

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 16, 2025 - 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a regular Commissioners Meeting on September 16, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Commission Chamber of the Heard County Administration Building. In attendance at the meeting were Chairman Tracy McCormick, District 1 Commissioner Curtis Mock, District 3 Commissioner Iris Harris, District 4 Commissioner Larry Hammond, District 5 Commissioner David Walls, and County Attorney Michael Hill. District 2 Commissioner James Perry, participated via phone.

Agenda Item # 2 - Welcome, Invocation, and Pledge to the American Flag

Chairman Tracy McCormick called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

Agenda Item # 3 – Approval of Minutes

On a motion (Walls) and second (Mock), the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the August 6, 2025, Work Session as written. On a motion (Harris) and second (Hammond), the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the August 19, 2025, Work Session as written. On a motion (Walls) and second (Hammond), the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the August 19, 2025, Regular Commissioner’s Meeting, as written.

Agenda Item # 4 – Amend Agenda

On a motion (Walls), and second (Harris), the Board voted unanimously to amend the agenda to remove item “a. Application to Rezone, Darren McDonald, Cummings Road Franklin, GA” under Public Hearings and remove from New Business item “a. Application to Rezone, Darren McDonald, Cummings Road Franklin, GA”.

Agenda Item # 5 – Public Hearing

a) Special Use – Brandon Harmon, 3338 Hwy 34 Franklin, GA

On a motion (Walls), and second (Mock), the Board voted unanimously to open the public hearing. On behalf of the Planning Commission, Dustin Pate presented a rezoning application for

a wedding and event planning venue. The Planning Commission made a recommendation to approve the permit with special conditions. Applicant Brandon Harmon addressed the Board and stated that his intention is to conclude events by 10:00 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. He explained that both he and his wife will be present on the property during events to oversee operations. Mr. Harmon noted that they both hold full-time jobs and do not plan to host events regularly, but rather on an occasional basis. He also informed the Board that the driveway has been relocated in compliance with Georgia Department of Transportation (GA D.O.T.) requirements. Additionally, he confirmed that no alcohol will be served and no food will be prepared on the premises. Andrew Betts spoke in favor of the application. Kelly Akins and Debbie Levins spoke against the application. On a motion (Walls), and second (Hammond), the Board voted unanimously to close the public hearing.

b) Special Use Application – Bijan Solar LLC, Franklin Parkway, Franklin, GA

On a motion (Hammond), and second (Mock), the Board voted unanimously to open the public hearing. Dustin Pate presented an application to the Board on behalf of Bijan Solar LLC for the development of a solar farm. He noted that the Planning Commission had recommended denial of the permit. George Kritko also addressed the Board, representing Bijan Solar LLC, and explained that the applicant is requesting a Special Use Permit to construct a solar facility on a 30.22-acre parcel currently zoned for agricultural use. During the meeting, citizens Tom Bush, Lilly Cole, and Melvin Cole spoke in opposition to the application.

On a motion (Hammond), and second (Walls), the Board voted unanimously to close the public hearing.

Agenda Item # 6 – New Business

a. Discuss/Decision Special Use Application – Brandon Harmon, 3338 Hwy 34 Franklin, GA

On a motion (Walls) and second (Hammond), the Board voted unanimously to approve the application with the following special conditions:

- All the conditions set by the Planning Commission
- Proper signage
- Traffic control
- With D.O.T. approval
- No alcohol at events

b. Discuss/Decision Special Use Application – Bijan Solar LLC, Franklin Parkway, Franklin, GA

On a motion (Hammond) and second (Walls), the Board voted unanimously to deny the application.

Agenda Item # 7 – Old Business

None.

Agenda Item # 8 – Public Comments

- Melinda Brown
- Tom Bush

Item # 9 – Executive Session


None.

Item # 10 – Adjourn

There being no further business, on a motion (Harris) and second (Hammond), the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Adjourned 8:00 p.m.

Katrina Billingsley
County Clerk

Tracy McCormick 
Chairman

Date: 10/21/25