

ROCKDALE County PLANNING COMMISSION

Called Meeting

April 24, 2025, at 6:00 PM

Rockdale County Assembly Hall

901 N Main St NW, Conyers, GA, 30012



MINUTES

[The video is on Facebook](#)

MEMBERS' PRESENT:

John Lee Peterson
Danny Lester
Marlessia Yancey
Ernestine Stovall-Goolsby

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Angelique McClendon
(participating via phone)

STAFF PRESENT:

LaShawn Gardiner, Director
Denise Tugman, Planning Manager
Aischa Paul, Admin. Operations Coordinator
Carolina Angulo, Planner
Kristen McDaniel, Development Plan Review Specialist
Lara Parker, Deputy Director

1. **Call to Order:** Director LaShawn Gardiner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. to address the items on the agenda. The agenda is attached hereto and is incorporated into these minutes.
 - A. Invocation: Director Gardiner
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance
 - C. Determination of a Quorum
 - a. Roll Call
2. **Old Business:** None
 - A. **New Business:**
 - B. **City of Conyers:**

ITEM 1	Election of Officers
PURPOSE:	The election of officers ensures organized leadership within the Planning Commission. Officers such as the Chair and Vice Chair are responsible for leading meetings, maintaining order, and representing the commission in official matters. This structure promotes continuity, accountability, and effective operation of the commission.
PRESENTED BY:	County Staff

STAFF REPORT:

Director Gardiner opened the meeting by stating that the election of officers would take place. She then asked if the board had nominated a chair for the committee

Election of Officers:

Commissioner Marlessia Yancey nominated John Lee Peterson to serve as Chairman. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Ernestine Goolsby and passed unanimously.

Director Gardiner then opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair. Commissioner Ernestine Goolsby nominated Marlessia Yancey, and the nomination was seconded by Chairman John Lee Peterson. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 2	PowerPoint Planning Commissioner Training
PURPOSE:	The purpose of the training was to provide Planning Commissioners with a comprehensive overview of their roles and responsibilities, enhance their understanding of zoning and land use procedures, and ensure consistency in applying planning principles and policies. The training also aimed to support informed decision-making and reinforce compliance with applicable local and state regulations.
PRESENTED BY:	County Staff

STAFF REPORT:

Director Gardiner introduced County staff to the newly appointed board members.

PLANNING COMMISSION QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Commissioner Forrester asked whether the Election of Officers would take place again in July or if the vote conducted at this meeting would remain in effect.

Commissioner Stovall-Goolsby voiced concern that the board should appear unified for the public. She stated, "If we don't appear unified or come together for a common goal, the purpose is null and void. We lose respect." She added that any type of disagreement should not be seen or shown to the public.

Chairman Peterson agreed, emphasizing that the communication process is very important.

Commissioner Stovall-Goolsby stated that staff would speak up to alert the board when things may get out of line.

Director Gardiner added that the board sets the tone for how they appear to the public.

Commissioner Angelique McClendon, participating via phone, expressed her agreement with all comments made.

3. Reports:

- A. Rockdale County: None
- B. The Board of Commissioners will hold the Zoning Public Hearing for the County items in person at 6:00 PM on TBA at 901 Main St NW, Conyers, GA, 30012 in the Auditorium.
- C. The Next Regularly Scheduled Planning Commission Meeting will be in person on.

Date	Day	Time	Location	Address
TBA	THU	6:00 PM	Assembly Hall	901 Main St NW, Conyers, GA, 30012

4. Adjourn:

Director Gardiner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Ford seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 07:22p.m.