

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
May 20, 2025 - 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a regular Commissioners Meeting on May 20, 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 2 Commissioner James Perry, District 3 Commissioner Iris Harris, District 4 Commissioner Larry Hammond, District 5 Commissioner David Walls, and County Attorney Michael Hill.

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

Chairman Tracy McCormick called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. Commissioner Iris Harris gave the invocation.

Agenda Item # 3 – Public Hearing

a) Rezoning Application – Rasheena Holloway

Applicant Rasheena Holloway requested to sell all but one acre of her six-acre property located at 1744 Dowdy Road, a proposal that does not comply with current zoning regulations. While the Board acknowledged the hardship presented and discussed possible alternatives, concerns were expressed about setting a precedent that could impact future zoning decisions. There were no public comments on the matter. On a motion (Hammond), and second (Walls), the Board voted unanimously to close the public hearing.

Agenda Item # 4 – Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the Work Session and regular Commissioner's meeting on April 15, 2025, were presented to the Board for approval along with the minutes from the Work Sessions on May 7, 2025, and May 12, 2025. On a motion (Perry) and second (Walls), Commissioners Mock and Hammond voted in favor of approving the minutes from the April 15, 2025, Work Session and

regular Commissioner's meeting along with the minutes from the Work Sessions on May 7, 2025, and May 12, 2025. as written. Commissioner Harris abstained, citing absence from the May 7, 2025, meeting.

Agenda Item # 5– Amend Agenda

None.

Agenda Item # 6 – New Business

a. Discuss/Decision Rezoning Application – Rasheena Holloway

Board members expressed concern that approving the request could set a precedent leading to an influx of similar applications, potentially undermining the County's efforts to preserve larger tracts of land. A motion to approve the request was made by Commissioner Perry but failed for lack of a second. On a motion (Hammond) and a second (Harris), Commissioners Mock and Walls voted to deny the application. Commissioner Perry abstained.

b. Discuss/Decision Outdoor Warning System

The Board discussed a proposal to purchase an Outdoor Warning System for \$19,800, which would include hardware, software, and setup to allow automated, location-specific tornado alerts. Board members expressed concerns about the system's reliance on internet connectivity, lack of battery backup, and limited effectiveness for residents inside homes. They also noted that many surrounding counties are moving away from sirens in favor of mobile alert systems like Code Red, which is already available in the County. Given the cost and limited benefits, the Board agreed that efforts would be better focused on increasing citizen enrollment in Code Red. On a motion (Perry) and

a second (Mock), the Board voted unanimously to deny the purchase of the Outdoor Warning System.

c. Discuss Logging Ordinance

The Board briefly discussed the proposed Logging Ordinance but opted to postpone further consideration. On a motion (Hammond) and a second (Harris), the Board voted unanimously to table the Logging Ordinance until the next scheduled Commissioners' meeting on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

d. Discuss/Decision Condemnation of Property located at 4488 Victory Road

The Board discussed the condition of the property located at 4488 Victory Road, which has remained in a state of disrepair following a fire many years ago. Although the property owner indicated plans to transfer the property to a granddaughter, no timeline for demolition was provided, and attempts to follow up with the property owner received no response. The structure remains visibly deteriorated and poses a safety concern. Based on the lack of progress and the recommendation from Codes Enforcement Officer James McDonald, the Board determined that the property is not salvageable. On a motion (Hammond) and a second (Mock), the Board unanimously voted to condemn the property located at 4488 Victory Road.

Agenda Item # 7 – Old Business

None.

Agenda Item # 8 – Public Comments

- Brenda Poole

Item # 9 – Executive Session

On a motion (Walls) and a second (Harris), the Board entered into Executive Session at 7:14 p.m. to discuss litigation. On a motion (Mock) and a second (Hammond), the Board exited Executive Session at 7:32 p.m.

Item # 10 – Adjourn

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

Adjourned 7:34 p.m.

Katrina Billingsley

County Clerk

Tracy McEnt

Chairman

Date: 06/17/2025

