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District 2 - Jasper
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MINUTES
Recreational Vehicle Ordinance Committee

Hamilton County Annex
Jasper, FL

November 16, 2026
Monday: 9:00 A.M.

Members Present

Ed Shiflett – P&Z Board
Clay Goolsby – Property Appraiser
Buster Oxendine – Citizen
Chris Mericle – Citizen
Daniel Parks – Citizen
Tyson Hart – Code Enforcement
Henry Land – County Fire Chief
Jonathan Law – Veterans Affairs (Chair)
Matthew Morgan – Land Use Administrator

NOTE: *Minutes amended on 11/20/2026 to correct typographical errors. Corrections indicated with ~~strikethrough~~ and* ***Bold.***

Members Absent

Jimmy Murphy – BOCC

Meeting Started 8:58am

Mr. Law began the meeting by asking for committee introductions. Introductions followed.

Mr. Law went over the location of public facilities and emergency exits.

Mrs. Fouraker, a member of the public, asked if this was the RV meeting. Mr. Law replied yes. She said she wasn't sure if she needed to be here but wanted to know what was going on. Mr. Law advised her of the purpose and scope of the group. She asked if the ordinance was final. Mr. Law said no and explained the process.

Mr. Law asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2026 meeting.

Motion: Mr. Goolsby Second: Mr. Oxendine Vote: 8-0

Mr. Law went over the purpose of the meeting. He asked members to avoid speculation and to keep the discussion civil and orderly.

Mr. Mericle commented on inconsistencies between the proposed draft and the Land Development Regulations and Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Morgan explained the drafting process and the approval process.

Lines 1–5 were read. Mr. Mericle objected to the "dwelling" language. Mr. Land asked if the issue was with "permanent dwelling." Mr. Mericle said yes. The section was re-read to remove "as dwellings."

Mr. Parks expressed disagreement due to grandfathered RVs.

Mr. Oxendine said "dwelling" should stay until it is addressed later in the ordinance.

Mr. Mericle said dwellings are already defined in the LDRs.

Mr. Morgan read the definitions of "Dwelling" and "Travel Trailer."

Mr. Law asked for a vote on lines 2–3. All approved.

Mr. Law asked for a vote on striking "as dwelling" from line 4.

Motion: Mr. Mericle Second: Mr. Land Vote: ~~3-4~~ (motion failed) ***Correct Vote 3-5***

Mr. Mericle asked what it would be called if not a dwelling. Mr. Land agreed that standards could be different under this ordinance if RVs are treated as dwellings.

Mr. Mericle expressed concern over the integrity of leaving "dwelling" in the ordinance.

Mr. Morgan read the definition of "dwelling" from Section 810.011, Florida Statutes.

Mr. Mericle suggested alternative language.

Mr. Oxendine said the rules regarding voting should stand and that the committee should not go back and vote again on closed issues.

Mr. Mericle said any project should be started right.

Mr. Oxendine asked if there was any set of allowances for RVs that Mr. Mericle would accept. He stated that he was not willing to tell people their money was wasted when they followed the rules in place at the time.

Mr. Mericle explained how few people followed the rules and that many are living illegally. He said RV use should be temporary.

Mr. Oxendine said many people cannot afford anything better than an RV. He explained that the county is rural and said many complaints are heard about uncontrolled hunting camps.

Mr. Mericle asked about people who invest in properly built homes and then suddenly have RVs in their communities.

Mr. Oxendine said that was a deed restriction issue to take to an attorney.

Mr. Law went over the vote regarding line 4. He also went over differences of opinion, how to work through them, and the stages of the working group.

Mr. Law read line 5 and asked for comments, then continued with lines 6 and 7 through 10.

Mr. Mericle asked how people in flood areas are handled by the current ordinance. Mr. Hart explained the Code Enforcement process.

Mr. Mericle asked if ESA and floodplain areas are coterminous. Mr. Morgan said that was basically true but complicated, and explained the rationale for the current wording.

Mr. Law continued reading lines 10 through 13. Mr. Hart asked a question about pads and what kind were to be allowed. Mr. Morgan answered.

Mr. Mericle asked about carports/pole barns and people enclosing these areas to live in. Mr. Morgan explained the content of the ordinance and applicability of Florida Building Code.

Mr. Parks asked about driveway permitting if it does not seem to be needed. Mr. Land explained.

Mr. Law explained the purpose of the ordinance header. He continued with lines 13 through 20. No comments.

At 10:06 a.m., Mr. Law announced a 10-minute break.

After the break, Mr. Tom Schulte, a member of the public, asked how the points of discussion came up. Mr. Law answered.

Mr. Schulte advised that grandfathered RVs should be addressed in this ordinance and future RVs addressed with another ordinance.

Mr. Schulte stated that he believes mailed notice to property owners should be considered if or when anything changes. He further raised concerns regarding the Sunshine Law.

Mr. Law went over how the committee was set up.

Mr. Morgan explained that the minutes noted the issues raised and that they could be brought up again at the pertinent portion of the ordinance.

Mr. Law read lines 21–28. No comments. The committee moved on to lines 29–34.

Mr. Shiflett suggested the word “placement” was too broad and that Florida Statutes were more precise.

Mr. Oxendine suggested replacing “placement” with “usage.” Mr. Shiflett said he liked that.

Mr. Oxendine offered a motion to replace “placement” with “usage.”

Motion: Mr. Oxendine Second: Mr. Shiflett Vote: 8-0

Lines 35–41 were read.

Motion to strike “placement and use of” and replace with “usage.”

Motion: Mr. Oxendine Second: Mr. Parks Vote: 8-0

Mr. Mericle asked to add “that affect” to line 37. No vote was taken; he stated he was fine with the line as written.

Mr. Shiflett asked about the phrase “natural beauty.” Mr. Law asked whether “natural beauty” should be struck. Mr. Mericle said natural beauty means flora and fauna. Mr. Shiflett said the term was too broad.

Motion to remove “natural beauty” from line 37.

Motion: Mr. Shiflett Second: Mr. Hart Vote: 8-0

Lines 42–44 were read. No comments.

Lines 45–48. No comments.

Lines 49–53. Mr. Mericle said he did not like that language. Mr. Parks said that reviewing Section 7 will possibly change it.

Lines 54–56. No comments.

Mr. Morgan pointed out a typo on line 57; the ordinance number is wrong.

Lines 57–63. No comments.

Lines 64–68. No comments.

Lines 69–73. No comments.

Lines 74–75. No comments.

Lines 76–77. No comments.

Mr. Oxendine asked if “dwelling” should be dropped and replaced with “usage” in line 72.

Mr. Shiflett said “dwelling” appeared to be legally correct. Mr. Oxendine said it was just a question. Mr. Mericle said he had made a note to change it as well. Mr. Hart said he thought it should be removed.

Mr. Law asked whether “dwelling” should be removed and asked for a motion. Mr. Oxendine made a motion to leave “dwelling” in line 72.

Motion: Mr. Oxendine Second: Mr. Shiflett Vote: 8-0

Lines 78–80. Mr. Mericle moved to strike “dwelling.”

Motion: Mr. Mericle Second: Mr. Hart Vote: ~~3-4~~ (motion failed; language stays) ***Correct Vote 3-5***

Lines 81–85. No comments.

Lines 86–89. Mr. Shiflett asked about the “camp” language. Mr. Morgan responded.

Lines 90–93. Mr. Mericle offered that “lawful pathway to ‘temporary’ dwelling use” would be more appropriate language.

Motion: Mr. Mericle Second: None Motion failed for lack of a second

Lines 94–97. No comments.

Lines 98–103. No comments.

Lines 104–122. Mr. Shiflett asked about the text of Section 316.515, Florida Statutes. Mr. Morgan read it.

Mr. Oxendine stated he felt “park trailer” should be omitted from the ordinance due to its similarity to “tiny homes,” and noted that Suwannee County omitted it. Mr. Hart said park trailers meet building code.

Mr. Oxendine offered a motion to strike lines 123–128 from the ordinance.

Motion: Mr. Oxendine Second: Mr. Shiflett Vote: 8-0

Mr. Land asked about the definition of “campground.” Mr. Morgan answered.

Lines 129–134. No comments.

Lines 135–136. Mr. Law read the statutory language. No comments.

Lines 137–141. Mr. Mericle asked about the two permits and the definition of each. Mr. Hart explained the difference between the long-term permit and the short-term camping permit.

Mr. Mericle took issue with the entire “RV Dwelling Permit” and the Section 7 permitting.

Mr. Goolsby outlined homestead for RVs and talked about state allowances. He also talked about tie-downs versus a vehicle tag.

Mr. Land talked about maintaining road worthiness.

Mr. Goolsby talked about demolition requirements to establish road worthiness.

Mr. Mericle talked about how that conflicts with other rules, including the LDRs and the Flood Ordinance.

Mr. Law brought the discussion back to lines 137–141. Mr. Goolsby stated he thought the language should stay. Mr. Hart agreed.

Motion to break down the definitions and separate them.

Motion: Mr. Hart Second: Mr. Parks Vote: 7-1

The committee took a break at 11:22 a.m. and resumed at 11:37 a.m.

Lines 142–144. No comments.

Line 145. No comments.

Lines 146–147. No comments.

Lines 148–149. No comments.

Lines 150–151. Mr. Schulte objected to the language as a restriction on the use of personal property and said he does not believe any permit should be required for camping on private land.

Lines 152–157. Mr. Land felt 14 days was too short a time. Mr. Oxendine agreed.

Mr. Law asked about the statutory requirements of state law. He asked whether to keep a set number of days or leave it open-ended. Mr. Land said it needed to be longer.

Mr. Land made a motion to change both time limits to 30 days – lines 153 and 155.

Motion: Mr. Land Second: Mr. Mericle Vote: 8-0

Mr. Law stopped progress, noting that Section 7 is next. The next meetings were set for December 2nd, 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m., and December 3rd, 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Mr. Law asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Mr. Oxendine Second: Mr. Hart Vote: 8-0

Adjourned at 11:55am