

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
Tuesday, September 23, 2025

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

Vice Chairperson Joyce Evans and Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker were not in attendance.

Chairman Slaughter called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Marshall

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Marshall

MINUTES

The minutes were presented for the work session of September 8, 2025, and the regular session of September 9, 2025. No revisions to the minutes were requested. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, second by Commissioner Orenstein. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

FOR CONSIDERATION

Opioid Litigation - Secondary Manufacturers

Assistant Finance Director, Rachel Bowen, presented the item. Mrs. Bowen stated a settlement agreement has been reached by several secondary opioid providers and manufacturers to provide financial resources to combat the opioid epidemic across the United States. To participate and receive funds, Lowndes County must agree to the terms outlined in the State of Georgia and Local Governments Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Secondary Manufacturers and execute the Secondary Manufacturers' Combined Subdivision Participation and Release Form. Commissioner Smith requested updates on the implementation of the funds. Mrs. Bowen confirmed that the Commission will have to approve an allocation of the funds before they are used. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the item as presented, second by Commissioner Smith. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Update of Budget and Equity Reserve Policy

Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented a request to update the county's financial policy, specifically regarding the timeframe for hurricane reimbursement funds. Ms. Black explained that the proposed update extends the allowable reimbursement window from 60 days to 150 days to better