

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE WILCOX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HELD ON DECEMBER 18, 2025 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM IN  
THE WILCOX COUNTY COURTHOUSE.

Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Jamie Handley	Chairman
Clay Reid	Vice Chairman
Jowan Johnson	Commissioner
Kerney Hair	Commissioner
Mel Powell	Commissioner
Michael Pomirko	County Manager/Clerk
Lucas Allison	Cordele Dispatch
Brent Peebles	Fiveash Insurance Agency

Chairman Jamie Handley called the meeting to order at **6:00 p.m.**

Invocation: Commissioner Jowan Johnson

Pledge of Allegiance: All present

**Workers' Compensation Proposals (ACCG & Fiveash Agency)**

Chairman Handley opened the first item of business regarding the selection of a workers' compensation insurance proposal between ACCG in the amount of \$106,174.00 and Fiveash Agency in the amount of \$82,288.00. County Manager Michael Pomirko provided a brief history of the County's current coverage and explained the pros and cons of remaining with the current provider versus changing coverage. He discussed past claims that have contributed to increased costs in certain areas, noting challenges faced by several departments over recent years. He also highlighted the implementation of improved safety procedures, which have resulted in savings.

Mr. Pomirko explained that participation in the ACCG program since 1986 has resulted in dividend credits, with the current proposal reflecting a dividend of \$13,585.00. He also noted the County's receipt of \$2,500.00 safety grants in multiple years to offset safety-related expenses. Commissioners questioned Brent Peebles regarding the differences between a pooled insurance program and traditional insurance focused solely on Wilcox County. Mr. Peebles discussed both advantages and disadvantages of a pooled program. Mr. Pomirko further explained that claims history directly impacts premium increases.

Following discussion, Chairman Handley called for a vote.

- Motion: Commissioner Kerney Hair moved to accept the proposal from Fiveash Agency for \$82,288.00, covering January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026.  
Second: Commissioner Jowan Johnson  
Vote: Opposed by Commissioner Mel Powell and Vice Chairman Clay Reid.
- Motion: Commissioner Mel Powell moved to accept the ACCG proposal for \$106,174.00.  
Second: Vice Chairman Clay Reid  
Vote: Opposed by Commissioner Kerney Hair and Commissioner Jowan Johnson.

With a tie vote, Chairman Jamie Handley cast the tie-breaking vote, approving the Fiveash Agency proposal for \$82,288.00, effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026.

**Civic Plus Website Proposal**

Chairman Handley opened the second item of business. Mr. Pomirko explained the importance of updating the County's website to comply with ADA standards, noting that beginning April 2027, all websites must meet federal ADA requirements. He emphasized the importance of selecting a platform that ensures compliance while allowing future growth. Mr. Pomirko stated that Civic Plus offers features such as open records requests, mass communication tools, and other services beneficial to County operations and citizens.

The proposal includes:

- \$31,590.00 for development and startup of the new website
- \$12,147.00 annual fee, beginning after the first full year of operation, which maintains ADA compliance and includes a site refresh every four years

With no further discussion due to the federal mandate:

- Motion: Vice Chairman Clay Reid moved to accept the CivicPlus proposal.  
Second: Commissioner Jowan Johnson  
Vote: Unanimous

#### **Fire Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA)**

Chairman Handley opened the third item of business. Mr. Pomirko explained the purpose of the discussion regarding the new Fire IGA, effective January 1, 2026, and the need for the Board to be aligned. He stated that the Cities of Pineview and Pitts have signed the agreement. Pomirko expressed concern that cities not signing the IGA may request continued access to County resources such as diesel fuel. He noted that the City of Abbeville is expected to sign soon but may need additional time due to new leadership, while the City of Rochelle has not responded. Mr. Pomirko recommended keeping diesel cards active for Abbeville and Rochelle, with no new payments, until they sign the IGA.

- Motion: Vice Chairman Clay Reid moved to accept the new terms and revisit the matter by the end of February to determine whether Abbeville or Rochelle have signed the Fire IGA.  
Second: Commissioner Jowan Johnson  
Vote: Unanimous

#### **Stryker Load System – EMS Ambulance M-5**

Chairman Handley opened the fourth item of business. Mr. Pomirko provided an update from Mr. Charles Futch regarding the proposal to purchase a refurbished Stryker load system for Ambulance M-5. He explained that substantial investment has already been made in Ambulance M-3, and this purchase would help extend fleet usage while investing in future equipment needs.

- Motion: Vice Chairman Clay Reid moved to approve the purchase of a refurbished Stryker load system for \$14,825.00 from the 2024 SPLOST account.  
Second: Commissioner Jowan Johnson  
Vote: Unanimous

#### **County Manager Ordinance 2025-02 (Second Reading)**

Mr. Pomirko requested the Board proceed with final approval of outstanding ordinances. Chairman Handley read aloud the updated County Manager Ordinance 2025-02, which corrected language and clarified daily operations.

- Motion: Commissioner Kerney Hair moved to approve the ordinance.  
Second: Commissioner Jowan Johnson  
Vote: Unanimous

#### **Timber Harvesting Ordinance 2025-01 (Second Reading)**

Chairman Handley read aloud the updated Timber Harvesting Ordinance for Wilcox County.

- Motion: Vice Chairman Clay Reid moved to approve Ordinance 2025-01.  
Second: Commissioner Kerney Hair  
Vote: Unanimous

#### **Adjournment**

- Motion: Commissioner Jowan Johnson moved to adjourn.  
Second: Vice Chairman Clay Reid  
Vote: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.



Jamie Handley, Chairman

Michael Pomirko, County Manager