



COUNCIL MEETING

Jasper County Clementa C. Pinckney Government Building
358 Third Ave., Ridgeland, SC. 29936

Monday, February 2, 2026

MINUTES

Officials Present: Chairman Joey Rowell, Vice Chairman Joseph Arzillo, Councilman John Kemp, Councilman Chris VanGeison and Councilman Gene Ceccarelli

Staff Present: County Administrator Andrew Fulghum, Interim County Attorney Lawrence Flynn, Clerk to Council Wanda Giles, Kimberly Burgess, Eric Larson, Jim Iwanicki, Chief Russell Wells, Susan Waite, and Videographer Jonathan Dunham.

1. Call to Order of the Jasper County Council Meeting by Chairman Rowell

Chairman Rowell called the meeting to order. The Report of Compliance with the Freedom of Information Act was read for the records as follows: *In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, notification of the meeting and the meeting agenda were posted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting on the County Council Building at a publicly accessible place, on the county website, and a copy of the agenda was provided to the local news media and all person's or organizations requesting notification.*

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act the electronic and print media were notified. During periods of review, discussion and/or presentations minutes are typically condensed and paraphrased. The recorded version is available online at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBmloqX05cKAsHm_ggXCJIA. Closed captions are also available for all of our County Council videos.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation:

The Pledge to the Flag was led by the Chairman and the Invocation was given by Chairman Rowell.

3. Approval of the Agenda:

The request was made to remove Item # 10C until the 02.17.2026 meeting.

Motion to approve the agenda with the removal Item # 10C until the 02.17.2026 meeting: Councilman VanGeison

Second: Councilman Kemp

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

4. Approval of the Consent Agenda:

Approval of the Consent Agenda passes all Consent Agenda Items. Consent Agenda Items are not considered separately unless a Councilmember requests it. In the event of such a request, the item is placed at the end of the Public Hearings, Ordinances, and Action Items.

Motion to approve: Councilman Ceccarelli

Second: Councilman VanGeison

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

A) Approval of the Minutes of 08.25.2025

This is the end of the Consent Agenda Items.

5. Executive Session SECTION 30-4-70.

(a) A public body may hold a meeting closed to the public for one or more of the following reasons:

(2) Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contract arrangements and proposed purchase or sale of property, the receipt of legal advice, where the legal advice related to pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the agency of a claim – (1) Jasper County Animal Shelter; (2) Fee simple sale, 5 Acres of Real Estate Owned by Jasper County located in the Cypress Ridge Business Park to PLC Development

Motion to go into executive session: Councilman VanGeison

Second: Councilman Kemp

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Motion to come out of Executive Session: Councilman Kemp

Second: Councilman Arzillo

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Any Executive Session Matter on Which Discussion Has Not Been Completed May Have Discussion Suspended for the Purpose of Beginning the Open Session at Its Scheduled Time, And Council May Return to Executive Session Discussion After the Conclusion of The Open Session Agenda Items.

Note: Please Be Advised, There May Be Votes Based on Items from the Executive Session.

Return to Open Session:

Motion to return to open session: Councilman Kemp

Second: Councilman Ceccarelli

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

5A. Council Action to be taken on items as discussed in Executive Session: There was no action to be taken. Council took a 5 minute recess before moving forward in the meeting.

Note: Council may act on any item appearing on the agenda, including items discussed in executive session.

6. PRESENTATIONS:

A) Kendall Malphrus, Executive Director – Presentation by Chamber of Commerce - Annual Update.

Ms. Kendall Malphrus, Executive Director, was present to provide the County Council with the Chamber of Jasper County Chamber of Commerce's annual update. She reviewed the Chamber's impact, noting that it serves approximately 250 members and receives more than 3,000 website engagements each month. She also highlighted the Chamber's marketing efforts, including billboard advertising along Interstate 95 and U.S. Highway 17, as well as print advertising in *USA Today*. Ms. M. presented and reviewed a presentation with the Council for this agenda item (Attachment "A").

B) Blakely Williams, Dominion Energy – Presentation of License Tax Credit Grant to Southern Carolina Alliance and Jasper County for \$75,000 for the construction of the new entrance road at the Sherwood Advanced Manufacturing Park.

Mr. Blakeley Williams of Dominion Energy was present to present a \$75,000 grant to the Southern Carolina Regional Development Alliance to offset costs for new entrance roads at Sherwood Advanced Manufacturing Park.

C) Earl Cooler – Jasper County SC250 Presentation.

Mr. Cooler was present to review and present this agenda item to the County Council. He read the information included in (Attachment "B") and asked Ms. Wagner to display the SC250 Committee website for the Council. Ms. Wagner highlighted several features of the website that are available to the public.

Mr. Cooler also discussed plans for the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in 2026. He emphasized Jasper County's significant role in the Revolutionary War and encouraged community members to volunteer for upcoming trolley tours and the production of a documentary film.

7. PROCLAMATIONS:

Andrew Fulghum – A Proclamation Proclaiming the first Friday and Saturday of May, starting in 2026, as "British Invasion Days" in commemoration and celebration of Jasper County's role in the American Revolution.

Mr. Fulghum was present to review and read the proclamation proclaiming the first Friday and Saturday of May, starting in 2026, as "British Invasion Days" in commemoration and celebration of Jasper County's role in the American Revolution. The proclamation was presented to Mr. Smittie Cooler.

8. CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Open Floor to the Public per Ordinance Number #08-17. Any citizen of the County may sign to speak in person at the Council Meeting (before the Council Meeting's 6:00 PM start time on the Sign-In Sheet on the Podium), to address the Council on matters pertaining to County Services and Operations. Presentations will be limited to three (3) minutes per person, and total public input will be limited to 30 minutes.

John Holloway was present to speak of his concerns for the rezoning request of 052-00-03-012.

Bill Resole was present to speak on his candidacy, but it was explained to him that this was not a forum for that information.

Adam Bishop was present to speak of his concerns on the sand mine and his opposition to that.

Nancy Workhorst was present to speak on the rezoning request and her concerns.

Donna McKeever was request to speak on the rezoning request of 052-00-03-012.

Grant McClure of the Coastal Conservation League discussed his thoughts on this item.

Hunter Smile spoke on behalf of Rene Tuten and noted she was opposed to this rezoning request.

Hugh Murray was present to speak on this rezoning request and noted that he was opposed to this project.

9. RESOLUTIONS

A) Andrew Fulghum – Consideration of Resolution #R-2026-10 A Resolution of Jasper County Council to Approve and Adopt an Assessment Collection and Disbursement Agreement Among the Jasper County, Jasper County Treasurer, Jasper County Auditor, and the City of Hardeeville (Hilton Head Lakes West Improvement District); and Other Matters Related Thereto. *(This item was previously numbered R-2025-71 and was removed from the 12.15.2025 Agenda. This resolution number now replaces that for 2026)*

Mr. Fulghum was present to review and address the consideration of Resolution #R-2026-10 A Resolution of Jasper County Council to Approve and Adopt an Assessment Collection and Disbursement Agreement Among the Jasper County, Jasper County Treasurer, Jasper County Auditor, and the City of Hardeeville (Hilton Head Lakes West Improvement District).

Motion to approve: Councilman Kemp

Second: Councilman VanGeison

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

10. PUBLIC HEARINGS, ORDINANCES, AND ACTION ITEMS

A) Lisa Wagner - Consideration of the 2nd Reading of Ordinance #O-2026-03 Approving a Development Agreement by and between JH Hiers Construction, LLC., Hiers Pine Level, LLC. and Jasper County, Regarding Real Property Known as TMP # 052-00-03- 012, Consisting of Approximately 264.53 Acres, Pursuant to the South Carolina Local Government Development Agreement Act and Article IV, Title 20 of the Code of Ordinances of Jasper County, and Authorizing the Chairman of Jasper County Council to Execute said Development Agreement. (Pine Level DA) – (Public hearing and 1st reading 12.15.2025; Public Hearing and 2nd Reading Tabled on 01.05.2026) Link to these documents:  Heirs DA

Ms. Wagner was present to review, address and discuss the consideration of the 2nd Reading of Ordinance #O-2026-03 Approving a Development Agreement by and between JH Hiers Construction, LLC., Hiers Pine Level, LLC. and Jasper County, Regarding Real Property Known as TMP # 052-00-03- 012, Consisting of Approximately 264.53 Acres, Pursuant to the South Carolina Local Government Development Agreement Act and Article IV, Title 20 of the Code of Ordinances of Jasper County.

Motion to approve: Councilman VanGeison

Second: Councilman Kemp

Vote: 4 yes votes and 1 no vote from Councilman Ceccarelli

The motion passed.

B) Lisa Wagner – Consideration of 2nd Reading of an Ordinance #O-2025-23 to amend the Official Zoning Map of Jasper County so as to transfer a property consisting of approximately 264.53 acres and bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 052-00-03-012, from the Rural Preservation Zone to the Resource Extraction on the Jasper County Official Zoning Map; And Other Matters Relating Thereto (1st Reading July 21, 2025 and Public Hearing August 18, 2025 2nd Reading tabled; 2nd Reading 01.05.2025 Tabled)

Ms. Wagner was present to review, address and discuss the consideration of 2nd Reading of an Ordinance #O-2025-23 to amend the Official Zoning Map of Jasper County so as to transfer a property consisting of approximately 264.53 acres and bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 052-00-03-012, from the Rural Preservation Zone to the Resource Extraction on the Jasper County Official Zoning Map.

Motion to approve: Councilman VanGeison

Second: Councilman Arzillo

Vote: 4 yes votes and 1 no vote from Councilman Ceccarelli

The motion passed.

C) Eric Larson – Consideration of the 1st Reading of an Ordinance establishing the Jasper County Greenbelt Program as mandated in the 2024 Referendum on Transportation Sales and Use Tax within Jasper County. (This item was removed from the agenda at the time of the approval of the agenda).

D) Eric Larson – Consideration of the 1st Reading of an Ordinance to Authorize Jasper County to Convey, through a Fee Simple Sale, 5 Acres of Real Estate owned by Jasper County located in the Cypress Ridge Business Park to PLC Development.

Mr. Larson was present to review, address and discuss the consideration of the 1st Reading of an Ordinance to Authorize Jasper County to Convey, through a Fee Simple Sale, 5 Acres of Real Estate owned by Jasper County located in the Cypress Ridge Business Park to PLC Development.

Motion to approve: Councilman Ceccarelli

Second: Councilman Kemp

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

E) Eric Larson – Consideration of the 1st Reading of an Ordinance to Authorize Jasper County to Convey, through a Donation, Real Estate Owned by Jasper County located at 2547 Argent Blvd., Hardeeville to Beaufort Jasper Housing Trust, Inc. *(This item was removed from the 01.20.2026 agenda)*

Mr. Larson was present to review, address and discuss the consideration of the 1st Reading of an Ordinance to Authorize Jasper County to Convey, through a Donation, Real Estate Owned by Jasper County located at 2547 Argent Blvd., Hardeeville to Beaufort Jasper Housing Trust, Inc.

Motion to approve: Councilman Kemp

Second: Councilman Ceccarelli

Vote: 4 yes votes and 1 no vote from Councilman Arzillo

The motion passed.

F) Andrew Fulghum – Consideration of the 2nd Reading of Ordinance #O-2026-06 of Jasper County Council Approving the Transfer of Custody, Management and Operation of the Jasper County Detention Center to the Jasper County Sheriff Pursuant to S.C. Code § Ann. 24-5-12, and Other Matters Related Thereto. *(1st reading – Title Only on 01.20.2026)*

Mr. Fulghum was present to review, address and discuss the consideration of the 2nd Reading of Ordinance #O-2026-06 of Jasper County Council Approving the Transfer of Custody, Management and Operation of the Jasper County Detention Center to the Jasper County Sheriff Pursuant to S.C. Code § Ann. 24-5-12.

Motion to approve: Councilman VanGeison

Second: Councilman Kemp

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

G) Lisa Wagner – Consideration of the 1st Reading of an Ordinance of Jasper County Council to amend the Official Zoning Map of Jasper County so as to transfer three (3) properties located along Grays Highway, 1) bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 062-20-01-002 consisting of 0.60 acres from the Residential Zone to the Industrial Development Zone; and 2) bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 062-20-01-006 consisting of 1.20 acres from the Residential Zone to the Industrial Development Zone; and 3) bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 062-21-01-002 consisting of 2.74 acres from the Residential Zone to the Industrial Development Zone on the Jasper County Official Zoning Map. *(Property owned by Jasper County)* Link to these documents:  Ridgeland Claude Dean Airport Re-zoning

Ms. Wagner was present to review, address and discuss the consideration of the 1st Reading of an Ordinance of Jasper County Council to amend the Official Zoning Map of Jasper County so as to transfer three (3) properties located along Grays Highway, 1) bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 062-20-01-002 consisting of 0.60 acres from the Residential Zone to the Industrial Development Zone; and 2) bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 062-20-01-006 consisting of 1.20 acres from the Residential Zone to the Industrial Development Zone; and 3) bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 062-21-01-002 consisting of 2.74 acres from the Residential Zone to the Industrial Development Zone on the Jasper County Official Zoning Map.

Motion to approve: Councilman Kemp

Second: Councilman Ceccarelli

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

H) Lisa Wagner - Consideration of 3rd Reading of Ordinance #O-2026-05 to amend Article 10 of the Jasper County Land Development Regulations, Stormwater Management, Section 10.2.B, Applicability and Exemptions, to provide a conditional exemption for new development of commercial sites located in a major subdivision that was previously approved and for which the stormwater infrastructure has been constructed; And Other Matters Relating Thereto. (1st reading 01.05.2026; Public Hearing and 2nd reading 01.20.2026; Please note: This ordinance was erroneously numbered as O-2026-03 (instead of O-2026-05) on the 01.20.2026 agenda)

Ms. Wagner was present to review, address and discuss the consideration of 3rd Reading of Ordinance #O-2026-05 to amend Article 10 of the Jasper County Land Development Regulations, Stormwater Management, Section 10.2.B, Applicability and Exemptions, to provide a conditional exemption for new development of commercial sites located in a major subdivision that was previously approved and for which the stormwater infrastructure has been constructed.

Motion to approve: Councilman VanGeison

Second: Councilman Kemp

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

11. Administrator's Report - Mr. Fulghum reviewed the information from his report that was provided in the agenda e-packet. There were no Action Items requiring a vote from the Council in the Administrator's Report.

12. Councilmember Comments and Discussion - Councilmember Comments were given but there were no comments that required action.

For more information on this meeting please go to our YouTube Channel for the video. During meetings and / or workshops periods of review, discussion, presentation, comments, and other sections the minutes are typically condensed and paraphrased. The recorded version is available online at our YouTube Channel video at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBmloqX05cKAsHm_ggXCJIA. Closed captions are also available for all of our County Council videos. Just click the "CC" button to follow along.

13. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn: Councilmember Ceccarelli

Second: Councilman Kemp

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted:



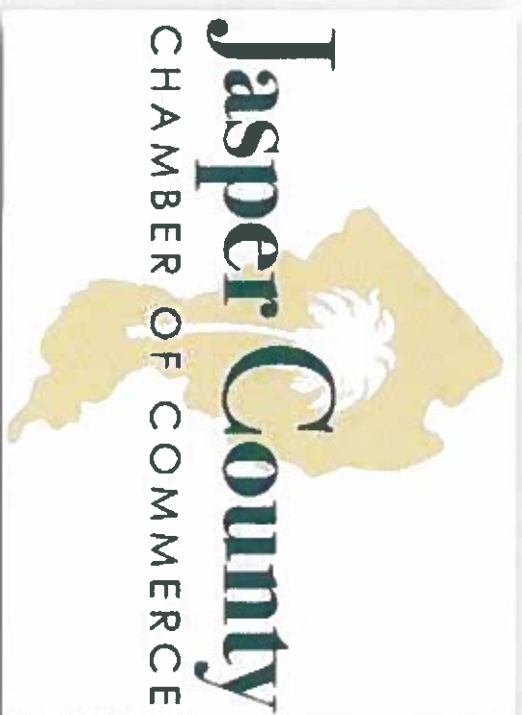
Wanda Giles, Clerk to Council



W. J. Rowell III, Chairman

Attachment "A"

Your Chamber. Your Partner. Your Success



KENDALL MALPHRUS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2/2/2026

WHO WE ARE AND WHO WE SERVE

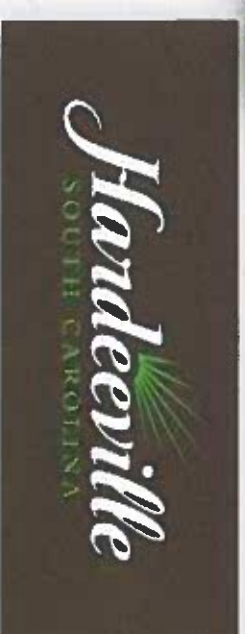
The Jasper Chamber serves as Jasper County's lead business advocate, designated marketing organization (DMO) and visitor resource hub.

WE CONNECT:

- Businesses to customers
- Visitors to experiences
- Entrepreneurs to opportunity
- Community partners to growth

WHAT WE DO:

- Provide Business support and advocacy
- Tourism and Destination Marketing
- Visitor Center services
- Workforce & Economic Development Partnerships
- Networking, Education & Member Programs



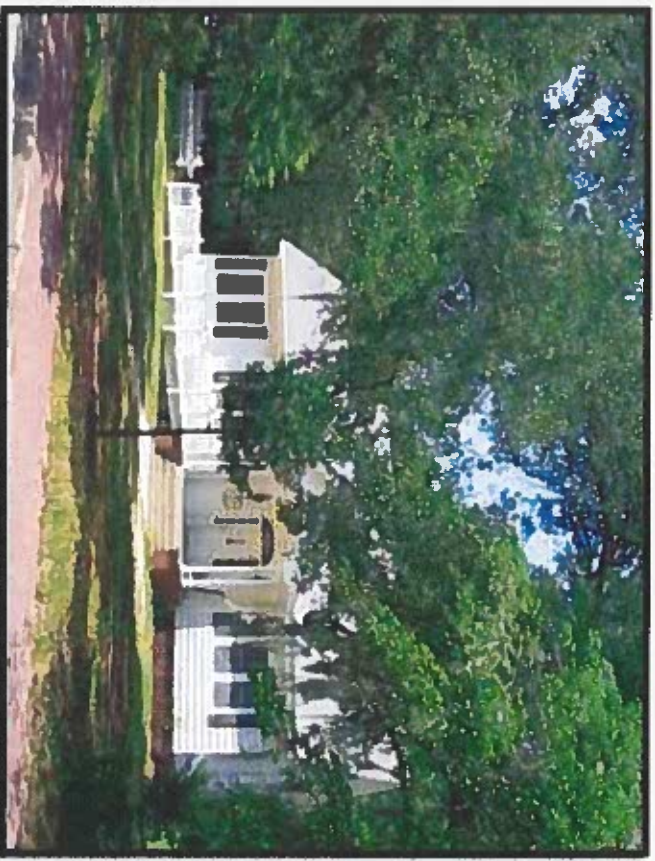
"When local businesses succeed, Jasper County Succeeds."

JASPER CHAMBER IMPACT BY NUMBERS

Estimated Monthly Activity

- We serve approximately 250+ Members
- Approximately 3,000 + Website Engagements per Month
- Approximately 300+ Calls & Inquiries per Month
- Approximately 150+ Visitor Center Guests per Month

All this aimed towards measurable economic activity, visitor spending and small business growth across the region.



PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

How we Support Business & Tourism Everyday

BUSINESS GROWTH

- Member referrals & promotion
- Networking events & workshops
- Marketing opportunities
- Ribbon cuttings and visibility campaigns

TOURISM PROMOTION

- Destination marketing & branding
- Website & digital campaigns
- Regional/state partnerships
- Visitor guides & itineraries

VISITOR SERVICES

- Information center & walk-in support
- Lodging, dining & attraction referrals
- Relocation & newcomer resources

WEBSITE/DIGITAL MARKETING

The Jasper Chamber website provides online visibility to Jasper County, the City of Hardeeville, the Town of Ridgeland and local businesses.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Links to: jaspercountysc.gov, hardeevillesc.gov, and ridgelandsc.gov
- Membership directory with links to their websites
- Links to important sites such as: Small Business Development Center, SCORE, SC Chamber, LOCOG
- Calendar of Events, History, Points of Interest, Blogs, etc.

OTHER DIGITAL MARKETING INCLUDES:

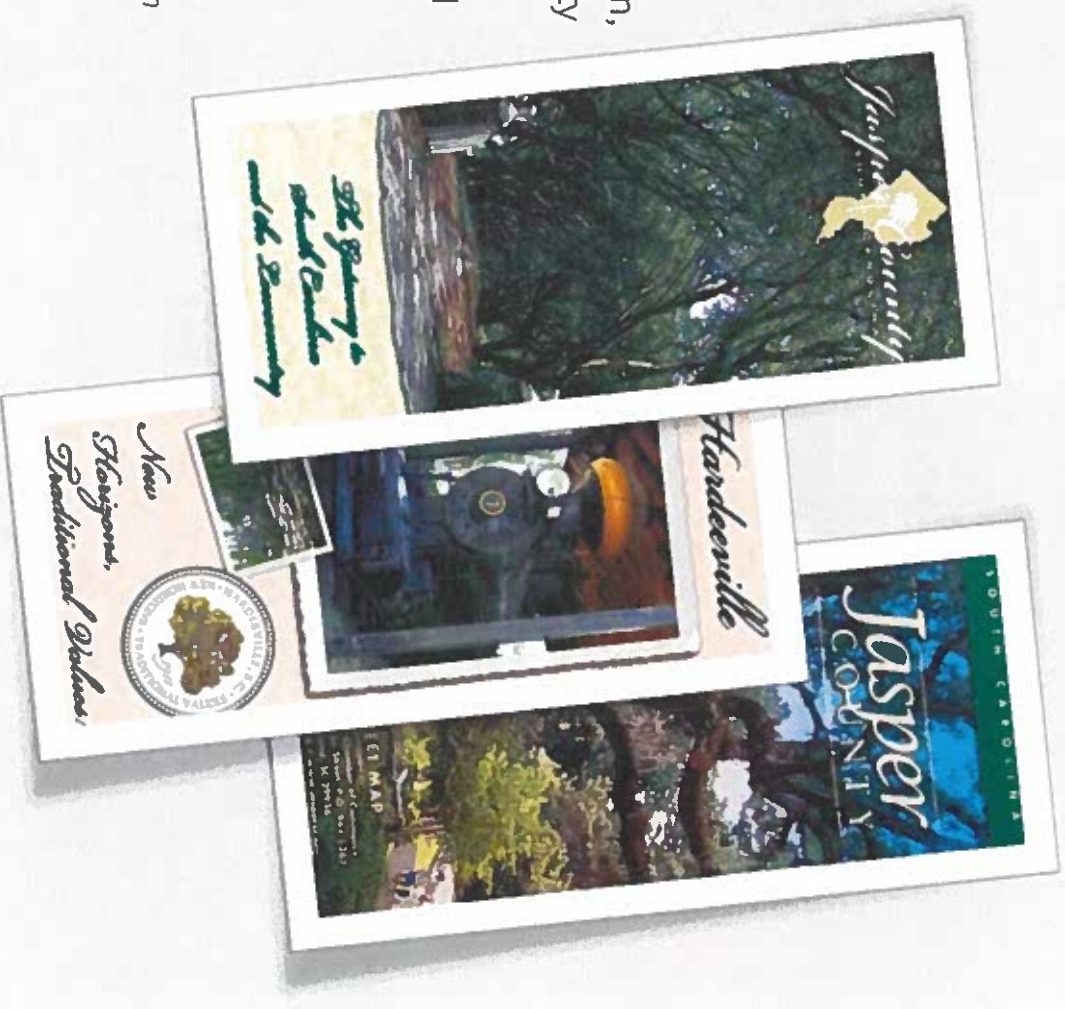
- Social Media pages: Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, X, Linked In



PUBLICATIONS

- Jasper County Map : contains detail maps for the Town of Ridgeland, City of Hardeeville and Jasper County
- Hardeeville Brochure: contains detailed information, its history and the most recent events about the City of Hardeeville.
- Jasper County Brochure: contains both current and historic information about the county and both municipalities.

These publications are available at chamber offices, all government buildings and all South Carolina Welcome Centers . Also included in relocation packages.



JASPER COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERSHIP AND RESOURCE GUIDE

- Contains all Government information
- History
- Points of Interest
- Schools
- Membership Information
- Parks
- Industrial Sites

This publication is available at chamber offices, all government buildings and all South Carolina Welcome Centers. Also included in relocation packages.



ADVERTISEMENT/PROMOTIONS

- Weekly Business Buzz highlighting and promoting local businesses. Featured on all Social Media Channels.
- Billboards: 4 locations (I_95 Southbound at MMs, 24(2), 37 & 75). Added value of digital billboards on Hwy. 17 at Jasper County/Georgia border and Hwy. 170 in Okatie.
- USA Today Travel Magazines: focusing on core content, visual and concise style, lifestyle and wellness, community and connections, and consumer engagement of Jasper County and its municipalities.
- South Carolina Living Magazine: Contains City of Hardeeville ad.
- Lowcountry Guide Book: Contains ads for City of Hardeeville, Town of Ridgeland and Jasper County.
- Television & Radio: WHHI
- TV in person and zoom spotlights, WTOG, Fox 28, WSAV mentions and radios station advertisements of major points of interests, events and festivals.

BILLBOARDS - HARDEEVILLE



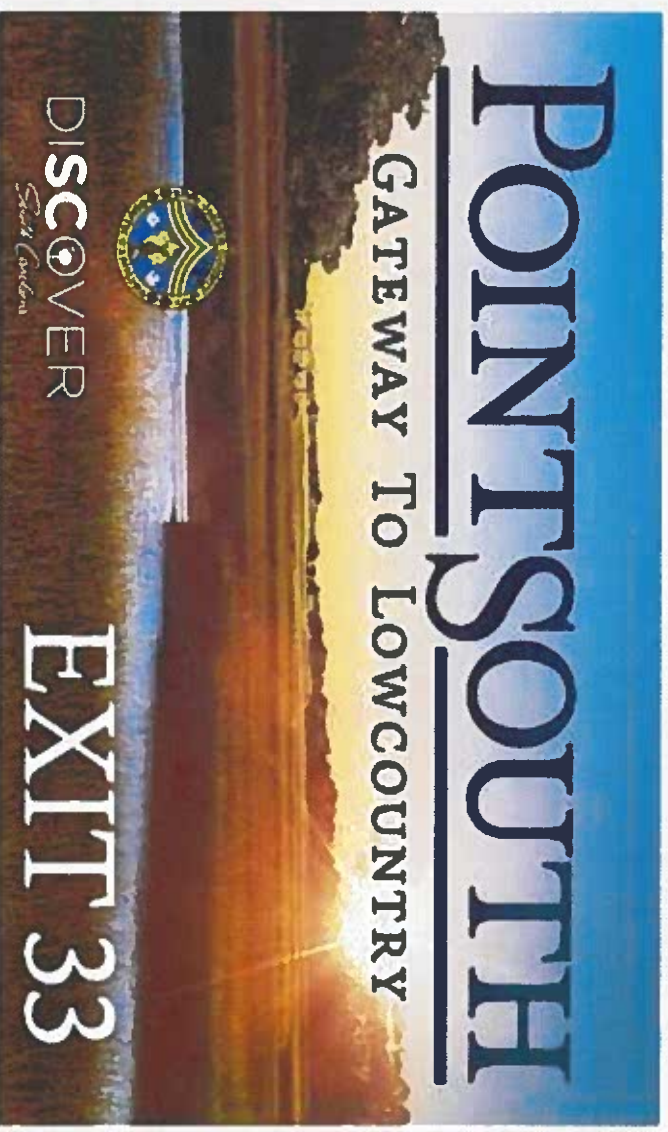
2/2/2026

Located on I-95
Southbound at mile
marker 24(2) and 37.

Added value in rotation of digital
billboards located at Hwy. 170 in
Okatie and Hwy. 17 at Jasper
County/Georgia border.

BILLBOARDS – JASPER COUNTY

Point South Billboard
located on I-95
southbound at mile
marker 75.



PRINT MEDIA/INCLUDES ONLINE PRESENCE USA TODAY TRAVEL MAGAZINES

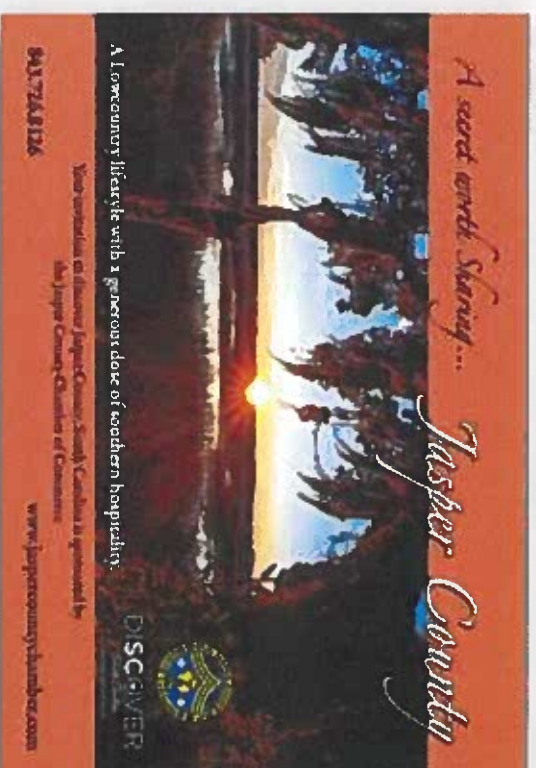
- Distributed throughout the Southeast with heavy saturation in major markets of USA TODAY newspapers which claims 2.5 million readers daily.
- Distributed at most major bookstores, retailers, grocers and newsstands potentially seen by hundreds of thousands of travelers.
- Partners with Orbitz who emails digital copies of the Travel Guides to 5 million Orbitz members. In addition to being available nationwide, over 1,000,000 travelers will receive a link providing a digital version of the publication.



USA TODAY TRAVEL GUIDE ADS



City of Hardeeville 1/2 page Ad

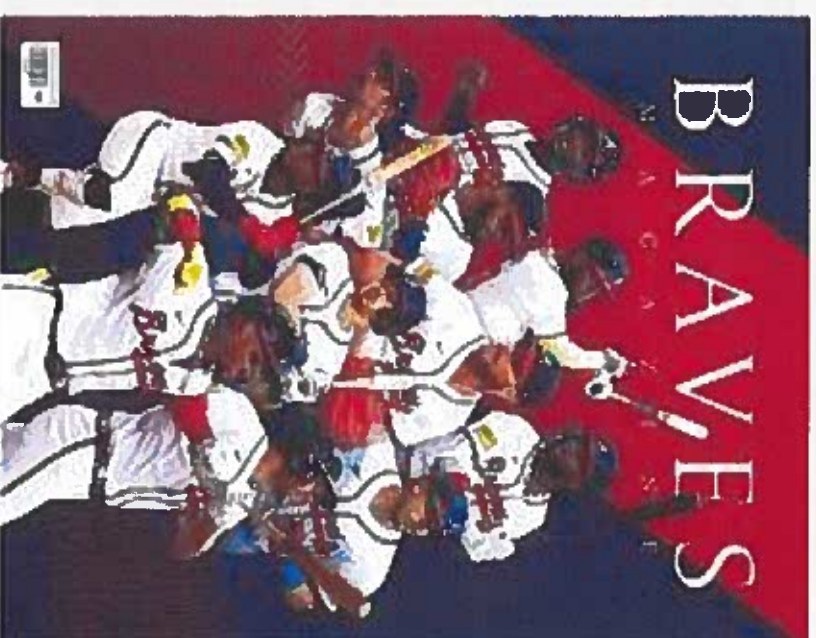


Jasper County 1/2 page Ad

POWER POINT MEDIA

ATLANTA BRAVES PROGRAM AD

- 2025/26 Full Season Program
- Includes ½ page ad for The City of Hardeeville
- Distributed at all Atlanta Braves Home Baseball games.



SOUTH CAROLINA LIVING MAGAZINE

- The Magazine for Palmetto Electric Cooperative Members.
- Distributed monthly and read in more than 620,000 homes.
- 1/2 page City of Hardeeville Ad



SOUTH CAROLINA LOWCOUNTRY VISITORS GUIDE

- Distributed by the South Carolina Lowcountry Resort Islands Tourism Commission to all Welcome/visitor Centers in South Carolina
- Includes ½ page Town of Ridgeland ad, ½ page Jasper County Ad, and full page City of Hardeeville Ad



TELEVISION • RADIO ADVERTISING CAMPAIGNS

- Television & Radio: WHHITV in person and zoom spotlights, WTOC, Fox 28, WSAV mentions and regional radios station advertisements of major points of interests, events and festivals.

Media Campaigns included but not limited to:

- Hardeeville Festival on Main
- Gopher Hill Festival
- Hardeeville 4th Off Main
- Trunk or Treat
- Ridgeland Festival of Lights
- Shop Local campaigns
- Sponsorship for the City of Hardeeville at the RBC Heritage Golf Tournament.



JASPER CHAMBER MONTHLY E-BLASTS



- Shares highlights of upcoming Chamber events
- Grand Openings/Ribbon Cuttings
- Groundbreakings
- Networking Opportunities
- Business After Hours
- Monthly Meetings
- Workshops

MUSEUM/VISITOR'S CENTER

- Two locations – Ridgeland & Hardeeville
- Museum contains Jasper County's history and artifacts which include Ridgeland and Hardeeville
- Give and receive information and referrals to Jasper County, Ridgeland and Hardeeville Businesses as well as displays of businesses brochures and business cards
- Answers to all phone calls, emails, mailings, etc.
- Distribution of relocation packages
- Open Monday –thru Friday 9AM – 5PM

JASPER CHAMBER ADVOCACY & ALLIANCES

- Partners with:
- SouthernCarolina Alliance – the economic arm for Jasper County
- Lowcountry Resort Islands and Tourism Commission
- South Carolina Chamber of Commerce
- Hilton Head/Bluffton Chamber of Commerce
- The Greater Bluffton Chamber of Commerce
- Beaufort Regional Chamber of Commerce



JASPER CHAMBER EVENTS

- Monthly Chamber Board Meetings
- Lunch & Learn Business Education Series
- Business After Hours/ Jasper Chamber Coffee Hour
- Ribbon Cutting & Groundbreaking Ceremonies
- State of Jasper County Breakfast
- Jasper on the Move Annual Awards Banquet
- International Women's Day Brunch Celebration
- Justin Ihly Baker Scholarship Golf Tournament
- "Big Thursday" Oyster Roast
- Jasper County Schools Career Day Appearances
- Jasper Jamboree National PKC Hunt
- Jasper County Farmer's Market Annual Concert-Swingin' Medallions



GRAND OPENINGS • RIBBON CUTTINGS • GROUNDBREAKINGS



STATE OF JASPER COUNTY BREAKFAST



JASPER ON THE MOVE

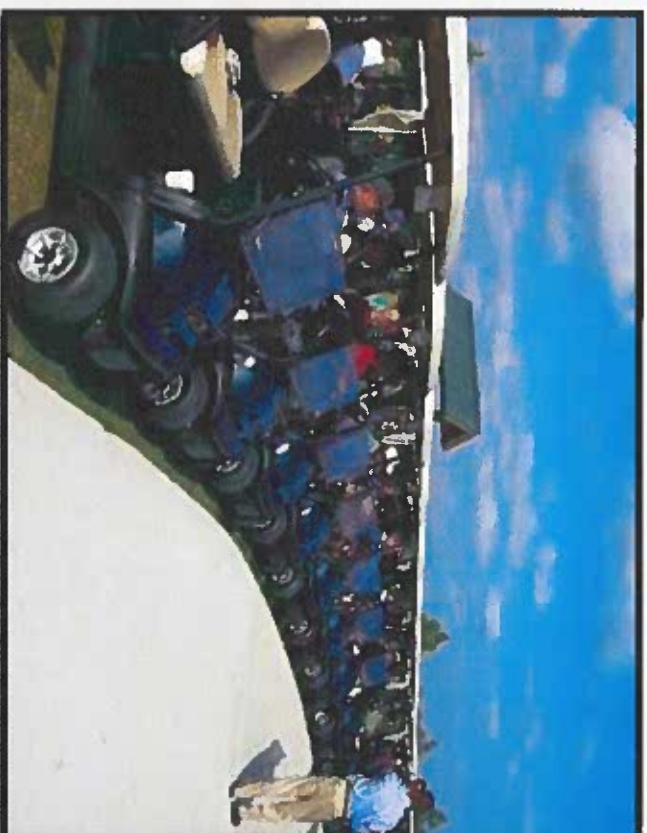


2/2/2026

JUSTIN IHLY BAKER SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT



2/2/2026



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BRUNCH



"BIG THURSDAY" OYSTER ROAST



2/2/2026



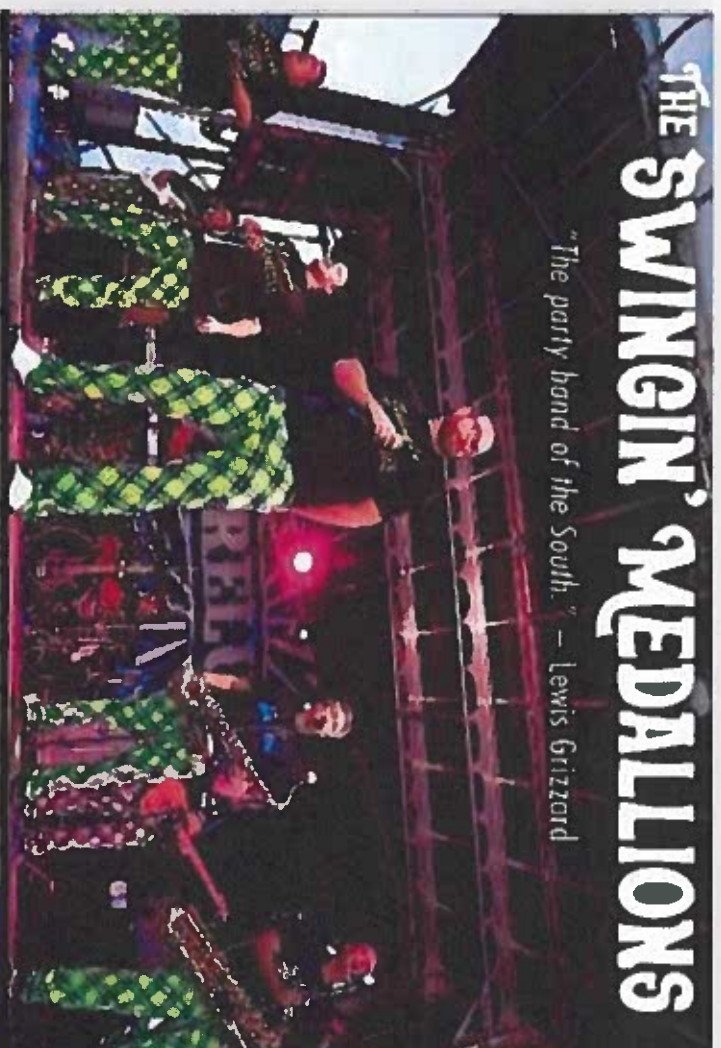
JASPER COUNTY FARMER'S MARKET FACILITY

9935 South Jacob Smart Blvd., Ridgeland



- The Jasper Chamber manages the scheduling and rentals of the Farmers' Market Facility for use such as family reunions, company picnics, wedding receptions, concerts, birthday/graduation celebrations, etc.
- There were 18 rentals for the 2024/25 fiscal year averaging approximately 300 attendees per event.

JASPER COUNTY FARMERS' MARKET CONCERT



2/2/2026



OUR FOCUS FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

BUSINESS GROWTH

- Increase membership & retention
- Expand educational workshops
- Provide more marketing exposure for members

MARKETING & TOURISM

- Strengthen digital & social campaigns
- Promote overnight stays & events
- Enhance visitor guides & itineraries

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- Align efforts with county and municipalities
- Leverage grants and cooperative promotions
- Strengthen regional collaborations

Focused Strategy. Sustainable growth. Shared Success

PARTNER WITH US TO SHAPE THE FUTURE



Thank you for your continued support of the Jasper County Chamber of
Commerce

Together, we build a stronger Jasper County

Attachment “B” - Presentation Item # 6C:

2026 is the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, marking 250 years of freedom. The celebration and commemoration, at a national, state, and county level, will involve a host of festivities, activities, and opportunities to engage and be a part, with the main event occurring on July 4th, 2026.

The Jasper County 250 Committee, in concert with the South Carolina 250 Commission and America 250, are geared up to “get revolutionary” in 2026.

South Carolina played a pivotal role in winning America’s independence from Britain. There were more than 400 battles, skirmishes, and events across South Carolina during the American Revolution. There are dozens of historical markers, museums, and homes dedicated to the Revolutionary era. It has been said that while the Revolution may have begun in Massachusetts in April of 1775, and ended with Cornwallis’ surrender in Virginia, the war was won in SC.

And Jasper County certainly had its own contributions to the cause of American Independence . In early 1776, 37 patriots, known as the “Euhaws Volunteers”, dispatched from present day Jasper County and joined a successful patriot campaign to defend the Beaufort District and nearby Savannah against British occupation. A short time later, their neighbor, Captain Thomas Heyward, Jr. was pulled away from his duties with the Charleston Artillery to serve as a SC delegate to the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia, where in July 1776 he, along with 55 others, signed the Declaration of Independence.

Since the great patriot victory at Sullivans Island in the Spring of 1776, South Carolina was relatively peaceful for nearly three years. But on the night of April 28th, 1779, with their sights set on Charleston, a British force under the command of General Augustine Prevost crossed the Savannah River near Purrysburg, invading present day Jasper County and surprising a small patriot militia stationed there. Prevost’s army proceeded to march across Jasper

County by way of Old House and on to Coosawhatchie where on May 3, 1779, they were met by a patriot militia force under the command of Lt. John Laurens and the Battle of Coosawhatchie ensued.

The Prevost Invasion of Jasper County and the Beaufort District was devastating to this area and its people. The *South Carolina Gazette* called it an act of wanton destruction—assaulting women and children, burning houses, killing livestock, and carrying off large numbers of the enslaved.

While the patriot resistance at Purrysburg and Coosawhatchie did not end in American victories, they were testament to the courageous perseverance and resilience of our local patriots who helped chip away at a larger British army. Prevost never made it to Charleston.

There is a stone monument in Arlington National Cemetery upon which is etched a profound description of the sacrifice, valor, and courage of our founding leaders as exemplified by our own Thomas Heyward, Jr....

It states: “by signing the Declaration of Independence the 56 Americans pledged their fortunes and their sacred honor. It was not an idle pledge.....Nine signers died of wounds during the Revolutionary War, five were captured or imprisoned, wives and children were killed, jailed, mistreated, or left penniless. 12 signers houses were burned to the ground. 17 lost everything they owned.

No signer defected---their honor, like their nation, remained intact.

The goal of the Jasper County 250 Committee for 2026 is to engage all Jasper County citizens, neighbors, and visitors in a historical commemoration, encouraging reflection on our historical ideals, and celebrating and promoting South Carolina’s vital role in the American Revolution and the stories of all people who lived through this momentous era, lest we forget.

Get Revolutionary for 2026

We hope that our citizens, organizations, businesses, youth leaders, teachers, and parents will get involved. For more information about Jasper's role in the American Revolution as well as current commemoration and celebratory efforts underway just go to Jasper250.com. If you are interested in volunteering or receiving additional information, email the Jasper County 250 Committee at JasperCounty250@gmail.com.

Please join us and let's get Revolutionary for 2026.