



MEETING MINUTES

FANNIN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Superintendent

Shannon M. Dillard

Board Members

Mike Cole, Chair

Bobby Bearden, Vice Chair

Adam Born

Robert Patterson

Ashley H. Weeks

Attendees

Voting Members

Mike Cole, Chair

Bobby Bearden, Vice Chair

Adam Born, Board Member

Robert Patterson, Board Member

Ashley H. Weeks, Board Member

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order by Mike Cole, Chair

2. Invocation

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. "INTENT TO OPT OUT OF HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION" (HB 581)

Fannin County Tax Assessor's Office Chief Appraiser Dawn Cochran reviewed the presentation she previously shared during the public hearings held on 1/15/2025, 1/22/2025, and 1/30/2025. She stated no new information had been released.

Ms. Cochran explained the intent of House Bill 581, which went into effect on January 1, 2025. This legislation created a floating homestead exemption for all local governments. Those governmental agencies that do not wish to participate must opt out. Ms. Cochran reviewed current tax exemptions available to the residents of Fannin County and reviewed current and historical Millage rate data emphasizing that local property taxes originate predominately from residential parcels. Ms. Cochran reviewed a provision in HB581 that allows for governmental entities to consider a 1% FLOST (Floating Local Option Sales Tax) to help recover taxes that would be lost from the homestead exemption. However, school systems are not eligible to participate in the FLOST. In conclusion, Ms. Cochran commended past and present government servants who have made decisions that were best for the county.

5. Public Comment

The Board heard public comment from one individual.

6. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the meeting, a motion and a second were made to adjourn subject to being called into special session by the Chair when deemed necessary.

Adjourned at 6:31 PM

Motion made by: Bobby Bearden

Motion seconded by: Ashley H. Weeks

Voting:

Mike Cole - Yes

Bobby Bearden - Yes

Adam Born - Not Present

Robert Patterson - Yes

Ashley H. Weeks - Yes

 Shannon M. Dillard 2/13/25

Shannon M. Dillard, Superintendent/Date

 Mike Cole 2/13/25

Mike Cole, Chair/Date

 Stephanie M. Newman 2/13/25

Stephanie M. Newman, Submitted By/Date