

September 4, 2026
Special Session
Bonifay, Florida

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

Nate Nolin, County Attorney, was present.

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

Vice-Chairman Erickson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Commissioner Johnson led the prayer and pledge.

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

- Agenda Item) Resolution 26-12
- County Attorney Item) Ordinance 26-08 Imposing ELMS Nickel

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

Jane Dellwo, Board Administrative Assistant, advised that selling two of the financed dump trucks would save approximately \$22,000 per truck over the next three years in interest and insurance costs. Discussion included using another method to sell the trucks due to the excessive auctioneer commission and refinancing the remaining eight dump trucks. The Board directed Ms. Dellwo to talk with the bank about the refinancing options to present at the next meeting.

Vice-Chairman Erickson presented a proposal to offset the \$250,000 shortfall in the 2026-2027 budget in lieu of selling the District 5 dirt pit. He proposed \$124,800 in cuts to expenditures from the General and the Transportation Trust funds. Vice-Chairman Erickson recommended funding the remainder with \$125,200 from the Capital Outlay Funds. Commissioner Wilmer Stafford offered a motion approving Vice-Chairman Erickson's proposal. Commissioner Ellenburg offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Proposal)

Jane Dellwo, Board Administrative Assistant, presented a revised Resolution 26-12 for approval. She stated that the resolution is for the design of CR 179 from Pheil Drive to the Alabama state line and that the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) required changes to the verbiage that was in the original resolution. Commissioner Wilmer Stafford offered a motion to adopt the revised Resolution 26-12 with Commissioner Ellenburg offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution 26-12)

Nate Nolin, County Attorney, presented a proposed Ordinance 2026-08 which would impose an additional five-cent local option gas tax upon every gallon of motor fuel sold in Holmes County. He stated that the tax excludes the sale of diesel and that the ordinance must be approved by October 1st to become effective on January

1, 2027. Discussion included the distribution requirements with the local municipalities, the approved uses for the revenue and the public hearing requirements. Commissioner Johnson offered a motion to move forward with advertising a public hearing to be held at the next Regular Session. Commissioner Ellenburg offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Ordinance 2026-08)

Commissioner Wilmer Stafford discussed the recruitment and selection process for the vacancy left when Project Director David Corbin's resignation takes effect. He stated that with Holmes County Sheriff John Tate taking authority over more departments, the job should be reduced to a Public Works Supervisor. Commissioner Stafford stated that the Holmes County Sheriff's Human Resource Director Lauren Morris is prepared to create a job description. He proposed creating a hiring committee made up of the following members to interview and score the candidates:

- Lauren Morris
- Sam Bailey, Holmes County Clerk
- Angie Purvee, Finance Director
- Rodney Bowers, Commissioner-Elect
- Randon Tate, Commissioner-Elect

Discussion of this matter included the following:

- Job title, description and salary
- Sunshine Law requirements for the commissioners-elect
- Using a hiring committee or having the Board conduct the interviews
- County Attorney willing to reduce fees and duties to increase salary for position
- Requesting that Project Director remain until December 1st to ensure no lapse

The following citizens discussed this matter:

- Rusty Williams, Holmes County Supervisor of Elections
- Anthony Register
- Nate Nolin, County Attorney
- Rodney Bowers, Commissioner-Elect
- Richard Willsey
- Jalisa Brannon

The Board agreed by consensus to schedule a Special Session for September 15th at 8:00 a.m. to further discuss this matter.

There being no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m.


Clerk


Chairman