

Gibson County Board of Commissioners
Regular Session
January 6, 2026, at Southwest Annex

Commissioner Montgomery led the prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners present:

- Kenneth Montgomery, Commissioner
- Chuck Lewis, Commissioner
- Nick Burns, Commissioner

Election of Officers

Commissioner Montgomery motioned for Commissioner Burns to take the Presidential office, seconded by Commissioner Lewis. The vote was 3-0.

Commissioner Burns motioned Commissioner Lewis take the Vice-Presidential office, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote was 3-0.

Meeting Minutes

- December 16, 2025 minutes were presented.
- December 22, 2025 minutes were presented.

Commissioner Montgomery made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by Commissioner Lewis. The motion carried 3-0.

Approval of Claims

Commissioner Lewis made a motion to approve claims, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The motion carried 3-0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Sheriff's Department – Sheriff Vanoven

- Staffing Report
 - Deputies have one opening.
 - Communication Department is fully staffed.
 - Community Corrections has one opening.
 - Corrections positions: seventeen of twenty-one filled.
- There was an average of 118 in the detention center.

EMS (Emergency Medical Services) Presented by AJ Aldridge and Arica Cole

- EMS is fully staffed.
- 2026 is their 50th anniversary.
- They will host a hiring event very soon for part-time employees.
- New truck is on its way; second truck will be delivered in a couple of months. They will have three trucks available for auction.

Courthouse & County Owned Property Presented by Andy Schafer

- Sidewalk is complete; the elected officials parking lot will be striped soon.
- A new tractor is on order.
- North Annex elevator project will begin as soon as the parts are delivered.

Soil and Water Conservation Department Presented by Stephanie Young

- GCSWCD annual meeting will be on February 17, 2026 at the Toyota Events Center.
- The drill acquired with grant funds is on order.

Clerk

- 2026 election filing will open on January 7th.

Highway

- They are working on CCMG.
- TIF project on CR 350E is in progress.
- They are reviewing paving projects for this year.

OLD BUSINESS

Old Jail Demolition Project Update – Owner’s Representative George Ballard

- Three I Engineering continues to work on a plan to remove the old jail.
- Radio upgrade project is going well; they have one install remaining; they are experiencing better quality radio service because of this project.

NEW BUSINESS

YMCA Corporate Membership – Attorney McDonald & YMCA Representatives

- Memberships of the new YMCA have been met; it exceeded their expectations.
- They are offering membership opportunities to county employees as a health and wellness benefit.
- They will offer a \$10 discount for county employees if they receive a commitment of over one hundred memberships.
- The YMCA can look at lumping all Gibson County municipalities into this membership in the future.
- There is no cost to the county, only that the County promotes the enrollment opportunity to its employees.
- The enrollment fees would come directly from the employees.
- The program will begin in February 2026 and be on a rolling period.
- The program will be periodically evaluated and if the membership volume is not reached the discount could be discontinued.
- The YMCA can provide the county with materials to market this benefit.
- The current employee memberships will be integrated into the new program, providing the employee supplies the required employment information.
- Attorney McDonald announced that history was made a couple of weeks ago when Gibson Southern swam against NGSC.
- Commissioner Burns asked the YMCA to provide an update of county enrollment.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to approve this corporate membership, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote was 3-0.

Road Study Requested for John Ford & Thompson Road

- Sheriff Vanoven will work on this road study.

2026 Appointments (See Attached 2026 Appointment Listing)

Commissioner Lewis motioned to re-appoint the same individuals for 2026 that were appointed in 2025, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The motion passed on a 3-0 vote.

Medical/Personal Leaves (0)

Public Comments

Gibson County Chamber of Commerce, Patty Vanoven

- Chamber Day at Statehouse is January 26th.
- On February 13th, the Chamber will host “A Night of Love” at the Princeton Theatre. A gourmet Italian dinner will be served.

Randy Hall

- Wondered if Commissioners were aware of a state highway crew doing a study near CR450E/50S, CR550E and CR 50N. No one has knowledge about this.

Ron Cromer

- Asked if Commissioner were aware of that emergency sirens are not working in Buckskin and Somerville.
- Commissioners are aware; parts have been ordered to repair the sirens; new sirens are on order.

Adjournment

Commissioner Montgomery motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Lewis. The vote was 3-0.

Meeting Minutes January 6, 2026



Nick Burns, President



Chuck Lewis, Vice President



Kenneth Montgomery, Commissioner



ATTEST: Mike Watkins, Auditor

