

**CULLMAN COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING**  
**March 8, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**

Chairman Walker called the Commission Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**CALL OF ROLL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM**

The County Clerk called the roll; present were Chairman Kenneth Walker, Commissioner Kerry Watson, Commissioner Garry Marchman and County Attorney Chad Floyd. The invocation was given by J.L. Parker. Dusty Baker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 23, 2016 MEETING; APPROVE APPROPRIATIONS, EXPENDITURES, REQUISITIONS AND ALL JOURNAL ENTRIES TO BE POSTED**

Commissioner Watson made the motion to approve the minutes from the February 23, 2016 Commission Meeting; approve appropriations, expenditures, payroll, requisitions and all journal entries to be posted. Commissioner Marchman seconded the motion which passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Proclamation – National Ag Day March 15, 2016**

The County Clerk read the proclamation aloud. The commissioners presented the proclamation to a group from the Farm/City Committee.

**Authorize the Chairman to sign the fees associated with the 2015 Water Warrants payable to BNY Melon**

Gary Teichmiller, County Administrator, explained this is the bond issue for the refinancing of the water warrants from last year. A trustee is required. There is a one-time setup charge of \$1,500 and an annual \$2,500 fee. Commissioner Watson made a motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the fee schedule for the 2015 Water Warrants. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Authorize the Chairman to sign the 2016 Water Warrant Purchase Agreement with Piper Jaffray and Co, the underwriter**

Walter Lewis with Piper Jaffray and Co. addressed the Commission concerning the refinancing of the 2010 Water Warrants. The warrants were priced and sold yesterday. The rate was locked in at 2.85% for the \$6.6 million bond issue. The savings will be approximately six hundred thousand dollars over the term of the issue. This issue, along with the refinancing of the 2005 and 2007 Water Warrants which was done last year, will save about \$1.4 million. He stated he appreciated how the County has worked together and it has been a pleasure working with everyone. Commissioner Marchman made a motion authorizing the Chairman to sign the 2016 Water Warrant Purchase Agreement. Commissioner Watson seconded and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Consider Tax Abatement for Brad and Seth Hadley in the amount of \$325,000 for purchase of building and construction cost**

Kevin Jackson from the City of Cullman Economic Development Board, stated the abatement is for the purchase of a building which will be used by QHA Metal Products. In the previous commission meeting, an abatement was granted to the company for equipment. They hope to begin operations in May. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the abatement for Brad and Seth Hadley in the amount of \$325,000 for purchase of a building and construction cost. Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion passed.

**Consider proposed changes to the Personnel Handbook, effective March 8, 2016**

Judy Bradford, HR Director, stated the new Personnel Handbook was adopted at the last meeting. Attention has been brought there are several small changes and wording clarifications that need to be address. (*See attachment*) Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the changes to the Personnel Handbook, effective 3-8-2016. Commissioner Watson seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Authorize the Chairman to sign a contract with American Behavioral for the Employee Assistance Program (EAP)**

Ms. Bradford, HR Director, stated authorization for negotiation for the EAP was given at the previous commission meeting. An Employee Assistance Program is required by the County's Drug and Alcohol Policy. Several companies were contacted and American Behavioral has the most services at the least cost of \$1.65/employee. The County Attorney has reviewed the contract. Commissioner Watson made a motion to authorize the Chairman to sign a contract with American Behavioral for the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Commissioner Marchman seconded and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Consider authorizing the Commission to enter into an employment contract with John Lang as County Engineer**

Chairman Walker stated Mr. Lang has served as County Engineer for over a year and has done an excellent job. The Commission wants to ensure Mr. Lang remains with the County as a valuable employee. The contract is for five (5) years. Commissioner Marchman stated the State picks up a portion of the engineer's salary and they approve of a contract for a county engineer. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the signing of an employment contract with John Lang as County Engineer. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion which passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Consider authorizing the Commission to enter into an employment contract with Chad Floyd as County Attorney**

Chairman Walker stated Mr. Floyd has served as outside counsel for the Commission since October 2015. Prior to that date the County had an in-house attorney on staff. Having worked with both arrangements, the input from the Revenue Commissioner, Probate Judge, Sheriff and department heads and supervisors, has been overwhelmingly in favor of bringing back in-house counsel. The Commission had delayed making any decision on a permanent arrangement for an attorney until Commission Marchman was back in the office following his sick leave. Commissioner Watson made a motion to authorize the signing of an employment contract with Chad Floyd as County Attorney. Commissioner Marchman seconded and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Authorize the Chairman to sign an agreement between the Cullman County Commission and SRRS, LLC (Southern Rock Racing Series) for an event to be held at Stony Lonesome on March 11-12, 2016**

Tyler Lindsey, OHV Park Manager, stated the event will be this Friday and Saturday. They anticipate it will be the largest event they have held at the park. They anticipate 2,000 to 2,500 attendance and if the weather is good there could be 5,000. Commissioner Marchman made a motion authorizing the Chairman to sign an agreement between the Cullman County Commission and SRRS, LLC (Southern Rock Racing Series) for the event to be held this weekend. Commissioner Watson seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

**Authorize the Chairman to sign an agreement between the Cullman County Commission and Dustin W. Robbins d/b/a Full Throttle Power Sports to conduct a Race Event at the OHV Park on May 21, 2016**

Tyler Lindsey, OHV Park Manager, stated this will be the second event Mr. Robbins has held at the OHV Park. The first event in February saw an attendance of approximately 1,500. He is looking at the possibility of holding two more events this year. Commissioner Watson made a motion authorizing the Chairman to sign an agreement with Dustin W. Robbins d/b/a Full Throttle Power Sports to conduct a Race Event at the OHV Park on May 21, 2016. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Consider approval of payments to Government Service & Associates for Personal Property Audits for the Revenue Department under the contract dated 9-9-14; two invoices \$12,550 and \$11,150**

Revenue Commissioner Barry Willingham informed the Commission several personal property audits have been performed by Government Services & Associates. The Revenue Department contracted with Government Service & Associates in September 2014 to perform personal property audits on business accounts. The audits have resulted in the collection of an additional \$50,000 in personal property tax from those companies. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the payments totaling \$23,700. Commissioner Watson seconded and motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Authorize the Chairman to sign a Collections Agreement with Online Collections to collect outstanding balances on old accounts with customers of the Cullman County Water Department**

Chairman Walker stated the company the Water Department was using to collect balances on old accounts has gone out of business. Chad Floyd, County Attorney, reported proposals from two collection firms were reviewed. He has also contacted two utilities, Sand Mountain Water and Talladega Utility Company, who use the services of Online Collection. Both gave favorable recommendations. The company also had the most favorable rate. Commissioner Watson made a motion to authorize the Chairman to sign a Collections Agreement with Online Collections to collect outstanding balances on old accounts of Water Department customers. Commissioner Marchman seconded the motion which passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Resolution 2016-13 - Resurface and Traffic Stripe on County Road 1339 & 1354 from the intersection of Highway 157 to the intersection of County Road 1343**

John Lang, County Engineer, stated this is a section of Childhaven Road which was reclassified and will be the federal aid project. The project should be let in the fall. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the resolution for the resurfacing and traffic striping on County Road 1339 & 1354 from the intersection of Highway 157 to the intersection of County Road 1343. Commissioner Watson seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Consider plat for resurvey of lots 5 and 17 in TE-Kane-A-Dahe (Lake in the Hills) Subdivision, located in District 2 on County Road 203**

Keith Creel, Engineering Assistant, stated the original plat for TE-Kane-A-Dahe (Lake in the Hills) Subdivision was recorded in 1965. The road was built outside the right-of-way limit requiring the plat for Lots 5 and 17 be resurveyed. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the resurvey of lots 5 and 17 in TE-Kane-A-Dahe (Lake in the Hills) Subdivision, located in District 2 on County Road 203. Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion passed.

**WORK SESSION**

The Commission will hold a Work Session on Tuesday, March 22, 2016, at 8:30 a.m. in the commission conference room.

**NEXT REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MARCH 22, 2016**

Chairman Walker announced the next commission meeting will be Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in the commission meeting room.

**ADJOURN THE MEETING**

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Watson seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

/s/  
Kenneth Walker,  
Chairman

/s/  
Kerry Watson,  
Associate Commissioner

/s/  
Garry Marchman,  
Associate Commissioner