

Commission Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2024

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME GUESTS

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

CALL OF ROLL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM

Tiffany Merriman, County Clerk, called roll; present were Chairman Clemons, Commissioner Watson, Commissioner Marchman, Commissioner Duke, Commissioner Freeman, County Administrator John Bullard, County Attorney Emily Johnston, County Attorney Brad Wilson, and County Engineer Philip Widner. Sam Hollis gave the invocation. Economic Development Director Matt Kinsland led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2024, MEETING, APPROPRIATIONS, EXPENDITURES, PERSONNEL ACTIONS, PAYROLL, AND REQUISITIONS, AND APPROVE ALL JOURNAL ENTRIES TO BE POSTED

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2024, meeting, appropriations, expenditures, personnel actions, payroll, and requisitions, and approve all journal entries to be posted. Commissioner Watson seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/UPDATES

County Engineer, Philip Widner addressed the Commission and stated we have replaced the pipes on County Road 222. We were aware we had an issue with the base after all this was done. These repairs are necessary due to the recent collapse and replacement of underground drainage structures in the area. I would like to thank our Sheriff's Office for traffic control. I also would like to thank Ms. Fisher for allowing us to use her property to stockpile fuel and equipment.

NEW BUSINESS

Recognition: Kip James retiring after 27 years with the Water Department

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Recognition: Kip James retiring after 27 years with the Water Department. Commissioner Freeman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2025-05: Renaming of the Cullman County Juvenile Detention Center to The Honorable Kim J. Chaney Juvenile Detention Center

Chairman Clemons stated I have worked with you for many years as a deputy in this county and it is truly an honor to have worked with you for so many years. You were always honest and fair with everybody. I have worked on some of your programs you implemented and look at all the young lives that you saved. You have done so many things across Cullman County and it is truly an honor for me to be a part of that. It is truly an honor to rename the juvenile detention center in your name.

Commissioner Watson addressed the Commission and stated I appreciate you also. To me you are more than just a Judge, you are a friend. You have always been a mentor. Someone I could always go to if I had questions or needed guidance. I appreciate all you have done in our community.

Commissioner Marchman stated the programs you have put in place assisted people of this county. I want to thank you, and it is an honor.

Commissioner Duke stated thank you Judge Chaney. I have worked the fair booth with Judge Chaney and people would come around the corner and they would sit and look and see Judge Chaney a lot of them came up to him and hugged his neck and thanked him for changing their lives. Thank you, sir.

Commissioner Freeman stated early in my career you always told me to make the right decisions, be smart, do good work, and treat people right I will go along way in my career. I am starting my eighteenth year, and I have never forgot that. I appreciate you and thank you.

Judge Chaney addressed the Commission and stated I have always felt like our children of Cullman County are our most precious resource we have. I felt like we needed to spend time on the front end trying to keep them in school and make better decisions. To try to keep them out of the adult system. That is why our juvenile court was so active. There is no way one man could do this. I had a lot of help. I had two great judicial assistants. Pat

Sapp and Stacy. Also with our Juvenile Probation Directors, Kay Bell and Brenda Howell. They ran the juvenile program, supervised all the probation staff, and in addition to that, we have the best juvenile probation officers in the state of Alabama. I want to thank Dr. Holcomb from AOC for coming.

I want to thank the Commission for this great tribute. I appreciate and I am honored.

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-05: Renaming of the Cullman County Juvenile Detention Center to The Honorable Kim J. Chaney Juvenile Detention Center. Commissioner Duke seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

Resolution 2025-01: Cullman County Commission to submit application for FY 2025 Bridge Investment Program (BIP) funds to assist in rehabilitating Phillip's Bridge (Big Bridge) located on County Road 222

Economic Development Director addressed the Commission and stated this is a grant to rehabilitate the Phillip's Bridge (Big Bridge). The request is for \$18 million with a 20 percent match. This grant is a long-shot grant. It is more in-line with the Department of Transportation, and it continues the conversation with the Department of Transportation in Washington DC.

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-01: Cullman County Commission to submit application for FY 2025 Bridge Investment Program (BIP) funds to assist in rehabilitating Phillip's Bridge (Big Bridge) located on County Road 222. Commissioner Duke seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2025-02: Award Airport Bid for Taxiway pavement maintenance at the Cullman Regional Airport to Ameriseal of Ohio in the amount of \$201,394

Airport Director, Ben Harrison, stated this is an ALDOT grant we applied for two years ago. This is a second phase of the grant. It will cover asphalt rehabilitation and as well as the seal coat. The total amount is \$201,394. It is a 75/25 grant. The grant is 25 percent match is \$50,348. Divide that by two and the total will be \$25,174 for the city and \$25,174 for the county. Commissioner Duke made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-02: Award Airport Bid for Taxiway pavement maintenance at the Cullman Regional Airport to Ameriseal of Ohio in the amount of \$201,394. Commissioner Freeman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2025-03: Cullman County Commission to extend its contracted annual participation with the Association of County Commissions of Alabama Workers' Compensation Self-Insurers Fund for a three-year period concluding September 30, 2027

Commissioner Duke made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-03: Cullman County Commission to extend its contracted annual participation with the Association of County Commissions of Alabama Workers' Compensation Self-Insurers Fund for a three-year period concluding September 30, 2027. Commissioner Watson seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion passed.

Resolution 2025-04: Existing One-Half Cent Sales Tax for Cullman City Schools allocated to warrant repayment

County Administrator John Bullard addressed the Commission and stated this is a request from the City School Board. They are building a couple facilities. This is not a new tax. It is a continuance of the existing tax that they can allocate for that repayment. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-04: Existing One-Half Cent Sales Tax for Cullman City Schools allocated to warrant repayment. Commissioner Duke seconded. Commissioner Marchman abstained. The motion passed upon a majority vote.

Resolution 2025-06: Allocate American Rescue Plan Act Funds, Revenue Reduction Funds to the construction of bathroom facility at Smith Lake Park and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork

County Administrator John Bullard stated our Parks Director, Kenneth Cornelius, has worked on this. It is plans we already had from the OHV Park. It is a good quote. This will be one of the last allocations from the American Rescue Plan Funds. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-06: Allocate American Rescue Plan Act Funds, Revenue Reduction Funds to the construction of bathroom facility at Smith Lake Park and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork. Commissioner Freeman seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2025-07: Permit the funds originally deposited for the benefit of this participant county with the Tennessee Valley Youth Services, under Alabama Code 12-15-215, to stay within the account of Tennessee Valley Youth Services for the purposes of facility maintenance in lieu of distribution of funds back to the participant County

County Administrator John Bullard stated this is a few thousand dollars. Less than \$5,000. Each county I talked with is planning on doing the same. Instead of the money coming back to us, this hopefully this can reduce our future expenses. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-07: Permit the funds originally deposited for the benefit of this participant county with the Tennessee Valley Youth Services, under Alabama Code 12-15-215, to stay within the account of Tennessee Valley Youth Services for the purposes of facility maintenance in lieu of distribution of funds back to the participant County. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Set the dates and times for Commission Meetings for 2025

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the dates and times for the Commission Meetings for 2025. Commissioner Freeman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

Authorize Chairman to sign the annual premium for the Volunteer Fire Workers' Compensation insurance in the amount of \$13,268

Commissioner Duke made a motion to Authorize Chairman to sign the annual premium for the Volunteer Fire Workers' Compensation insurance in the amount of \$13,268. Commissioner Watson seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Authorize Chairman Clemons to sign the Alabama Department of Youth Services Agency Grant Agreement for FY 2024-2025 as fiscal agent for:

- **Lauderdale County in the amount of \$166,200**
- **Cullman County in the amount of \$199,088**
- **Blount County in the amount of \$79,680**
- **Jackson County in the amount of \$74,612**

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Chairman Clemons to sign the Alabama Department of Youth Services Agency Grant Agreement for FY 2024-2025 as fiscal agent for:

- **Lauderdale County in the amount of \$166,200**
- **Cullman County in the amount of \$199,088**
- **Blount County in the amount of \$79,680.**
- **Jackson County in the amount of \$74,612**

Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

Consider the purchase of four (4) HVAC units from Stan Smith Heating and Air for the Cullman County Office Building (BOE) in the amount of \$51,000

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the purchase of four (4) HVAC units from Stan Smith Heating and Air for the Cullman County Office Building (BOE) in the amount of \$51,000. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Consider a request for the establishment of the Heim Family Cemetery located at 659 County Road 1489 Cullman, AL 35058

Commissioner Duke made the motion to approve the request for the establishment of the Heim Family Cemetery located at 659 County Road 1489 Cullman, AL 35058. Commissioner Watson seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider authorization for the Cullman Civitan Club to use the south parking lot at the Courthouse December 2nd-December 5th, 2024, from 10:00 am-2:00 pm and December 6th, 2024, from 10:00 am-4:00 pm

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to authorize the Cullman Civitan Club to use the south parking lot at the Courthouse December 2nd-December 5th, 2024, from 10:00 am-2:00 pm and December 6th, 2024, from 10:00

am-4:00 pm. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Ratify RC&D Agreement for Equipment for the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center in the amount of \$15,000

Commissioner Duke made a motion to Ratify RC&D Agreement for Equipment for the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center in the amount of \$15,000. Commissioner Freeman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

Consider the purchase of a Kiser Arena Drag 810-225 Gallon Water Tank and Profile Blade for the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center in the amount of \$15,900

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the purchase of a Kiser Arena Drag 810-225 Gallon Water Tank and Profile Blade for the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center in the amount of \$15,900.

Commissioner Duke seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider the purchase of a 2024 Ford F-150 Supercrew 4X4 pickup off State Bid (Contract # MA22000003128-15) for the Commission in the amount of \$48,683

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the purchase of a 2024 Ford F-150 Supercrew 4X4 pickup off State Bid (Contract # MA22000003128-15) for the Commission in the amount of \$48,683. Commissioner Duke seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Consider the purchase of a 2025 Ford Explorer off State Bid (Contract # 22000003128-3) for Economic Development in the amount of \$40,169

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the purchase of a 2025 Ford Explorer off State Bid (Contract # 22000003128-3) for Economic Development in the amount of \$40,169. Commissioner Freeman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

Consider Chairman Clemon's nominee, Judge Martha Williams, to replace Judge Rusty Turner on the Library Board for a 4-year term to expire 9/30/28

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Chairman Clemon's nominee, Judge Martha Williams, to replace Judge Rusty Turner on the Library Board for a 4-year term to expire 9/30/28. Commissioner Duke seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider authorizing up to \$80,000 for avigation easement at the Cullman Regional Airport

Airport Director Ben Harrison addressed the Commission and stated this is easement on the north end. We did this several years ago on the south end. This is easements for tree-toppings, etc. Commissioner Watson made a motion to authorize up to \$80,000 for avigation easement at the Cullman Regional Airport. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Consider changing County Retirees C Plus Medicare Supplement from Plan B to Plan G effective 1/1/2025

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve changing County Retirees C Plus Medicare Supplement from Plan B to Plan G effective 1/1/2025. Commissioner Duke seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

Consider payment to Keet Consulting Services, LLC for GIS and Internet Spatial Viewer for Reappraisal in the amount of \$65,100

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve payment to Keet Consulting Services, LLC for GIS and Internet Spatial Viewer for Reappraisal in the amount of \$65,100. Commissioner Duke seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider the purchase of a 2024 StarCraft Bus from Model 1 through ALDOT off Georgia State Bid (contract # SPD0000212-0005) for CARTS in the amount of \$ 148,724

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the purchase of a 2024 StarCraft Bus from Model 1 through ALDOT off Georgia State Bid (contract # SPD0000212-0005) for CARTS in the amount of \$ 148,724.

Commissioner Freeman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Proposed resurvey of lots 3-6 of Serenity Pointe Cabins Phase2 Subdivision. This subdivision located in Commission district 4 and previously approved August 15th, 2023. The ROW is being shifted to allow for more acreage on lots 3-6. This is a private subdivision located off County Road 338

County Engineer Philip Widner addressed the Commission and stated this is in Commissioner Freeman's district. The needed to move a road over to make the lots bigger. They have met all the requirements. This is all private.

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Proposed resurvey of lots 3-6 of Serenity Pointe Cabins Phase2 Subdivision. This subdivision located in Commission district 4 and previously approved August 15th, 2023.

The ROW is being shifted to allow for more acreage on lots 3-6. This is a private subdivision located off County Road 338. Commissioner Duke seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

Proposed plat Clear Creek Place Subdivision. A minor subdivision containing 2 Lots in Commission District 4. The subdivision is located on County Road 803, a quarter mile South of the intersection of County Road 421 and County Road 803

County Engineer Philip Widner stated this is also in Commissioner Freeman's district. It is a minor subdivision. It has met all the requirements. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve the Proposed plat Clear Creek Place Subdivision. A minor subdivision containing 2 Lots in Commission District 4. The subdivision is located on

County Road 803, a quarter mile South of the intersection of County Road 421 and County Road 803.

Commissioner Duke seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Award Bid # 1470: for one new Book Mobile current model transit cargo van to Mercedes-Benz of Huntsville

Commissioner Watson asked do we have an amount?

County Administrator, John Bullard stated \$63,454.42 and that is in the library's budget. We just have to bid it out for them.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to Award Bid # 1470: for one new Book Mobile current model transit cargo van to Mercedes-Benz of Huntsville. Commissioner Freeman seconded, and the motion passed upon a

unanimous voice vote.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING WILL BE WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2024, AT 10:00 A.M. IN THE COMMISSION MEETING ROOM

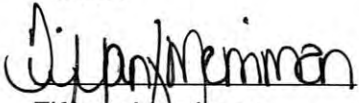
THE NEXT COMMISSION WORK SESSION WILL BE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024, AT 4:00 P.M. IN THE COMMISSION MEETING ROOM

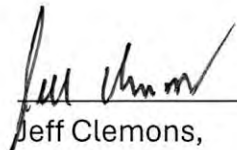
THE NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE COMMISSION MEETING ROOM

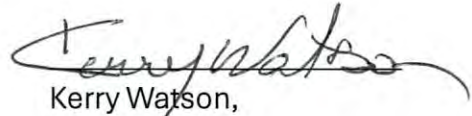
ADJOURN THE MEETING

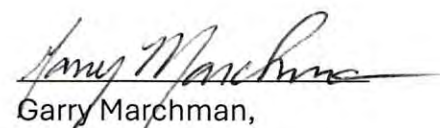
Commissioner Marchman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Duke seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Attest:

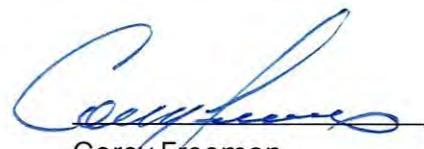

Tiffany Merriman,
County Clerk


Jeff Clemons,
Chairman


Kerry Watson,
Commissioner


Garry Marchman,
Commissioner


Kelly Duke,
Commissioner


Corey Freeman,
Commissioner