

LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Workshop Meeting Minutes

Administration Building

July 10, 2025 – 12:30 PM

1. Call to Order

Vice-Chairman Fletcher called the Workshop Meeting of the Lamar County Board of Commissioners to order at 12:33 p.m. Present for the meeting was Commissioner Lovett, Commissioner Gilles, Commissioner Boyle, County Administrator Townsend, and County Clerk Davidson. County Attorney Mayfield was absent for the meeting. Chairman Traylor joined the meeting via Teams.

2. Workshop Meeting Items for Discussion

i. Northridge Road Abandonment

Planning and Community Development Director Buice (Ms. Buice) Community presented a proposal to abandon a small portion of Northridge Road located on the North end that loops around and borders a single property owner's side property line. The portion under consideration has become a site for illegal dumping and has requested that this portion of the road not be utilized for through traffic. The property owner has requested permission to install a gate to secure the area. Public Works and the Fire Department have reviewed the situation and raised no objections. Ms. Buice recommended moving forward with the abandonment process, including advertising the proposed road closure. The Board of Commissioners were in agreement to begin the legal steps to officially close the designated portion of Northridge Road.

ii. Evans Road Speed Limit Reduction

Planning and Community Development Director Buice (Ms. Buice) reported that the Sheriff has requested that they reduce the speed limit on Evans Road from 45 mph to 35 mph due to safety concerns following a recent traffic accident. Commissioner Boyle and the Sheriff both supported lowering the speed limit. The matter will be brought forward for a vote at the upcoming Tuesday night meeting. It was noted that Evans Road is already codified, which allows for radar enforcement.

iii. Wilmot Road

Planning and Community Development Director Buice (Ms. Buice) reported In contrast, Wilmot Road is not currently codified for radar, the Sheriff agreed with going forward with officially establishing a speed limit there. Once a speed limit is adopted, the Board of Commissioners will submit it to the State for approval and apply online for a permit to conduct a radar study.

3. Regular Meeting Discussion

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Invocation
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Recess for Public Hearing
6. Public Hearing

i. Rezoning Application – Robert & Evelyn Harrell

Request to rezone a portion of the property they own on Walton Road (Tax ID 059 012) from Agricultural-Residential (AG) to Residential-2 (R-2) to build a home on 2 acres of the property. The surrounding area contains a mix of Agricultural-Residential, R-2, and R-3 zoning. There was no public opposition.

ii. Rezoning Application – Kathryn Keadle

Request to rezone a portion of family-owned farmland on Bush Road (Tax ID 080 005) from Agricultural-Residential-2 to Residential-2 for a grandchild to build a home next door. Property lies along the Country Lane side of Bush Road. Applicant agreed to sign a dirt road acknowledgment. No opposition was heard.

7. Reconvene Regular Meeting

8. Minutes Approval

Workshop Meeting – June 12, 2025

Public Hearing – June 17, 2025

Regular Business Meeting – June 17, 2025

9. Old Business

(None discussed.)

10. New Business

i. Ordinance 2025-12 Rezoning from Agricultural Residential to Residential 2-Tax Map 080 Parcel 005 Kathryn Keadle

ii. Ordinance 2025-13 Rezoning from Agricultural-Residential to Residential 2-Tax Map 059, Parcel 012-Robert, and Evelyn Harrell

iii. Surplus Vehicles and Equipment

The Board reviewed the surplus of the following vehicles and equipment.

Sheriff's Office

2011 Dodge Ram (VIN #9882) (Vehicle Sold)

Recreation Department

These vehicles and equipment will be auctioned off and sold by Tac Equipment.

2002 Ford Van (VIN #8212)
2005 Chevrolet Van (VIN #0280)
2006 Dodge Ram 1500 (VIN #3954)
Bobcat 185 Series 3 (VIN #6447)
Ford Tiller (WV-2278)
John Deere Tractor 2210 (LV2210H210731)
John Deere Mower 997Z (DM997SB010376 and 00554)
John Deere Gator 4x2 (VIN #1698)

11. Board Appointments

The Board approved the following appointments:

Public Facility

Kevin Blosser – Term ending 8/17/2025 (2 years)
Dr. NaToya Fletcher – Term ending 8/17/2025 (2 years)
Linda Olivier – Term ending 8/17/2025 (1 year)

County Clerk Davidson will contact Kevin Blosser and Linda Olivier in regard to the appointments. Vice-Chairman Fletcher will speak to Dr. NaToya Fletcher.

12. Administrator's Report

13. Public Comment

14. Round Table Discussion

15. Executive Session

16. Adjournment

4. Administrator's Report

Animal Shelter Repairs

Plumbing issues identified.

Staff drying interior and removing doors.

Flooring installation scheduled for end of July/August; 7-day cure time.

Will reinstall doors and reopen once completed.

Antimicrobial coating will be applied 4 ft up the walls to prevent disease spread, similar to Clayton County.

Shelter closed; final adoption day has passed.

Work is quoted at approximately \$16,000, and the County purchases the material, and another quote is around \$25,000.00 and the County purchases the material. Waiting on the bid from

Wright Woodall. The warranty is usually one to five years, and some things have lifetime warranties.

Road Projects and Meetings

Will meet with engineers and the three property owners regarding roads near Rock Springs Church.

GDOT has committed \$542,000.00 to this project.

Meeting with Georgia DOT delayed in June; to be rescheduled.

5. Public Comment

No members of the public provided comments during this Work Session.

6. Round Table

Commissioner Lovett

Addressed Sheriff White sheriff's need to move forward on an 8-year-old city reservoir issue. Sheriff White noted jurisdictional limits of city ordinances. He stated that Chief Pennamon suggested adopting city ordinances into County code to allow enforcement. There is no current enforcement; activities like fishing or swimming are not regulated. Sheriff White requested the speed limit be lowered to 35 on Johnstonville Road at Bethel Baptist Church.

Commissioner Boyle

Noticed a yellow speed limit sign on a bad curve on High Falls Park Rd that was set at 35 miles. These are not enforceable. It does not say recommend, it says speed limit. The problem is that it goes from 50 to 35 miles per hour.

Reported he is taking the initiative to do traffic studies on GA 18 & Fredonia Church Road, the location that Vice-Chairman Fletcher had his wreck. He has the State Patrol running a query on the number of reported wrecks. Since January of 2020 there have been 35 wrecks and 23 injuries. He stated he went out and took photos and measurements and within 15 minutes there was another wreck towards town on the same road. The plan is for him and Chairman Traylor to meet with the GDOT. Commissioner Boyle recommended foliage trimming and reducing speed to 45 mph due to sharp angle and visibility. He stated he wanted to review the wrecks and see if they are right or left turns and the percentage of accidents where people crossed the road in front of someone.

Radio System Issues reported by Major Holmes to Commissioner Boyle.

The current repeater was only putting out 1 watt. They have a temporary solution, and it is putting out around 20 watts. They have a quote for a new repeater that cost around \$11,000.00. Sheriff White has requested that initiate the process for the upgrade. The new equipment will interface with the two or three down the road plan to add newer equipment.

7. Executive Session

No Executive Session

- Real Estate
- Litigation
- Personnel

8. Adjournment

Commissioner Gilles made a motion to adjourn the Workshop Meeting at approximately 12:59 p.m. Commissioner Boyle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Ryran Traylor, Chairman

Jarrod Fletcher , Vice-Chair

Jason Lovett, Commissioner

Ashley Gilles, Commissioner

Truman Boyle, Commissioner

Attest: _____ Carlette Davidson, County Clerk

