



**Pierce County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
February 10, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
NFC Building
705 College Ave. 2nd Floor
Blackshear, GA 31516**

Commissioners in attendance	Neal Bennett, Chairman Troy Mattox, District 1 Randy Dixon, District 3 David Lowman, District 4
Commissioner not in attendance	Graham Raley, District 2
Staff in attendance	Thomas Sauls, County Manager Adam Craft, County Attorney Donna Golding, County Clerk

- 1) Call to order-Chairman Neal Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- 2) Invocation Leader-Commissioner David Lowman led the invocation.
- 3) Pledge of Allegiance Leader-Commissioner Troy Mattox led the pledge of allegiance.
- 4) Any addition or deletion to February 10, 2026, Agenda-There were no additions or deletion to the February 10, 2026, agenda.
- 5) Approval of February 10, 2026, Agenda-Commissioner David Lowman made a motion to approve the February 10, 2026, agenda. Commissioner Randy Lowman seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- 6) Approval of Minutes from January 6, 2026, regular meeting, January 22, 2026, and January 26, 2026, called meetings-Commissioner Troy Mattox made a motion to minutes from January 6, 2026, regular meeting, January 22, 2026, and January 26, 2026, called meetings. Commissioner David Lowman seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- 7) Public Comments
 - Blake Edwards-Discussion of bypass-Blake Edwards asked the Commissioners for an update on the rescinding of the bypass resolution. Chairman Neal Bennett stated that it is a non-issue, it's not going to happen.
 - John Wilson-Discussion of bypass-John Wilson was not present at the meeting.

- 8) Discussion and action to approve a Conditional Use request Parcel #045-112, on Knox Rd, Blackshear, GA 31516. Applicants request Conditional Use for development and equipment installation of a wireless communication tower facility-Commissioner David Lowman made a motion to approve the Conditional Use request at Parcel #045-112, on Knox Rd, Blackshear, GA 31516 for development and equipment installation of a wireless communication tower facility. Commissioner Troy Mattox seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- 9) Discussion and action to approve the surplus and trade of a 2019 road grader and purchase of a newer 2025 road grader
- | | |
|------------|------------------------|
| New | \$324,969 |
| Trade In | -\$ 76,000 (ESTIMATED) |
| Total Cost | \$248,969 (ESTIMATED) |
- Chairman Neal Bennett stated the sloper will be removed off the 2019 road grader and will be attached to the new 2025 road grader. Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to approve the surplus and trade of the 2019 road grader and purchase of a newer 2025 road grader. Commissioner David Lowman seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- 10) County Manager’s Report-County Manager Thomas Sauls presented the County Manager’s report.



County Manager’s *Report* for January 2026
 Presented February 10, 2026
 Pierce County Board of Commissioners Meeting

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Revenue YTD as of December 31 General Fund \$20,562,042.47 and expense as of December 31 \$19,858,153.53

COUNTY MANAGER’S MONTHLY HIGHLIGHT ACTIVITY FOR JANUARY 2026

Leadership Meeting, Recreation Board Meeting, Pierce County Industrial Development Authority Meeting, attended Legislative meeting in Atlanta, Met with County Road Department Employees, attended the joint planning advisory board meeting, meeting with worldwide equipment, two board of commissioners’ meetings, met with city Manager of Waycross, county clerk and I met with the Pierce County Historical Society representative Bert Walker, had a meeting with two Superior Court Judges in reference to HB 85, zoom meeting on Floating Local Option Sales Tax HB581 (FLOST), zoom meeting on Homestead Property Tax Relief/Elimination HR1114, completed the County Government 101 Demand Class, inspected several roads with road superintendent Bruce Carter and Chairman Bennett, monitored the daily operations , maintenance and expenditures.

CHRIS BOND, PLANNING AND FACILITIES DIRECTOR’S REPORT JANUARY 2026

Planning and Codes:

Processed 9 new home permits

Performed 86 inspections
Fees Accrued: \$6,211.40
Revised RV Park and Tiny Home Ordinances
Facilities:
Repaired NFC Gym chiller at no cost.
All facilities "freeze proofed" in anticipation of inclement weather.
Received blanks and cut keys for Health Dept.
Removed/replaced shelving and mounted a tv at Library.
Replaced parts in chiller at NFC for heat.
Repaired ac at 911 Dispatch, no heat. Spent \$1,301,67 on custodial products.
Repair totals for the month:
Annex: \$317.85
Courthouse: \$203.54
EMS Station 1: \$229.99
Health Dept.: \$56.94
NFC: \$163.81
Gym: \$54.17

Planning & Codes 2025:
74 New home permits were issued
66 Mobile home (move on) permits were issued.

WILLIAM WILSON, PIERCE COUNTY CORONER'S REPORT
85 deaths reported by coroner for 2025

LEAH RITCH, ELECTIONS SUPERVISION
Qualifying dates are March 2nd through March 6th

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SUMMARY FOR JANUARY 2026 PROVIDED BY ROAD SUPERINTENDENT BRUCE CARTER

- Culverts Cleaned – 5
- Roads built up – 4
- Ditches dug – 130
- Culverts installed/Replaced – 14
- Potholes Patched – 221, Major – 5
- Shoulders Patched – 46, Major - 3
- Signs replaced – 20
- New signs put up – 1
- Total Road Grader Miles – 1,870.02 Miles.
- Total Road Miles Graded- 373.95
- Loads of dirt hauled – 680
- Yards of Dirt Moved – 10,880 CuYds

PIERCE COUNTY RECREATION UPDATE, COACH MO BROWN
2026 February Rec Director Report

2026 Basketball Wrap Up
Championship Games
All Star Selection
Basketball District Tournament Hosts & Dates
February 17 thru 24

Pierce County will host 8U and 14U Boys District
Brantley County will host 10U Boys, 12U Boys & 10U Girls
Bacon County will host 8U Girls, 12U Girls & 14U Boys

1. Basketball Financials to Date

Season Tickets sold for \$2310 (77 season tickets)
Concessions \$5786.43
Gate \$12,192

Outdoor basketball court – new nets and rings.

2. Spring Sports Registration

Opened January 5 and will close on February 28.
Evals, sizing and draft are scheduled for the first week in March.
Projected season opener will be April 13.
Opening Day ceremonies.
Track & Field, Golf & Tennis registrations are also up and running.

PIERCE COUNTY FIRE CHIEF, CHRIS TODD

January 2026 call report
77 total calls compared to 64 in 2025
42 calls first 8 days of February

January had:

- 2 - Structure fires
- 3 - Powerlines down
- 1 - Electrical short
- 1 - Public service
- 15 - Grass, woods, brush fires
- 5 - Fire alarms
- 2 - Smoke scares
- 18 - Medical assist
- 6 - MVC
- 1 - False alarm
- 13 - Control burns
- 9 - Trash/rubbish fires
- 1 - Weather call with a tree removal

911 Call Report
By Agency

	Janua ry	Febua ry	Mar ch	Apr il	Ma y	Jun e	Jul y	Augu st	Septem ber	Octob er	Novem ber	Decem ber	TOTA LS
PCSO	397												397
BPD	434												434
PPD	15												15
GSP	6												6
DNR	0												0
STA 1	207												207
STA 2	41												41
MA PIERCE REQ	2												2
MA PIERCE RESP	8												8
AVAC	0												0
CORON ER	3												3
FR-PAT	0												0
FR- CITY	8												8
FR- PCFD	17												17
PCFD	59												59
GDOT	2												2
GFC	6												6
BSFD	46												46
PFD	12												12

SUNSE T	10												10
HACKF D	29												29
RD Dept	2												2
BPW15 0	2												2
PPW15 1	0												0
TOTALS	1,390	0	0	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	
												Overall total	1390

PIERCE COUNTY EMS DIRECTOR AAS, NRP, NPQ-FOIII, GA-CEM, DANIEL ROYAL

TOTAL CALLS	256
TRANSPORT	159
NON-TRANSPORT	96
RESPONSE FROM DISPATCH	
CHUTE TIME	
MUTUAL AID/ REQUEST TO RESPONDED	1
CANCELLED	1
MUTUAL/ AID/ REQUEST FROM	8

The Office of the Sheriff

Pierce County dispatched 860 calls for service in addition to calls dispatched by Pierce County 911.

Internal jail dispatch totals were 2,954 calls for the month dispatched within the jail.

County Manager Thomas Sauls mentioned the cost of road signs ranging from \$60 to \$100. Replacing the 20 road signs listed by the Road Superintendent Bruce Carter is costing the taxpayers between \$1,200 and \$2,000 a month. County Manager Sauls stated the newspaper should write an article on this.

- 11) Adjournment-Commissioner David Lowman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Neal Bennett
Commission Chairman

Troy Mattox
Commissioner, District 1

Not In Attendance
Graham Raley
Commissioner, District 2

Randy Dixon
Commissioner, District 3

David Lowman
Commissioner, District 4

Donna Golding
County Clerk