

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
WORK SESSION
Monday, August 25, 2025

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Chairman Bill Slaughter
Commissioner Scott Orenstein
Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker
Commissioner Demarcus Marshall
Commissioner Michael Smith

Vice Chairperson Joyce Evans was not in attendance.

Chairman Slaughter called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

MINUTES

The minutes were presented for the work session of August 11, 2025, and the regular session of August 12, 2025. No revisions to the minutes were requested.

FOR CONSIDERATION

Adoption of the 2025 Millage Rate

Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the item stating there would be a presentation regarding the millage agenda items at tomorrow night's meeting. Ms. Black stated the county-wide millage for 2025 should be set at the rollback rate of 5.051 mills. This represents a reduction of 0.232 mills from 2024.

Adoption of Special District Millage for the Industrial Authority for 2025

Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the item. Ms. Black stated prior to 2025, the Georgia Department of Revenue required the millage assigned to the authorities to be included in the county-wide millage. However, with the adoption of HB 581 and related legislation, millage assessed for authority funding is now considered a special district and is adopted separately. The Industrial Authority rate was set at 1.00 mill since it was first implemented, but was reduced to 0.823 mills in 2024. The proposed millage for 2025 for the Industrial Authority is 1.00 mill.

Adoption of Special District Millage for the Parks and Recreation Authority for 2025

Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the item. Ms. Black stated prior to 2025, the Georgia Department of Revenue required the millage assigned to the authorities to be included in the county-wide millage. However, with the adoption of HB 581 and related legislation, millage assessed for authority funding is now considered a special district and is adopted separately. The Parks and Recreation Authority rate was set at 1.25 mills since it was first implemented. The proposed millage for 2025 for the Parks and Recreation Authority is 1.25 mills. Commissioner Marshall asked regarding the dollar amounts, Ms. Black stated there would be a presentation given tomorrow night to further