

Regular Meeting – February 17, 2026

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the Graham County Community Building located at 196 Knight Street Robbinsville, NC for their regular monthly meeting. All board was present. Also present, Manager Brady Cody, Finance Director Stacy Carpenter, Project Manager Jason Marino and Clerk Kim Crisp.

1. Chair Smith called the meeting to order.
2. Chair Smith asks Commissioner Cody to give the Invocation.
3. Chair Smith asks Commissioner Orr to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Chair Smith asks for changes or additions to the agenda. Manager Cody asks that we add 9d. Budget Meeting Dates and Equalization and Review Schedule. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the agenda with the stated change. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
5. Chair Smith asks for approval of the minutes for January 20th Workshop and Regular Meeting and January 30th Emergency Meeting. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve the minutes as stated. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
6. Chair Smith asks for public comment. No public comment.
7. Chair Smith asks for the project manager's report. PM Marino stated that he sent the CAD files to the engineers and to Mosely and Withers Ravenel to give them a full concept of the property. Chair Smith stated that when she was first elected, the board requested that the facility be sized down to a more basic structure, has this been done. PM Marino stated that he did send emails to design the facility with forty beds or less due to the cost of the upkeep and maintenance of larger facilities.
8. PM Marino stated that the Jail work is almost completed, some architectural finishes and IT upgrades are being done at this time. PM Marino stated that once these are completed the Jail Administration can be moved back into their original location.
9. PM Marino stated that the Sanitation Building anchor rods and complete structural foundation rebar are on site and the Civil Engineering construction plans are at 95%. PM Marino stated that advertising for bids will occur when there is a hard schedule for existing structure removal and is awaiting a decision on the way forward on demolition of the existing shed structure.
10. PM Marino stated that the last Neighborhood Revitalization Home is almost complete and the owner is in the process of moving into their new home. PM Marino stated that there are a few punch list items that need to be done and once those are completed the home will be completely finished.
11. PM Marino stated that the Azalea Hills project and the Big Oaks Bleacher Replacement had no changes to report at this time.
12. Chair Smith asks for the finance reporting. Director Carpenter stated that she does have some budget amendments for the board's review. Director Carpenter explained Budget Amendments 10,11,12,13,14,15,16, and 17. Commissioner Orr made the motion to approve the budget amendments as stated. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
13. Director Carpenter stated that the Revenues exceeded the expenditures by \$749,935.81.
14. Director Carpenter stated that the current year tax collections were \$894,347.06; prior year collections were \$21,596.39 for a total year to date collection of \$8,496,605.69.
15. Director Carpenter stated that our collection rate to date is 89.18%.
16. Director Carpenter stated that our DMV Collection was \$57,895.42 with a year to date of \$426,108.16.
17. Director Carpenter stated that our sales tax collection for December that is paid in February was \$296,406.32 with a year to date of \$1,982,796.28.
18. Director Carpenter stated that our sales tax collection for the schools portion was \$58,024.71 with a year-to-date total of \$406,414.32.
19. Director Carpenter stated that our ¼ cent sales tax collection was \$24,900.27 with a total since inception of \$1,909,578.16.
20. Director Carpenter stated that the Local Government update is good and this is the second year under their coaching staff.
21. Director Carpenter stated that the site work is completed for the FY23/24 Audit and we should have final numbers in early March.
22. Director Carpenter stated that she will prepare a resolution to adjust the Sheriff Department Work Schedule.

23. Director Carpenter stated that the office bid out for our fire extinguisher service, and she recommended going with Eagle Fire. The board gave a directive to move forward with the contract.
24. Chair Smith asks for the managers report. Manager Cody asks for approval of the Releases \$811.19 and the Discoveries \$129,411.73. Commissioner Cody made the motion to approve the releases and discoveries. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
25. Manager Cody asks for a motion to surplus a 2019 Dodge Van Vin #1315. Chair Smith made the motion to surplus the 2019 Dodge Van as stated. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
26. Manager Cody asks for reappointment of Kelsey Cody and Bob Wehr to the Health Advisory Board. Commissioner Orr made the motion to reappoint as stated. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
27. Manager Cody announced the upcoming budget meetings. February 24th at 4:30 p.m.; February 26th at 3:00 p.m. and March 5th at 2:00 p.m.
28. Chair Smith asks for a motion to go into closed session under G. S. 143-318.11(a)(1)(3)(5)(6) for privileged or confidential information, attorney client privilege, contracts and personnel. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
29. Chair Smith asks for a motion to go back into open session. Commissioner Williams made the motion as stated. Chair Smith seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
30. Chair Smith asks for a motion to recuse Commissioner Jacob Nelms from any meetings/discussions concerning Sheriff Hoxit. Commissioner Williams made the motion to recuse Commissioner Nelms as stated. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
31. Chair Smith made the motion to grant leave without pay to Ashley Evans. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
32. Chair Smith asks for a motion to allow Manager Cody and Finance Director Carpenter to transfer monies between programs as needed. Commissioner Orr made the motion as stated. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
33. Chair Smith asks for a motion to approve the closed session minutes from January 20th Regular Meeting and January 30th Emergency Meeting. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the closed session minutes as stated. Commissioner Orr seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
34. Chair Smith made the motion to continue this meeting until Friday, February 20th at 1:00 p.m. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

Meggan Smith, Chair, Graham County Commissioner

Lynn Cody, Vice-Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

Jacob Nelms, Member, Graham County Commissioner

Connie Orr, Member, Graham County Commissioner

Natasha Williams, Member, Graham County Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board