

**AGENDA**  
**MERIWETHER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**APRIL 13, 2026**  
**6:00 PM**

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

**II. INVOCATION**

**III. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

**IV. ADOPT AGENDA**

*The Agenda was Amended to Add the following:*

*Under New Business #9 – Change Order #9 – Structural Engineer’s Cost for Repair to Roof – River City Contracting.*

*Under Future Meetings and Notices – Add the Future Meetings and Closings*

**V. PRESENTATIONS**

1. Proclamation — Lifelink National Donate Life Month
2. Meriwether County Medical Plan Update — Plan History and 2026-2027 Medical Plan Review — Dagmar Würtzen

**VI. FINANCE REPORT**

**VII. DEPARTMENT HEADS**

**VIII. CITIZEN COMMENT**

Speakers must contact the County Clerk at [a.stephens@meriwethercountyga.gov](mailto:a.stephens@meriwethercountyga.gov) or 706-672-3460 on or before the dates and times listed below in order to be placed on the Agenda to speak. Speakers must provide their name, address, and topic they wish to discuss.

- For the 2nd Monday of the month 6:00 p.m. meeting – Speakers must e-mail or call before 5:00 p.m. on the day of the scheduled meeting.
- For the 4th Tuesday of the month 6:00 p.m. meeting – Speakers must e-mail or call before 5:00 p.m. on the day of the scheduled meeting.

Speakers must direct their remarks to the Board and not to individual Commissioners or to the audience. Personal disagreements with individual Commissioners or County employees are not a matter of public concern and personal attacks will not be tolerated.

Speakers will be allotted three minutes to speak on their chosen topics as they relate to matters pertinent to the jurisdiction of the Board of Commissioners. No questions will be asked by any of the Commissioners during Citizen Comments. Outbursts from the audience will not be tolerated. Common courtesy and civility are expected at all times during the meeting. No speaker will be permitted to speak more than three minutes or more than once unless the Board votes to suspend this rule.

**IX. MINUTES**

1. Minutes, March 23, 2026, Special Called Meeting, 4:00 p.m.
2. Minutes, March 24, 2026, Work Session, 4:30 p.m.
3. Minutes, March 24, 2026, Regular Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

## **X. PUBLIC HEARING**

## **XI. APPOINTMENTS**

1. Appointment to the Lake Meriwether Advisory Board — City of Woodbury Appointment — This is a 1-year term that will expire on January 28, 2027.

## **XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Approval of SmartCop Contract with Revised Language and \$1.6 million Liability Coverage - *This item was tabled at the March 24, 2026, Regular Meeting*
2. Request from the Airport Authority for Local Match for the Airport Apron Rehabilitation — *This item was tabled at the March 24, 2026, Regular Meeting*
3. Discussion of Property Taxes — *Discussion to be continued from the March 24, 2026, Regular Meeting*
4. Consideration of Additional Funding for Road Paving — *Discussion to continue from the February 9, 2026, Regular Meeting after Completion of the FY2025 Audit — March 31, 2026.*

## **XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discussion and Approval of 2026-2027 Insurance Renewal, and allow the Chair or Vice Chair to sign all benefit-related paperwork
2. Discussion regarding Issuing RFP for Residential and Commercial County-Wide Revaluation
3. Approval of LensLock Agreement — Meriwether County Sheriff's Office
4. Approval of Purchases for the Meriwether County Sheriff's Office — Opioid Fund
5. Approval of Digital Law Library Contracts — Probate Court
6. Approval of Purchase of Power Load Stretcher — Meriwether County Coroner
7. Approval of E911 Expenditures Confirmation Report for FY2025 — Allow the Chairman to sign
8. Approval of Correct VIN Numbers of Surplus Vehicles from the March 24, 2026, Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
9. *Agenda Amended to Add – Change Order #9 – Structural Engineer's Cost for Repair to Roof – River City Contracting*

## **XIV. REPORT FROM ACCG LEGISLATIVE COORDINATOR**

## **XV. REPORT FROM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

## **XVI. REPORT FROM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

## **XVII. REPORT FROM COUNTY ATTORNEY**

## **XVIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Litigation
2. Personnel

3. Real Estate
4. Tax Matters
5. Cybersecurity

**XIX. FUTURE MEETINGS & NOTICES**

1. *Tuesday, April 28, 2026, Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m.*
2. *Monday, May 11, 2026, Work Session at 4:00 p.m.*
3. *Monday, May 11, 2026, Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m.*
4. *Closed in Observance of Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, 2026*
5. *Tuesday, May 26, 2026, Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m.*

**XX. ADJOURNMENT**

Meriwether County BOC is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Meriwether County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting

Time: Apr 13, 2026 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87141013235?pwd=MWWXkYNg5VqGfKgceYWd2h3SZjtBbC.1>

Meeting ID: 871 4101 3235

Passcode: 979020

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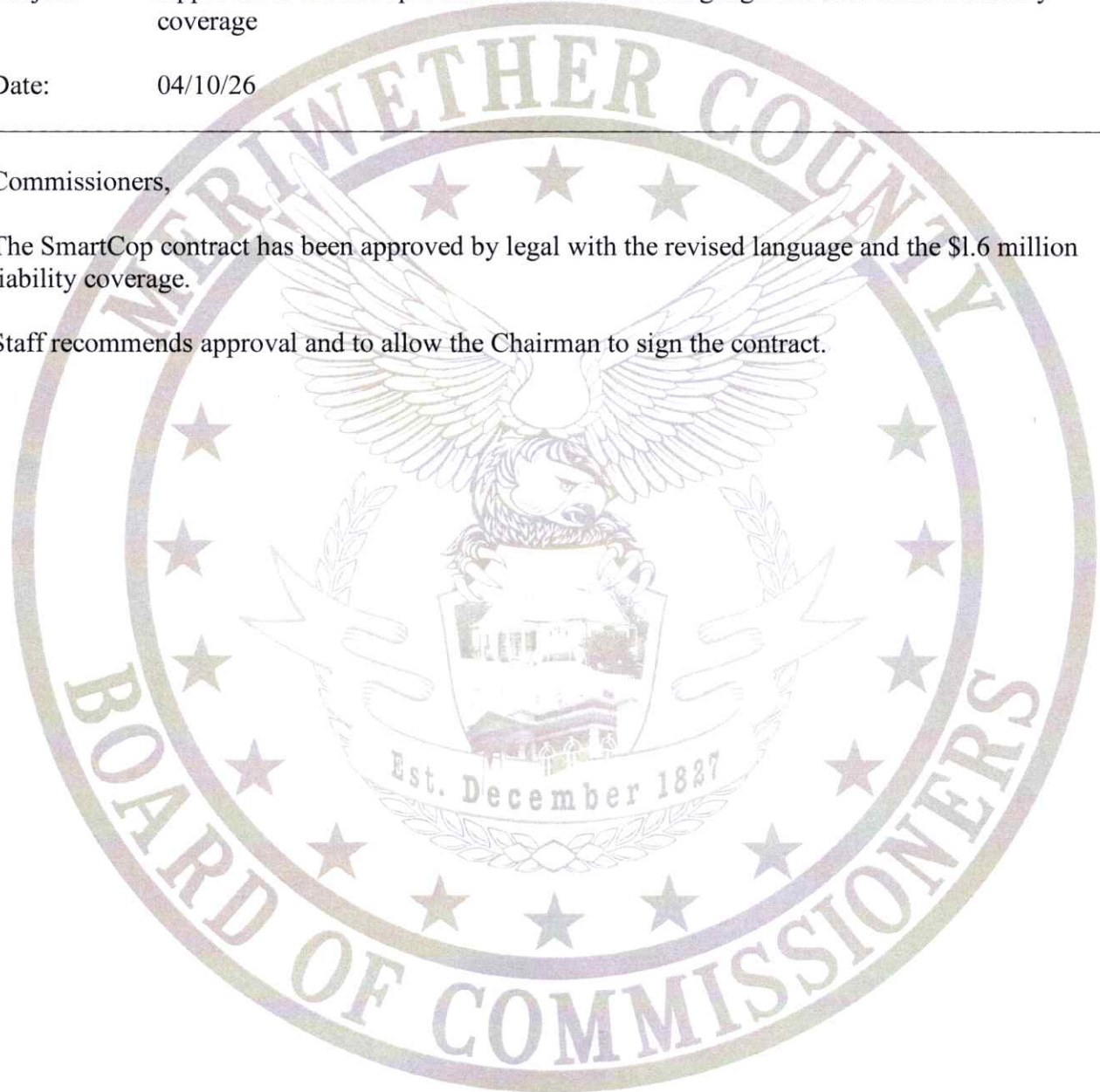
To: Board of Commissioners  
From: *JG*  
John Gorton, County Administrator  
Subject: Approval of SmartCop Contract with revised language and \$1.6 million liability coverage  
Date: 04/10/26

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Commissioners,

The SmartCop contract has been approved by legal with the revised language and the \$1.6 million liability coverage.

Staff recommends approval and to allow the Chairman to sign the contract.



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To: Board of Commissioners  
*JMG*

From: John Gorton, County Administrator

Subject: Request from Airport Authority for Local Match for Airport Apron Rehabilitation

Date: 04/10/2026

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Commissioners,

The Airport Authority is requesting a local funding match for the Airport Apron Rehabilitation project included in its Capital Improvement Plan, with an estimated cost of approximately \$200,000.


Potential funding options include reallocating funds through budget reductions within County departments to cover the \$200,000. If excess revenue is identified within a revenue line item, a budget adjustment could be made to recognize the additional revenue and allocate it to the Airport CIP project.

Another option would be to use funds from the General Fund Special Projects account within the fund balance, which would require a budget amendment to authorize the transfer.

My recommendation is to first utilize any excess revenue, including proceeds from the public utility tax received from the Tax Commissioner, along with additional revenue collected before and after the planned July tax sale.

If these sources do not fully cover the required amount, the remaining balance could be funded from the General Fund Special Projects account. Regardless of the approach, the matter will need to return to the Board for a budget amendment once the Airport Authority completes the bidding process and the final funding requirement from the County is determined.

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To: Board of Commissioners  
From:   
John Gorton, County Administrator  
Subject: Discussion of Property Taxes  
Date: 04/10/2026

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Commissioners,

Commissioner Threadgill requested that staff evaluate the feasibility of allowing property taxes to be paid in two installments, one in June/July and the second in December. After consulting with Chief Tax Assessor and the Tax Commissioner the consensus recommendation is to maintain the current system.

Tax bills are issued in October, and taxpayers already have the option to make payments in advance of the December 20<sup>th</sup> deadline. This schedule is driven by the County's fiscal year, which ends September 30, and the requirement that the tax digest be submitted by September 1. Taxes cannot be calculated until the millage rate is set and the digest is approved by the Georgia Department of Revenue.

Chief Appraiser William Harris III and Tax Commissioner DeAnn Cruse in attendance to answer any questions relevant to this matter.

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To: Board of Commissioners  
From: *JG*  
John Gorton, County Administrator  
Subject: Consideration of Additional Funding for Road Paving  
Date: 04/10/2026


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Commissioners,

The Fiscal Year 2025 audit has been completed, and Mauldin & Jenkins will present the reports at the April 28, 2026, meeting. The County's General Fund balance increased by \$1,658,266, bringing the total fund balance to \$16,074,703, of which \$13,866,144 is unassigned.

County ordinances require maintaining a fund balance equal to six months of operating revenue. Based on the current budget of \$24,073,322, the required fund balance is \$12,036,661. This leaves \$1,829,483 in unassigned (uncommitted) funds available for use at the discretion of the Board of Commissioners. Any expenditures would require a budget amendment to access fund balance reserves and must be presented to the Board for approval at the next meeting.

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To: Board of Commissioners  
From:   
John Gorton, County Administrator  
Subject: Discussion and Approval of 2026-2027 Insurance Renewal  
Date: 04/13/26

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Commissioners,

Mark III obtained a renewal quote from Anthem and successfully negotiated the increase down to 19.9%, resulting in an annual cost of \$2,574,408 for the 2026–2027 plan year. This represents an increase of \$427,286 compared to the 2025–2026 annual cost of \$2,147,123.

These estimates are based on a projected enrollment of 114 employees.

For comparison, Cigna provided an annual quote of \$2,617,336, reflecting a 21.9% increase (\$470,214), while United Healthcare submitted a quote of \$2,877,845, a 34.0% increase (\$730,722).

As part of the renewal, the Wellness benefit will remain at \$30,000.

Staff recommends continuing coverage with Anthem for Medical, Dental, and Vision plans, and with Symetra for Short-Term Disability (STD), Long-Term Disability (LTD), Supplemental Health, and Voluntary Term Life and AD&D insurance.

Allowing the Chairman and/or Vice Chairman to sign all insurance related documents.

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To: Board of Commissioners  
*Jms*

From: John Gorton, County Administrator

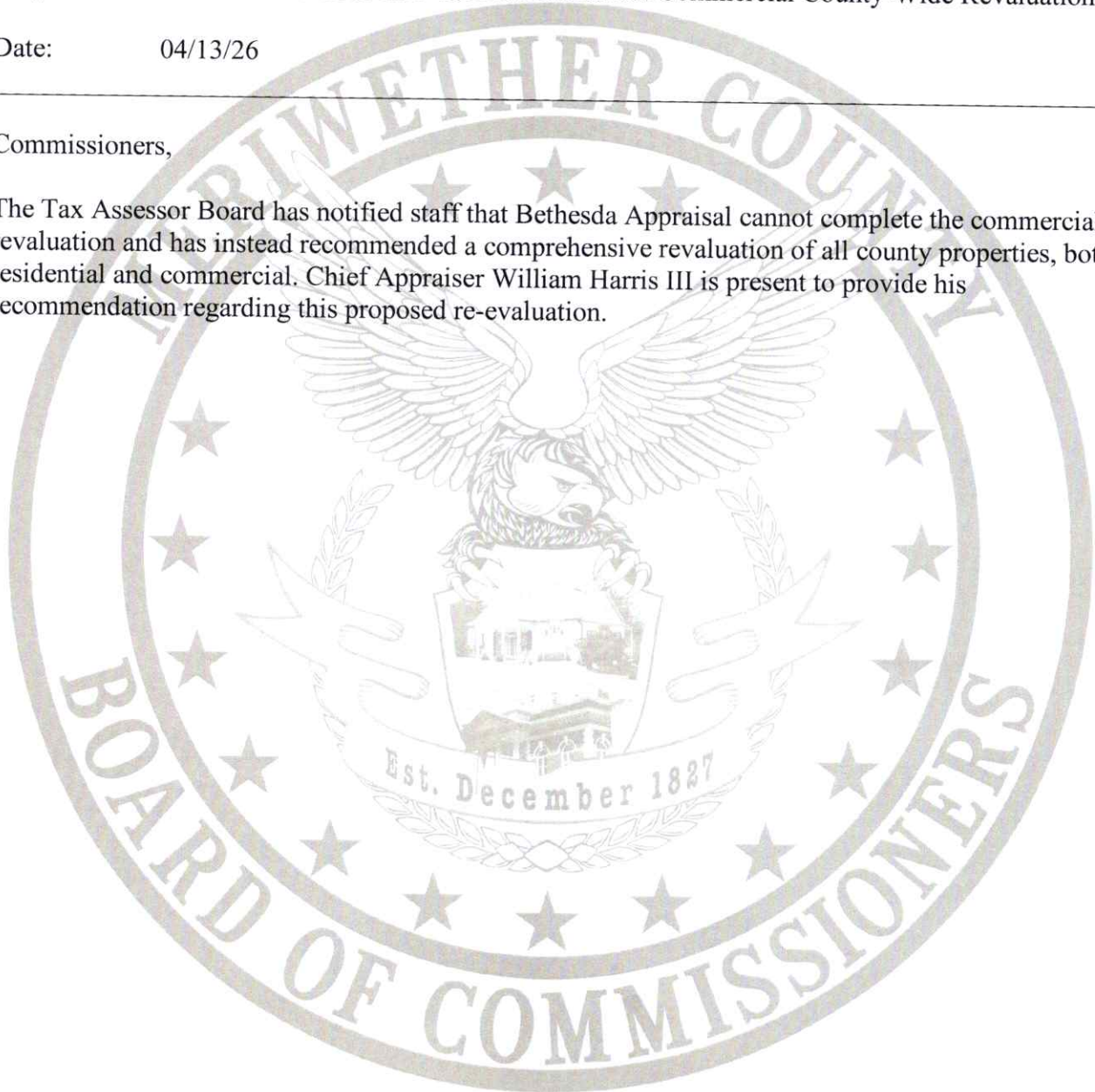
Subject: Discussion to Issue RFP for Residential and Commercial County-Wide Revaluation

Date: 04/13/26


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Commissioners,

The Tax Assessor Board has notified staff that Bethesda Appraisal cannot complete the commercial revaluation and has instead recommended a comprehensive revaluation of all county properties, both residential and commercial. Chief Appraiser William Harris III is present to provide his recommendation regarding this proposed re-evaluation.



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To: Board of Commissioners  
From:   
John Gorton, County Administrator  
Subject: Approval of LensLock Agreement- Meriwether County Sheriff's Office  
Date: 04/13/26

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Commissioners,

The Sheriff's Office respectfully requests approval to purchase the LensLock body-worn camera system to replace the agency's current body camera and evidence storage solution.

The current system consists of off-the-shelf equipment that is not optimized for law enforcement use. It produces lower-quality video, requires cumbersome data management, and creates inefficiencies in evidence storage and retrieval.


LensLock is a purpose-built law enforcement platform that provides high-quality video, centralized and secure evidence storage, and improved chain-of-custody tracking. This system will enhance evidentiary value, streamline operations, and improve accountability.

Funding for this purchase will come from existing Sheriff's Office Detention Center funds, requiring no additional allocation from the County's general fund.

**Recommendation**

The Sheriff's Office recommends approval of this request to modernize its body-worn camera system and improve operational efficiency.

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To: Board of Commissioners  
From:  John Gorton, County Administrator  
Subject: Approval of Purchases for the Meriwether County Sheriff's Office-Opioid Fund  
Date: 04/13/26

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Commissioners,

The Meriwether County Sheriff's Office is requesting approval to purchase two secure narcotics evidence lockers, a controlled substance destruction incinerator, and a 2026 Ram 2500 Tradesman 4x4. The costs are outlined below and would be funded through the Opioid Fund:

- Evidence Lockers: \$4,877.12
- Narcotics Destruction Incinerator System: \$41,239.00
- Ram 2500 (Transport Vehicle): \$66,555.00

The total cost is \$112,671.12, to be paid from the Opioid Fund. I have confirmed with our auditors, Mauldin & Jenkins, that these purchases qualify as allowable opioid-related expenditures, as the Sheriff's Office has implemented prevention and remediation strategies to address the opioid epidemic.

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To: Board of Commissioners  
From: *JWS*  
John Gorton, County Administrator  
Subject: Approval of Digital Law Library Contracts-Probate Court  
Date: 04/13/26

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Commissioners,

Judge Rasnick has requested that the County Law Library transition to an online platform through Westlaw. The contracts have been reviewed by legal, and revisions have been requested; we are currently awaiting a response. If the requested changes are not accepted, legal has advised that the contract as written is acceptable for execution.

This agreement is a three-year contract at a discounted rate, providing access for use as a public law library as well as for the County courts and constitutional officers who currently utilize the law library.

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To: Board of Commissioners  
From: *JG*  
John Gorton, County Administrator  
Subject: Approval to Purchase of Power Load Stretcher – Meriwether County Corner  
Date: 04/13/26

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Commissioners,

Coroner David Boyd has obtained quotes for a power-load stretcher, all of which are certified refurbished. The quotes are as follows:

- MFI Medical: \$7,569.14 – Ferno 56 PowerFlexx+
- Ailerons USA, LLC: \$6,885.00 – Stryker Power Pro XT
- Ambulance Depot Inc.: \$8,500.00 – Stryker Pro 6500 XPS
- Copper MedEquip: \$10,200.00 – Stryker Power Pro with XPS

Coroner Boyd's preference is the Ferno 56 PowerFlexx+ from MFI Medical at a cost of \$7,569.14. Funding for this purchase would come from SPLOST.

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To: Board of Commissioners

From: *Jws*  
John Gorton, County Administrator

Subject: Approval of E911 Expenditures confirmation report for FY2025-Allow the Chairman to sign

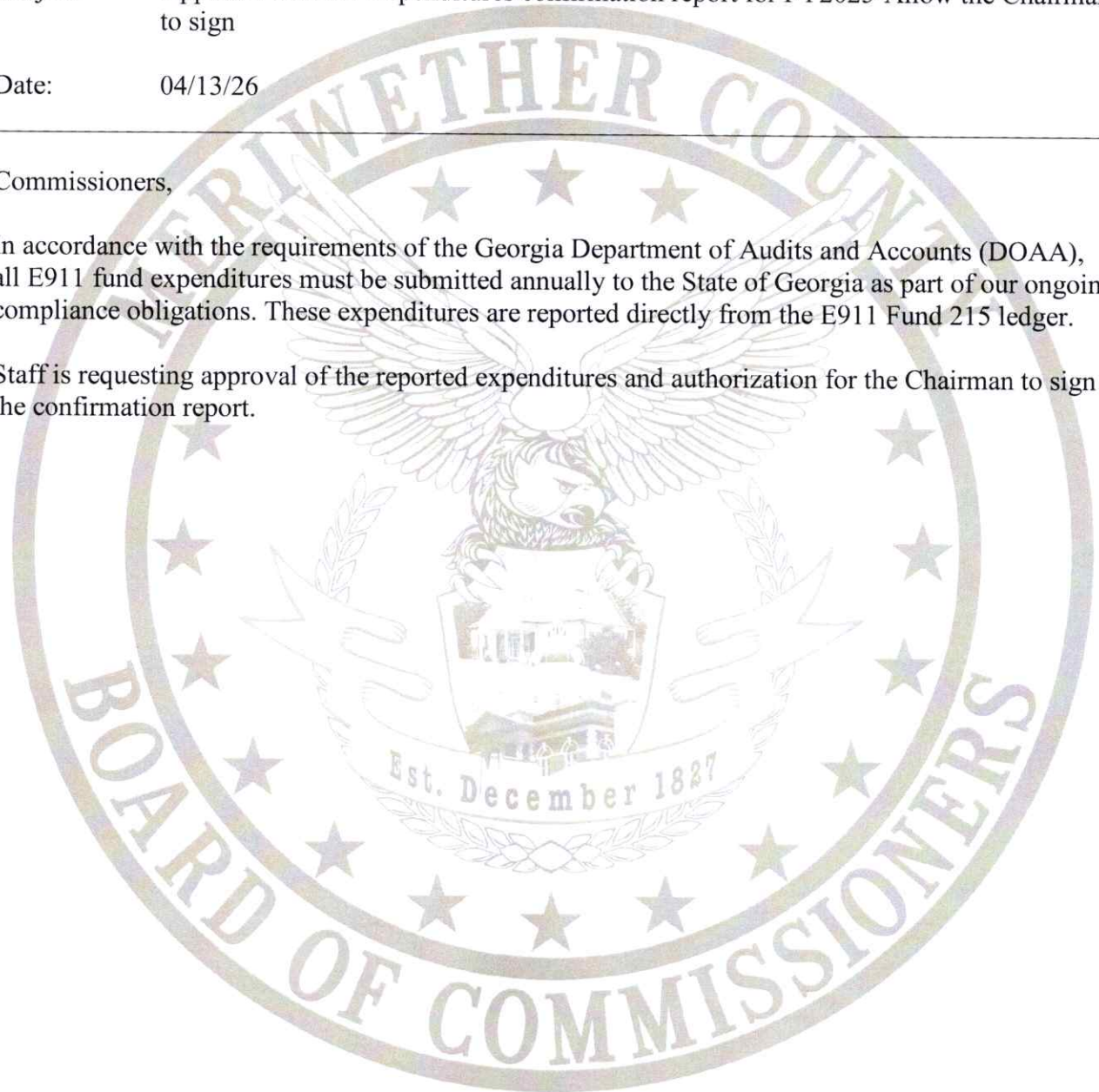
Date: 04/13/26

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Commissioners,

In accordance with the requirements of the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts (DOAA), all E911 fund expenditures must be submitted annually to the State of Georgia as part of our ongoing compliance obligations. These expenditures are reported directly from the E911 Fund 215 ledger.

Staff is requesting approval of the reported expenditures and authorization for the Chairman to sign the confirmation report.



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To: Board of Commissioners  
From: *John*  
John Gorton, County Administrator  
Subject: Approval of Correct Vin Numbers of Surplus Vehicles from the March 24, 2026,  
Meeting  
Date: 04/13/26

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Commissioners,

Staff has identified four vehicles with incorrect VIN numbers when retrieving titles for surplus vehicles and four vehicle year are incorrect. Additionally, replacement titles will need to be issued for three vehicles whose titles could not be located.

Staff will post the vehicles with available titles on GovDeals this week, and the remaining vehicles will be listed once the replacement titles are received.

These vehicles that are incorrect are listed below and the corrections are listed in red:

Asset ID	Description	Incorrect Vin Number	Correct Vin Number	
340	Ford (2012) s/b <b>2013</b>	1FT7X2AA6DEA09521	1FT7X2A <b>T</b> 6DEA09521	
312	International (1997) <b>1998</b>			
350	Ford (1997)	1FTDX176VNC786061	1FTDX176 <b>7</b> VNC78661	Need Title
351	GMC (2003)			Need Title
355	Ford (1996) <b>1997</b>	1FDXF80C9VVA05135	1FDXF80C9VVA0 <b>3</b> 135	
608	Ford (2002)	2FAFP71W23X128750	2FAFP71W23X128 <b>9</b> 50	Need Title
P-06	Ford E350 (2014) s/b <b>2015</b>			