



Joint Services Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Caucus Room, 12 East 4th Ave. 9:00 AM

Minutes

Commissions: Floyd County Board of Commissioners
Rome City Commission

Members: Chair Rhonda Wallace, Floyd County
Vice Chair Scotty Hancock, Floyd County
Mayor Jim Bojo, Rome City
Mayor Pro Tem Wayne Robinson, Rome City

Others present: Jamie McCord, Sammy Rich, Harry Brock, Jill Fisher, Erin Elrod, Meredith Ulmer, Joe Smith, John Bailey, Susie Gass, Toni Rhinehart, Kelley Ledford, Todd Wofford, Adam Carey and Doug Walker.

I. Call to Order

Chair Wallace called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

II. Approve minutes from the February 4, 2025 Joint Services meeting.

The minutes of the February 4, 2025 meeting were approved by common consent.

III. New Business

a. Joint Land Bank Appointment

The committee considered appointments to fill the seat on the Land Bank Authority vacated by Rob Ware. Mayor Bojo motioned to appoint Melinda Brown, seconded by Vice Chair Hancock. The motion carried through common consent.

b. Parks and Recreation

Mr. McCord passed a sheet detailing Parks and Recreation agreement dates, the current one expires on March 31, 2027 as well as general terms of that agreement and modifications to some of the parks. The sheet also included parks which are not part

of the current agreement: North Rome Playground, Unity Point, Mt. Berry Trailhead Playground, Covington Park and proposed GE Park improvements.

Mr. Rich stated that care for Covington is handled by the city as it is seen as an addition to the trail system. Mr. Rich also presented to the committee mockups of a pump track planned for Ridge Ferry Park and a potential use of what will be Hufstetler Park at GE. Hufstetler Park will be funded by a grant originally applied for by the Northwest Georgia Housing Authority.

Mr. Wofford discussed the cost of operating parks and focused on the cost of utilities. Mr. Wofford discussed Ridge Ferry Park specifically regarding bathroom use and the need for additional bathrooms. Using Ridge Ferry Park as an example, Mr. Wofford also said there are personnel costs when the E.C.O. Center has weekend activities. The department does not have the funding to cover utilities and or the upkeep of additional features, like trees and foliage, added to newer or renovated city parks, like Banty Jones. Mr. Wofford suggested that one option could be the city take over the utilities costs and maintenance in city parks.

Mr. Rich and Mr. McCord both stated that any new agreement should include additional responsibilities because of recent park developments and which entity is responsible for the maintenance of any park additions or modifications.

c. Annual Joint Parks and Recreation Meeting

Mr. McCord suggested that city and county commissioners participate in a tour of facilities and parks in the Parks and Recreation agreement. The committee discussed potential meeting dates for that tour but no date was set.

IV. Other Business

Mr. Rich discussed the changes that could come from legislation proposed in the Georgia General Assembly this session which could affect property tax revenues. Local governments would lose an estimated 30% of their property tax revenue and the committee discussed how that could affect Parks and Rec or other joint projects and services.

Chair Wallace and Mayor Bojo discussed changing the Joint Services Committee meetings from bi-monthly to monthly. Mayor Bojo said that the city and county have a lot of time to make up after not meeting for a year.

Prior to adjournment, Vice Chair Hancock asked Mayor Bojo if there was an appetite in the city commission to split from the county regarding Parks and Recreation services. Mayor Bojo and Commissioner Robinson both indicated that they would not like to end the joint agreement but that the current agreement needed to be adjusted.

V. Adjourn

Seeing no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by common consent.