



A SPECIAL CALLED **VIRTUAL MEETING**
WILL BE CONDUCTED WITH COUNTY
COUNCIL.

Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2026

Time: 4:00 PM

Place: **VIRTUAL**

Watch Live via YouTube at:

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JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED VIRTUAL MEETING

Jasper County Clementa C. Pinckney Government Bldg.
358 3rd Avenue Ridgeland, SC 29936
Wednesday, January 14, 2026
Agenda

4:00PM

Call to Order by Chairman Rowell

Clerk's Report of Compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

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.

Pledge to the Flag:

Invocation:

Approval of Agenda:

Agenda Item:

1: Mr. Lawrence Flynn - Consideration of Emergency Ordinance # O-2026-04 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.

Adjourn:

Special Accommodations Available Upon Request to Individuals with Disabilities, please contact the Jasper County ADA & Civil Rights Coordinator, Tisha Williams in person at 358 Third Avenue, Ridgeland, South Carolina, by telephone at **(843) 717-3690** or via email at jcadministrator@jaspercountysc.gov no later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF JASPER**

ORDINANCE O-2026-04

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE
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.**

WHEREAS, Jasper County, South Carolina (the “County”), acting through the Jasper County Council as its governing body (the “County Council”), is a political subdivision of the State of South Carolina (the “State”), and as such possesses all general powers granted by the Constitution and statutes of the State to such public entities; and

WHEREAS, the office of the Sheriff of Jasper County (the “Sheriff”) is an elected constitutional office created by Article V, Section 24 of the South Carolina Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the County Council is empowered by Section 4-9-130 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended (the “SC Code”), to enact emergency ordinances to meet public emergencies affecting life, health, safety or the property of the people in the County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 4-9-130 of the SC Code, an emergency ordinance is enacted by the affirmative vote of at least two-third of the members of the County Council present, is effective immediately upon its enactment without regard to any reading, public hearing, publication requirements or public notice requirements, and shall expire automatically as of the sixty-first day following the date of enactment; and

WHEREAS, the Jasper County Detention Center, located at 12008 North Jacob Smart Blvd, Ridgeland, SC 29936, (the “Detention Center”) serves as the county jail for purposes of Chapter 5 of Title 24 of the SC Code; and

WHEREAS, although the County has historically operated the Detention Center, the County Council has determined that the Sheriff is well suited to assume responsibility for its operation, and together with the Sheriff, has been working cooperatively toward the transfer of custody, management, and operation of the Detention Center to the Sheriff; and

WHEREAS, Section 24-5-12 of the SC Code authorizes the county sheriff, upon approval of the governing body of the county, to devolve all powers and duties relating to

the custody of the county jail on the governing body of the county, notwithstanding Section 24-5-10 or any other provision of law; and

WHEREAS, Section 24-5-12 of the SC Code further provides that, once such powers and duties have been devolved to the governing body of the county, custody of the jail remains with the governing body unless, by mutual agreement and approval of the sheriff, the governing body devolves its powers and duties relating to custody of the county jail back to the sheriff; and

WHEREAS, the County Council finds that recent developments affecting the administration and operation of the Detention Center require immediate action to protect the health, safety, and welfare of inmates, Detention Center employees, and the public, such that an emergency exists necessitating the immediate transfer of custody, management, and operation of the Detention Center to the Sheriff.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Jasper County Council, the governing body of Jasper County, South Carolina as follows:

Section 1. Transfer of Custody, Management and Operation of Detention Center.

(a) Pursuant to Section 24-5-12 of the SC Code, the County Council hereby devolves and transfers to the Sheriff all powers and duties relating to the custody, management, and operation of the Jasper County Detention Center, including responsibility for the care, custody, and control of persons lawfully detained therein. The County Council's mutual agreement and approval of such devolution and transfer is evidenced by the enactment of this Ordinance.

(b) The transfer of custody and operational authority provided for herein shall not limit, impair, or otherwise affect County Council's authority under Section 4-9-30 of the SC Code to fund and make appropriations for the operation of the Jasper County Detention Center, nor shall it affect the County's ownership of the Detention Center or the real property, buildings, fixtures, and physical improvements comprising the facility.

Section 2. Acceptance of Custody, Management and Operation of the Detention Center.

(a) Pursuant to Section 24-5-12 of the SC Code, the Sheriff hereby accepts from the County Council all powers and duties relating to the custody, management and operation of the Jasper County Detention Center, including responsibility for the care, custody, and control of persons lawfully detained therein. The Sheriff's mutual agreement and approval of such acceptance is evidenced by the Sheriff's signature, affixed to this Ordinance.

(b) The Sheriff shall be responsible for the daily management and operation of the Detention Center, including, but not limited to the care, custody, and control of persons lawfully detained therein; facility security; hiring, evaluation, discipline, and termination of Detention Center employees; appointment of a facility manager; and all

other actions necessary for the operation of the Detention Center as authorized by local, state or federal law.

(c) The Sheriff shall operate the Detention Center within appropriations approved by County Council and in compliance with County policies except where those policies conflict with the Sheriff's constitutional or statutory authority.

Section 3. Effective Date; Expiration. The provisions hereof shall be effective upon a single reading and two-thirds vote of County Council and shall expire on the sixty-first day following the effective date hereof.

DONE AS AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE and approved at a meeting duly assembled by no less than an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the County Council present, this _____ day of January 2026.

Jasper County, South Carolina

Joey Rowell, Chairman
Jasper County Council

ATTEST:

Wanda Giles, Clerk to Council

Approved as to form:

Interim County Attorney

Pursuant to Section 24-5-12 of the SC Code, as the duly elected Sheriff of Jasper County, South Carolina, I hereby approve, assent to, and accept the transfer of custody, control, and operational authority over the Jasper County Detention Center from Jasper County Council, as provided in Ordinance No. ____, as evidenced by my signature below.

Chris Malphrus, Jasper County Sheriff