

**Commission Meeting Agenda Minutes
June 22, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME GUESTS

Chairman Clemons called the Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

CALL OF ROLL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM

John Bullard, County Administrator, called roll; present were Chairman Jeff Clemons, Commissioner Kerry Watson, Commissioner Garry Marchman, Commissioner Corey Freeman, County Administrator John Bullard, County Attorney Emily Johnston, and Interim Engineer Philip Widner. Tommy Graves gave the invocation. Emmalynn Hood from Fairview Middle School led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Kelly Duke was not present.

APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 16, 2023, MEETING, APPROPRIATIONS, EXPENDITURES, PERSONNEL ACTIONS, PAYROLL, AND REQUISITIONS, AND APPROVE ALL JOURNAL ENTRIES TO BE POSTED

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2023, meeting, appropriations, expenditures, personnel actions, payroll, and requisitions, and approve all journal entries to be posted. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/UPDATES

Chairman Clemons announced that we did not receive a request for public comments by the agenda deadline.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2023-30: Tax Abatement for the expansion of North Alabama Fabricating Company, Inc in the amount of \$814,178

Cullman Economic Development Agency Project Manager Stanley Kennedy addressed the Commission and stated this is for another expansion out at NAFCO. They are expanding their building to facilitate more production. They are going to add 20 more jobs and starting pay is \$21.00 per hour. We expect this project to have a \$14.35 million dollar capital investment. That money will create half a million dollars for our schools and the salaries from creating these jobs we expect additional tax revenue in our community of \$24,000 a year, and local businesses should expect a quarter million plus a year from those wages. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-30: Tax Abatement for the expansion of North Alabama Fabricating Company, Inc in the amount of \$814,178. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Ratify City of Cullman Abatement for Wal-Mart Stores East LP in the amount of \$20,065,500

Cullman Economic Development Agency Project Manager Stanley Kennedy stated this is Wal-Mart distribution. This is for a \$350 million capital investment, the largest investment in Cullman history by a \$100 million margin. Cullman's distribution center is the oldest distribution center in the network, and it needed to either be retrofitted or shut down. This project will create almost \$20 million for our schools over the abatement period. It is critical to keep one of the largest employers in our community. This is all for equipment, so it is all personal property tax.

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve to Ratify City of Cullman Abatement for Wal-Mart Stores East LP in the amount of \$20,065,500. Commissioner Freeman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Recognition: Lavon Hudgins retiring after 13 years with the Sanitation Department

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Recognition: Lavon Hudgins retiring after 13 years with the Sanitation Department. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Recognition: Randall Campbell retiring after 11 years with the Cullman County Parks

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve Recognition: Randall Campbell retiring after 11 years with the Cullman County Parks. Commissioner Freeman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Recognition: United States Veterans Service Help Operation Corps

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Recognition: United States Veterans Service Help Operation Corps. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Public Hearing: Employee Recognition and Appreciation Program

Chairman Clemons asked for a motion to open the Public Hearing. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to open the Public Hearing. Commissioner Marchman seconded.

County Administrator John Bullard stated Amendment 909 gives the Commission the ability to provide an employee recognition program. The Commission has been doing certificates for years of service, but this will allow once a year at the end of the year, lunch to be provided on county property and paid for by the Commission with public funds for all county employees. Employees would be recognized for years of service at this lunch.

Chairman Clemons, "Do we have a set date?"

County Administrator John Bullard, "We have some potential dates, but we do not have it set. We do not have to set it by this resolution. This resolution would require the Commission to decide on a date at some point in the future and then also for me to prepare a budget and the Commission to approve that budget prior.

Commissioner Marchman, "Does anyone have any questions?"

Chairman Clemons asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Commissioner Watson seconded.

Resolution 2023-27: Creating an Employee Recognition and Appreciation Program under Alabama Constitutional Amendment 909

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-27: Creating an Employee Recognition and Appreciation Program under Alabama Constitutional Amendment 909. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2023-28: Change speed limit to 15 mph on County Road 319

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-28: Change speed limit to 15 mph on County Road 319. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2023-29: Submit grant application to the ADEM County Storm Water Project to replace bridges on County Road 1763 and County Road 1162 and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork

Cullman County Economic Development Director Matt Kinsland addressed the Commission and stated this is the ADEM Storm Water Project fund and part of ARPA 2 legislation and we are submitting the grant for County Road 1162 and 1763, it does require a 35% match and we have that worked out. We have the application ready; we are just waiting on authorization to submit the application.

Commissioner Freeman, are those the only two that were necessary?

Economic Development Director Matt Kinsland, because of the cap, there is a \$150,000 cap on this program and this is all we could cover.

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-29: Submit grant application to the ADEM County Storm Water Project to replace bridges on County Road 1763 and County Road 1162 and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2023-31: Participate in the joint application for the Bridge Investment Program grant funding opportunity as part of the Federal Bridge Investment Program

Interim Engineer Philip Widner addressed the Commission and stated that this is a new program that has come out through the federal government that the ACCA is leading with a bunch of the counties involved to try and help curb cost. This program is geared more toward bridge replacement on the larger county roads. We have some bridges that are 80-100 years old, and it would cost millions of dollars to replace each bridge. They have authorized \$100 million dollars for bridges, the way they are going to do this is Alabama has 33 counties participating. All the counties participating are going to pay to get the grant application sent in, this is all being headed by Lauderdale County. We are all going to split the cost of \$40,000, but the amount we must pay is \$1,212. This would be a good opportunity to get some of these bridges done.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-31: Participate in the joint application for the Bridge Investment Program grant funding opportunity as part of the Federal Bridge Investment Program. Commissioner Freeman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider Commissioner Watson and Commissioner Duke's nominee, Rodney Whittle, for appointment to the Healthcare Authority Board for a six (6) year term to expire 6/30/2029 to replace Beth Anderson

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Commissioner Watson and Commissioner Duke's nominee, Rodney Whittle, for appointment to the Healthcare Authority Board for a six (6) year term to expire 6/30/2029 to replace Beth Anderson. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider Adoption of FY 2024 County Rebuild Alabama Transportation Plan

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Adoption of FY 2024 County Rebuild Alabama Transportation Plan. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider approval of the previous access plan for County Roads associated with Rock the South Event pending agreement with the County to cover any potential damage to the roads and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork

Commissioner Watson asked if there were any changes.

County Attorney Emily Johnston stated that there were no changes.

Commissioner Freeman stated that he would like photographs taken before Rock the South, to keep up with any damages it may create.

County Attorney confirmed that is historically how it has always been.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to the approval of the previous access plan for County Roads associated with Rock the South Event pending agreement with the County to cover any potential damage to the roads and authorize Chairman. Commissioner Freeman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Authorize the purchase of 75 Express Poll Flip Stand Tablets from ES&S in the amount of \$92,005 to be paid 25% in fiscal year 2023 and 75% in fiscal year 2024

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the purchase of 75 Express Poll Flip Stand Tablets from ES&S in the amount of \$92,005 to be paid 25% in fiscal year 2023 and 75% in fiscal year 2024. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Authorize Chairman Clemons and Revenue Commissioner Barry Willingham to sign Vendor Service Agreement with American Financial Credit Services, Inc

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Chairman Clemons and Revenue Commissioner Barry Willingham to sign Vendor Service Agreement with American Financial Credit Services, Inc. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Authorize Chairman to sign notice of listing for 2022 unpaid taxes

Revenue Commissioner Barry Willingham addressed the Commission and stated about 2 years ago the law was changed so that we have any business personal property taxes that we were not able to collect, find, etc., the County Commission shall direct any office, state, county, or municipality to not issue a business license to these entities. County Commission provides those entities with that list to ensure they cannot get a business license.

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Chairman to sign notice of listing for 2022 unpaid taxes. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Ratify insolvents, errors, and taxes in litigation for 2022 and uncollected insolvents and taxes in litigation for previous years for the Cullman County Revenue Office and authorize Chairman to sign

Revenue Commissioner Barry Willingham stated that this is what we have to abstract all of our property taxes. When we prepare an abstract, we set a dollar amount that we have to collect, so at the end of the year, we have to do a final settlement with the comptroller's office that shows any errors, and when we talk about errors it is when somebody fails to sign for a homestead exemption, or with an appraisal, or with tax class. We make those corrections and then we have to show what and how we corrected those errors. The form that I provided shows the amount of taxes we should have collected, errors, what we put back on the tax roll, and how much has come off our reappraisal budget and salaries.

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve to Ratify insolvents, errors, and taxes in litigation for 2022 and uncollected insolvents and taxes in litigation for previous years for the Cullman County Revenue Office and authorize Chairman to sign. Commissioner Freeman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider the surplus of eight vehicles to be donated to the Cullman County Fire Association from the Cullman County Sheriff's Office

- **2004 Ford Crown Victoria (Vin # 2FAFP71W74X152278)**
- **2007 Ford F-150 Extended Cab Pick-up (Vin # 1FTRX14W27NA46112)**
- **2008 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 4X4 (Vin # 2GCEK133481254953)**
- **2008 Ford Crown Victoria (Vin # 2FAHP71V88X128619)**
- **2011 Ford Crown Victoria (Vin # 2FABP7BV7BX110804)**
- **2011 Ford Crown Victoria (Vin # 2FAB7BV5BX110803)**
- **2011 Ford Crown Victoria (Vin # 2FABP7BV3BX171466)**
- **2011 Ford Crown Victoria (Vin # 2FABP7BV9BX110805)**

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the surplus of eight vehicles to be donated to the Cullman County Fire Association from the Cullman County Sheriff's Office 2004 Ford Crown Victoria (Vin

listed), 2007 Ford F-150 Extended Cab Pick-up (Vin # listed), 2008 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 4X4 (Vin # listed), 2008 Ford Crown Victoria (Vin # listed), 2011 Ford Crown Victoria (Vin # listed), 2011 Ford Crown Victoria (Vin # listed), 2011 Ford Crown Victoria (Vin # listed), 2011 Ford Crown Victoria (Vin # listed). Commissioner Freeman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider the surplus of three items from the Road Department to be disposed by best possible means

- **Road Striping Machine (Serial # 1195131PS)**
- **Water Pump (Serial # 897716)**
- **Stewart Stevenson 5-ton Military (Vin # T-000582B-DC)**

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the surplus of three items from the Road Department to be disposed by best possible means Road Striping Machine (Serial # listed), Water Pump (Serial # listed), and Stewart Stevenson 5-ton Military (Vin # listed). Commissioner Freeman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider proposed road acceptance of 893 feet of County Road 1700. Beginning at County Road 1616 and ends 35 feet past mailbox 171 County Road 1700. All work on this section has been completed and has passed final inspection

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve road acceptance of 893 feet of County Road 1700. Beginning at County Road 1616 and ends 35 feet past mailbox 171 County Road 1700. All work on this section has been completed and has passed final inspection. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Proposed road acceptance of 1,045 feet of County Road 1702. Beginning at County Road 1700 and ending at County Road 1616. All work on this section has been completed and has passed final inspection

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve acceptance of 1,045 feet of County Road 1702. Beginning at County Road 1700 and ending at County Road 1616. All work on this section has been completed and has passed final inspection. Commissioner Freeman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Proposed road acceptance of 1,311 feet of County Road 1701. Beginning at County Road 1700 and ends 105 feet past mailbox 250 County Road 1701. All work on this section has been completed and has passed final inspection

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve road acceptance of 1,311 feet of County Road 1701. Beginning at County Road 1700 and ends 105 feet past mailbox 250 County Road 1701. All work on this section has been completed and has passed final inspection. Commissioner Freeman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Proposed Resurvey of Serenity Pointe Subdivision. A major subdivision containing 8 Lots is being resurveyed to only contain 5 lots located off County Road 338

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve the Resurvey of Serenity Pointe Subdivision. A major subdivision containing 8 Lots is being resurveyed to only contain 5 lots located off County Road 338. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

WORK SESSION

Chairman Clemons announced that the next Commission Work Session will be Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Room

THE NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE COMMISSION MEETING ROOM

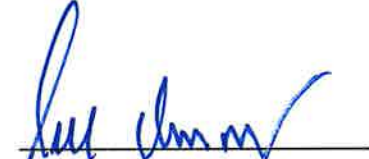
Chairman Clemons announced that the next Commission Meeting will be Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Room.

ADJOURN THE MEETING

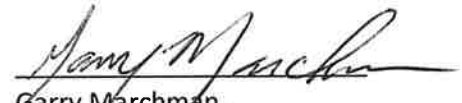
Commissioner Freeman made a motion to Adjourn. Commissioner Marchman seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Attest:


Tiffany Merriman,
County Clerk


Jeff Clemons,
Chairman


Kerry Watson,
Commissioner


Garry Marchman,
Commissioner


Kelly Duke,
Commissioner


Corey Freeman,
Commissioner