



Commissioners Report on Public Safety Activity, Infrastructure, and Community Initiatives

Posted on January 12, 2026 by Carey Fauscett-Anderson



TRENTON, Ga. (January 12, 2026) — The Dade County Commission received commissioner reports during its January 2026 meeting, with Chairman Don Townsend and Commissioners Bob Woods and Bill Pullen present. Commissioners Melissa Bradford and Phillip Hartline were absent due to illness.

Reports addressed public safety activity, transportation projects, county facilities, recreation programming, election information, and community-based initiatives.

Commissioner Bill Pullen reported that Dade County's emergency services, fire agencies — including Georgia Forestry — and law enforcement agencies collectively responded to 30,955 calls in 2025. Based on his calculation, that figure averages approximately 85 calls per day and reflects the level of activity occurring countywide.

Pullen also provided an update on the U.S. 11 bridge project at Squirrel Town Creek, stating the project is currently in a transition phase. The temporary bridge has been removed, and upcoming work includes shoulder improvements and guardrail installation, with paving to follow once that work is completed.

In additional remarks, Pullen said site work has begun for a new Dollar General store in the Slygo area, located across Slygo Road from the Citgo station.





Several community updates were shared by Chairman Don Townsend, including public interest in holiday decorations displayed at the Historic Courthouse. According to Townsend, the site attracted nearly 1,000 visitors during December. He noted that improvements to the Historic Courthouse and renovations to the Historic Train Depot were completed using Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) funds.

The chairman also referenced a recent ribbon cutting at the Historic Train Depot and encouraged residents to visit the facility. County offices housed in the building include the Public Defender's Office, the Soil Conservationist's Office and Code Enforcement.

Food insecurity efforts were also highlighted during the report. Townsend referenced community "blessing boxes" that provide food access to residents around the clock and recognized organizations supporting the initiative, including the Lions Club and Trenton Methodist Church, along with other local churches involved in the effort.



An update on an upcoming special election was also provided. Election Day is scheduled for March 10, with voter registration closing Feb. 9 and advance voting beginning Feb. 16. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and early voting opportunities are expected to include additional dates.

Presenting a report on behalf of Commissioner Phillip Hartline, who was absent due to illness, Townsend said electrical inspections totaled 35 in November 2025 and increased to 44 in December 2025. The figures included new construction and temporary new construction inspections and reflect continued development activity within the county.



Recreation updates related to the county sports complex were also shared. Middle school baseball practices are scheduled to begin during the second week of February, with games expected to start later in the month. Recreational league baseball sign-ups are currently open and will close in early February, while recreational soccer sign-ups are expected to begin in February. Maintenance work is underway at the baseball fields, including sod cutting and field preparation.

Commissioner Bob Woods reported on progress at the Trenton-Dade Animal Center, noting a groundbreaking ceremony for the new facility was held Dec. 16, 2025. The project, which is being funded through SPLOST dollars, included county officials, rescue volunteers, and community supporters in attendance at the ceremony.

Woods said the event recognized individuals who have provided decades of service and support to animal welfare efforts in Dade County. Construction of the building shell is expected to be completed in the spring, weather permitting.

