fire Chief Matthews for all his does and he thanked Public Works Director who was able to reduce the price of the
- Thanks were extended Public Works Director Rigdon for securing an additional \$2,000.00 which brings the cost for the 2018 Dodge Ram 5500 Duralift 43" Bucket Truck from \$37,000.00 to \$35,000.00.

14. Executive Session

1. Real Estate
2. Litigation
3. Personnel

15. Adjournment

Commissioner Gilles made a motion to adjourn the Workshop meeting at 5:15 p.m.
Commissioner Boyle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Lamar County Board of Commissioners

Ryran Traylor, Chairman

Jarrold Fletcher , Vice-Chairman

Jason Lovett, Commissioner

Ashley Gilles, Commissioner

Truman Boyle, Commissioner

Attest: _____ Carlette Davidson, County Clerk

