

Somerset County Commissioners

Structure & Elections

The Somerset County Board of County Commissioners has 5 members, all elected by voters countywide. Each serves a 3-year term, with elections staggered (so 1 or 2 seats are up every year). The board selects a Director and Deputy Director annually from among its members.

Key Powers & Responsibilities

- Approves county budget (funds roads, parks, senior services, libraries, public health)
- Oversees county infrastructure (i.e. bridges, highways, and recycling facilities)
- Directs county-level emergency management and law enforcement coordination
- Manages county services: social services, veterans affairs, transportation, and open space programs
- Appoints members to boards and commissions, shaping regional planning and resource allocation

Key Issues in 2025

- Property taxes and balancing the county budget
- Infrastructure upgrades (i.e. bridges, roads, and flood control projects)
- Affordable housing and zoning challenges
- Emergency preparedness and countywide resilience planning
- Access to services for seniors, veterans, and vulnerable populations

Why This Matters

Control services and funding streams that directly affect daily life here:

- Set the share of county taxes that residents pay.
- Influence whether local county roads and bridges get fixed on time.
- Decide funding for regional flood control and stormwater projects.
- Manage programs that residents rely on (e.g. senior transportation, veterans services)

Voter Checklist for Candidates

- Do they understand both educational needs and taxpayer concerns?
- Are they committed to transparency and community input?
- Do they focus on student outcomes, not political culture wars?
- Will they advocate for fair state funding for Green Brook?

