

June 16, 2026
Regular Session
Bonifay, Florida

The Holmes County Board of Commissioners met for a Regular Session on the above date with the following members present: Commissioner Wade Ellenburg, Commissioner Mitch Johnson, Commissioner Wilmer Stafford, Commissioner Clint Erickson, and Commissioner Earl Stafford, Chairman of the Board.

Nate Nolin, County Attorney, and David Corbin, Project Director, were present.

Angie Purvee, Finance Director, was present and kept the minutes.

Chairman Stafford called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. following the recess from the Workshop.

The first agenda item was Agenda Additions and Deletions. The following changes were made to the posted agenda:

- County Engineers) All Items Moved to Top of Agenda
- County Coordinator) Highway 179 Phase 2 SCRAP Agreement – added
- Commissioner Item) Spring Hill and Chance Road Paving Estimates – deleted
- County Attorney Item) Safe Haven Baby Box - added

Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to accept the amended agenda with Commissioner Wilmer Stafford offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to adopt the minutes from the June 2, 2026 Regular Session. Commissioner Ellenburg offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

Jake Mathis, Melvin Engineering, presented Change Order No. 3 on the Bonifay Gritney Road Phase 2 paving project. He advised that the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) added \$37,260 in grant funding for drainage pipes to the new driveways that were excluded from the original design. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion approving the Chairman to sign the change order contingent on DOT approval. Commissioner Wilmer Stafford offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Change Order)

Rod Adams, Melvin Engineering, presented Certificates of Final Completion on the Ponce de Leon Pilot Travel Center infrastructure project. He advised that sod was installed to address the drainage issue reported by the adjacent property owner. Commissioner Wilmer Stafford offered a motion for the Chairman to sign the certificates. Commissioner Erickson offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Certificates)

Nate Nolin, County Attorney, presented a proposal to install a Safe Haven Baby Box in the new Holmes County EMS building. The Safe Haven Baby Box allows parents in crisis to surrender a newborn anonymously and safely. Discussion of this matter included the following:

- The Baby Box is climate-controlled, monitored and inspected regularly

- Plans to seek donations from churches and individuals throughout the County for the installation and maintenance fees
- Other possible locations include Ponce de Leon Fire Station or Westville Fire Station
- The Baby Box is pre-built and must be installed by a contractor
- County's insurance company has no issue with Baby Box being installed in the county building

The following individuals discussed this matter:

- Pastor Michael Tadlock, Crosspoint Church
- John Tate, Holmes County Sheriff
- David Corbin, Project Director

Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to enter into a contract for a Safe Haven Baby Box to be installed in the Holmes County EMS building. Commissioner Ellenburg offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Stafford opened the public hearing to adopt Ordinance 2026-03 establishing a one-year moratorium on the development of large-scale data centers and large load customer facilities within unincorporated Holmes County. Nate Nolin, County Attorney, explained that the temporary moratorium was to prevent approval of any data center development applications until a permanent ban can be established. He also presented proposed Ordinance 2026-04 placing a permanent ban on the development of large-scale data centers and large load customer facilities within unincorporated Holmes County. Discussion of this matter included the following:

- Effects of data centers on the health of citizens and natural resources
- Definition of "large-scale" and "large load"
- State's current support for data center bans
- Solar farms are classified as agricultural and a ban would require a separate ordinance
- Moratorium will limit any legal action against the permanent ban
- Permanent ban will require amending the County's Land Development Regulations (LDR) and the Comprehensive Plan

The following citizens discussed this matter:

- Richard Willsey
- Nancy Meehan
- Garret Valcourt
- Cynthia Harrelson
- Jessica Meintel
- John Feeney, Holmes County Contracted Planner
- Sarah Johnson
- Caroll Fetterhoff
- Tammy Sullivan
- Elijah Rowell
- Margie Butts

Chairman Stafford closed the public hearing. Attorney Nolin recommended approval of Ordinance 2026-03 creating the one-year moratorium and moving forward with Ordinance 2026-04 establishing a permanent ban

upon review by the Planning Commission. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to adopt Ordinance 2026-03 with Commissioner Ellenburg offering a second. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to schedule a July 7th public hearing for Ordinance 2026-04 upon review by the Planning Commission. Commissioner Ellenburg offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Ordinance 2026-03)
(Proposed Ordinance 2026-04)

The meeting was reconvened following a five-minute recess.

Lexie Smith, NWF Health Network, presented the renewal of the Holmes County Designated Receiving System Plan and Behavioral Health Transportation Plan for 2026 through 2029. She advised that the only change in the proposed plan for transporting people in need of mental health care is an increase in available beds. Project Director David Corbin recommended approval of the plan. Commissioner Wilmer Stafford offered a motion approving the plan renewal with Commissioner Ellenberg offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Plan)

David Corbin, Project Director, presented a proposed contract on the Holmes County Agricultural Center Governmental Efficiency Complex Project giving the County a two-year warranty on the building from the date of approval. Discussion included that the final payment was issued to the contractor. The Board agreed by consensus for the Chairman to sign the contract as voted in the June 2nd Regular Session.

(Contract)

Jane Dellwo, Board Administrative Assistant, presented the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) SCRAP Grant Agreement to design improvements on County Road 179 from Pheil Drive to Anderson Road. She advised that the amount of the grant would require bidding out the engineering services. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion for the Chairman to sign the grant agreement. Commissioner Wilmer Stafford offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Grant Agreement)

Jane Dellwo, Board Administrative Assistant, advised that the grant cycle for rural infrastructure grants is now open and requested projects to submit. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to apply for a Northdale Subdivision drainage improvement grant. Commissioner Johnson offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

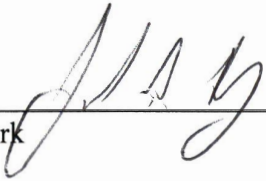
The Board agreed by consensus to schedule a budget workshop for 5:00 p.m. on July 7th before the Regular Session.

Nate Nolin, County Attorney, presented proposed Resolution 26-11 assigning the DEO Florida Job Growth Infrastructure Grant requirements to the City of Bonifay and dissolving the Highway 79 Corridor

Authority. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to adopt Resolution 26-11 with Commissioner Johnson offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution 26-11)

There being no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.


Clerk


Chairman