

**GRAHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORKSHOP SESSION
SEPTEMBER 15, 2026**

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. in the Graham County Community Building, located at 196 Knight Street, Robbinsville, North Carolina, for their regular monthly workshop session.

Board Members Present: Meggan Smith, Chair; Lynn Cody, Vice-Chairman; Jacob Nelms; and Natasha Williams.

Board Member Present by Teleconference: Connie Orr.

Also Present: Brady Cody, County Manager; Stacy Carpenter, Finance Director; and Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Smith called the meeting to order.

2. GENERAL DISCUSSION/MICHAEL GOODMAN

Chair Smith recognized Michael Goodman.

Mr. Goodman stated that he had previously wanted to speak with the Board regarding some issues but had spoken with Commissioner Jacob Nelms and the issues had been resolved. Mr. Goodman stated that he had seen on Facebook that the Commissioners were seeking committee members and that he would like to become more involved.

Chair Smith stated that she was glad the prior issue had been resolved. Commissioner Nelms asked Mr. Goodman if there were any other issues that needed to be discussed. Mr. Goodman stated that he had no further issues.

Clerk Crisp asked Mr. Goodman to complete an application for consideration for a possible board appointment.

3. JUSTICE CENTER UPDATE

Chair Smith asked County Manager Brady Cody to provide an update on the Justice Center.

Manager Cody stated that he had spoken with COPE Architecture and that COPE had spoken with Judge Sellers regarding the needs of the Justice Center. Manager Cody stated that the building would need to be a two-story facility to allow for future expansion of the Jail/Sheriff's Department.

Manager Cody stated that he was working with COPE on the exterior design. The original design included four elevators, but the number had been reduced to two, one for court staff and one for the public.

Manager Cody stated that he would be meeting with COPE the following week regarding the design and layout of the rooms. COPE was also able to incorporate some of the design elements from the previous drawings, which should save time.

Manager Cody stated that the building would be metal but that, in order to obtain the required square footage, the building would need to be two stories. He stated that COPE was very budget-minded and that cost and functionality were priorities.

Chair Smith asked if the two-story building would be a stand-alone facility as requested by the Board. Manager Cody stated that it would be a stand-alone building and that the design would allow for future growth.

Commissioner Williams stated that the Board would have access to additional property once the school is moved to the new campus.

Manager Cody stated that he would provide an update following the meeting with COPE the following week and that COPE should have a proposal for the design in October.

Manager Cody stated that they had also discussed the number of bathrooms and had reduced the number from the original design.

Commissioner Cody stated that he was pleased that the group understood the Board's desires and was willing to work with the County.

Manager Cody stated that they were ready to move forward.

Chair Smith asked if the request for proposals had been sent for a Construction Manager at Risk. Manager Cody stated that it had not been sent at this time. He stated that the soil would be tested on the entire property, the building outline would then be presented to the Board, and the County would proceed from there.

4. SANITATION SHED BUILDING / RECYCLING AND REFUSE DROP-OFF SITE

Manager Cody stated that he needed to bring in a structural engineer to evaluate the Sanitation Shed Building. He stated that he was hopeful the building could be stabilized and that the County's portion could be separated from the property belonging to the other landowners.

Manager Cody presented a layout of the proposed Recycling/Refuse Drop-Off Site. He stated that the proposed layout would provide one-way entrance and one-way exit, with pull-in areas for the dumpsters and recycling station. Manager Cody stated that the proposed layout would improve the entire site and provide a safer way to dispose of garbage and recycling materials.

Chair Smith asked if the County had enough property to construct the site as presented.

Commissioner Williams stated that the site was approximately four acres.

Chair Smith stated that the County needed to begin the planning process for the new center.

Manager Cody stated that the Board would eventually need to transition to compactors as revenue allows. Manager Cody stated that he would provide an update at the October meeting regarding the available space for the proposed new site.

5. FURTHER DISCUSSION

Chair Smith asked if there was any further discussion. There was no further discussion.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Smith asked for a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cody seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned.

Signature/approval page attached.

Signature page for Workshop Session September 15, 2026

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