



## November Commission Meeting Highlights Community Initiatives and Policy Actions

*Posted on November 6, 2025 by Carey Fauscett-Anderson*

TRENTON, Ga. (November 6, 2025) — The Dade County Board of Commissioners met for its monthly workshop and regular meeting on Thursday, November 6, 2025 covering a range of topics including proclamations, capital equipment updates, ordinance revisions and citizen concerns.

### **Proclamations and community involvement**

The board approved two proclamations recognizing November as Adoption Awareness Month and Hospice Month. Commissioner Bob Woods shared his personal connection to adoption, saying, “Many of these kids come with baggage, but it’s worth it. If anyone has questions, please call me to talk about it.” Chairman Don Townsend added, “We appreciate Bob and all those who adopt.”

Townsend also expressed appreciation for the hospice providers serving Dade County, noting that residents have multiple local options for care and end-of-life support.

The board discussed the Special Use Permit Board, emphasizing the need for community participation. Commissioners encouraged citizens who are interested in serving to contact the county office.



*Pictured Left to Right:  
Commissioner Bill Pullen,  
Commissioner Phillip Hartline,  
County Executive Don Townsend,  
Commissioner Bob Woods,  
Commissioner Melissa Bradford*

### **Capital equipment and SPLOST discussion**

IT Deputy Director Alex Case presented a proposal for new servers totaling \$59,418.75 to replace aging technology used across multiple county departments. The board discussed how this purchase could be covered through SPLOST reallocation, with Finance Director Rebecca Jones reporting that collections have exceeded projections, allowing flexibility for equipment and infrastructure updates.

### **Ordinances, meetings and policy updates**

Commissioners adopted a comprehensive rewrite of Chapter 14: Animals in the County Code of Ordinances. The revision clarifies language around rabies vaccination requirements and restraint of animals. County Attorney Robin Rogers noted that the update consolidates numerous amendments into one clear and consistent document.

Commissioner Melissa Bradford also introduced a 90-day moratorium on commercial solar farm permitting while the county reviews potential setbacks, land use guidelines and best practices for solar development. The motion passed with the intent to create a well-researched ordinance that balances private property rights with responsible development.

In other action, the board approved Resolution R-44-25, moving the January 2026 Commission Meeting from Thursday, January 1, which falls on a federal holiday, to Thursday, January 8, 2026.

### **Additional discussion items**

The board reviewed updates to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the UGA Extension Office and tabled final approval to allow additional time for revisions ensuring county involvement in future hiring decisions.

Bradford also presented proposed policies and procedures for the Opioid Settlement Fund, designed to guide the distribution of approximately \$150,000 to local organizations that support addiction recovery and prevention efforts.

### **Citizens' participation**

During the public comment period, several citizens spoke about county inspection procedures and offered suggestions for ensuring that future inspections continue to meet the highest standards of professionalism and safety.

Community member Audrey Clark also announced that the Dade County Christmas Parade will take place on Saturday, December 13, at 6 p.m., featuring a "Lighted Parade Winter Wonderland" theme.

## **Commissioner reports**

Commissioners shared updates on infrastructure projects, emergency services and community events:

- Bill Pullen reported on ongoing bridge projects, recent traffic incidents and Georgia Power system upgrades.
- Phillip Hartline discussed maintenance at the sports complex and congratulated the county's softball team for a strong season finish.
- Bob Woods shared updates on the Trenton-Dade Animal Center (TDAC) project, including recent community outreach events and vaccination efforts. He also announced Veterans Day activities, including a parade at 6 p.m. followed by a God and Country Service. County offices will be closed Tuesday, Nov. 11, in observance of Veterans Day.
- Melissa Bradford provided updates on transfer station operations, recycling initiatives and ongoing efforts to improve glass recycling options.
- Chairman Don Townsend reported on GDOT infrastructure plans, community events and local economic development updates.

## **Adjournment**

After addressing all workshop and regular meeting items, the board adjourned by unanimous vote.

Articles covering individual agenda items from this meeting will be published soon as part of Dade County's ongoing "After the Meeting" article series, providing residents with a closer look at the discussions and decisions shaping county government.

For recordings and presentation materials, please visit our YouTube Page.