

Barbour County Commission Meeting
February 2, 2026
5:00pm

DAVID STRAIT COMMISSION PRESIDENT, JEDD SCHOLA COMMISSIONER, BOB RICHARDSON COMMISSIONER, LAURIE AUSTIN COUNTY CLERK, SHANA FREY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Ira Mayle, Marjorie George, Kim Lewis, Rhett Dusenbury, Sheila Riggs, Verle Brown, Jose Moreno, Dylan Harper, Brett Carpenter, Drew Phillips, Danielle Rush, Jason Collins, Michelle Collins, Braden Collins, Corey Brandon, Aaron Bostel, Natasha Kosowsky

David Strait called the meeting to order at 5:00pm and led the pledge.

David Strait made a motion to approve the January 16, 2026, January 24, 2026, January 25, 2026 and January 26, 2026 meeting minutes as presented; Bob Richardson seconded. 3/0

Exonerations were presented.

Final Settlements were presented and approved on a motion by David Strait, seconded by Jedd Schola. 3/0

THOMAS BRADLEY WARE, DONALD RAYMOND POSMAN, SHIRLEY E. WEBSTER, TERRI SUE PRICE, HARVEY C. HUDKINS, MINERVA TURLEY

David Strait made a motion to approve the resignation of Lesa Corley from the Barbour County Ambulance Authority Board; Bob Richardson seconded. Her participation on the board was valuable and her willingness to serve was appreciated. 3/0 The Commission will be seeking her replacement.

A discussion was held regarding the Courthouse HVAC system and its deficiencies. The new outdoor units were installed in August 2024 and the system continues to have failures. A recent system wide leak detection indicated a leak in the inner condenser coil of one of the new outdoor units. Discussion was held on warranty, timelines and repair. Casto Technical will review work orders in more detail. In the mean time to get the building heated sufficiently, Jedd Schola made a motion to approve the condenser coil repair quote with Casto Technical in the amount of \$4,282.00; David Strait seconded.

Corey Brandon, OEM, provided a recap of the winter weather and the City of Philippi's reduction of potable water supply. The dive team found algae build up that was accumulating slush. Prevention measures have been put in place. The Dive team gave thanks and appreciation to Law Enforcement, EMS, and Fire for their support during their efforts and Hardees for breakfast and coffee.

Dylan Harper, 911, provided an update on the generator at the Communications tower site and working with the State for a replacement.

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Their CDARS account is at renewal. On a motion by Jedd Schola, the account will be renewed for 26 weeks at 3.6% in the amount of \$33,058.98 at People's Bank; Bob Richardson seconded. 3/0

Aaron Bostel, Barbour County Ambulance Authority, recognized Lesa's Corely's efforts on the Ambulance Authority board.

He reported three of five ambulances are operational and currently one operational 4WD. The other 4WDs have significant mechanical issues. Efforts have been given to rent a 4WD temporarily, however no availability.

Danielle Rush requested County Commission's continued sponsorship for the Belington Elementary Blue & Gray 5k race. On a motion by Jedd Schola, seconded by David Strait, \$500.00 was approved. 3/0

David Strait made a motion to enter Executive Session at 6:00pm to review complaints to the 911 Wrecker Tow Rotation policy; Jedd Scola seconded. 3/0

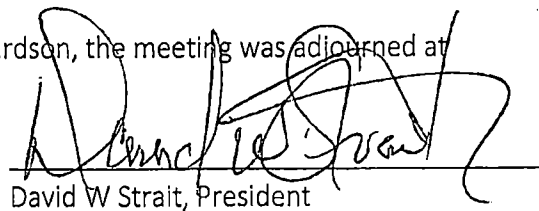
David Strait made a motion to resume Regular Session at 7:36pm; Jedd Schola seconded. 3/0

Two complaints were received against the 911 Wrecker Tow policy. The complaints were investigated by the 911 Director and further investigated by the County Commission. Upon review of all evidence presented, the complaint from Ryan's Wrecker Service that the Barbour County Sheriff Department did not honor an owner's request for his service was found unsubstantiated. The seconded complaint against Ryan's Wrecker Service regarding speculation and discussion on social media that there was wrongdoing, or potential of, by the Barbour County Sheriff's Department; there has been an agreed resolution between Deputy Curkendall and Ryan's Wrecker Service.

The floor was open for public comment by order of the sign-in sheet.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2026 at 9:00am.

On a motion by David Strait, seconded by Bob Richardson, the meeting was adjourned at 7:44pm. 3/0



David W Strait, President

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