

The Russell County Commission
Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2010
9:30 A.M. EST.

The Russell County Commission meeting was called to order. Members present were: Chair Peggy Martin, Tillman Pugh, Ronnie Reed, Cattie Epps, Mervin Dudley and Larry Screws. Vice Chair Gentry Lee was on vacation. Also present were the County Attorney Kenneth Funderburk and the Assistant Administrator Vickie Perry, who kept the minutes.

A quorum was established.

Chair Martin requested a motion approving the agenda. Commissioner Dudley motioned to approve the agenda and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

The invocation was given by Steve Gregg, Pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church.

The Pledge of Allegiances was led by Chair Martin.

Chair Martin welcomed elected official, department heads, media and visitors.

Chair Martin requested a motion to approve the November 24th, 2010, meeting minutes. Commissioner Dudley motioned to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

County Engineer Larry Kite gave a brief road report on The County Road 4 Extension in Pittsview. The project had been delayed due to bridge issues, but work has now resumed. The wearing surface is all that remains for completion of the project and should be finished by Christmas if the required weather conditions are present. The Bethel Road Project has slowed due to cold rainy conditions, but the initial prep work has been completed on half of the road and plans are to pave this road in the spring.

Larry Kite requested approval to advertise for the Annual Materials Bid for the Engineering Department. He requested the bid opening to be January 20, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. Commission Screws motioned to approve the bid. Seconded by Commissioner Epps. The vote was unanimous.

Barbara Scott of Lee Russell Council of Governments presented two resolutions related to the Delta Regional Authority Grant which was awarded to Russell County for GIS equipment to be used by the Engineer Department and the County as a whole. The Grant will fund consultation services to help set GIS system up, as well as establish procedures and use of the system. The first resolution presented

was for acceptance of the award and for the commitment of the required \$10,492 match as stated in the grant. The resolution also authorizes the Chair to sign all grants, agreements and certifications. The Grant amount is for \$30,000. Commissioner Epps motioned to approve Barbara Scott's recommendation. Seconded by Commissioner Screws. The vote was unanimous.

The second resolution authorizes the Chair to enter into an agreement with Lee / Russell Council of Governments to manage the grant administration of the Delta Grant. The administrative fee is \$2,292. Commissioner Dudley motioned to approve the agreement and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

Chair Martin announced the Christmas parade will be held December 11, 2010. Each year the Commission sponsors the Santa float at the cost of \$350. Commissioner Dudley motioned to approve the sponsorship of the float. Seconded by Commissioner Screws. The vote was unanimous.

The Assistant County Administrator Vickie Perry announced, at the last meeting the Commission approved the Courthouse closing at noon on December 23 for additional Christmas Holiday time. Staff who would like to take the balance of that day could, if they choose to use their vacation leave for the remainder of that day. The Courthouse will remain open until noon for citizens who wish to pay property tax and have county business that morning.

The County Attorney Kenneth Funderburk recommended going into executive to discuss a potential business prospect. Commissioner Reed motioned moving into executive session and was seconded by Commissioner Dudley. District 1 (Lee) absent; District 2 (Pugh) voted, no; District 3 (Martin) voted, yes; District 4 (Reed) voted, yes; District 5 (Epps) voted, yes; District 6 (Dudley) voted, yes; District 7 (Screws) voted, yes. Five votes yes and one no vote; the motion passed.

Announcements were made before the executive session:

The Legislative Dinner will be held December 15, 2010 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. EST at the Golden Quarters.

Commissioner Reed announced after the December 22, 2010 Commission Meeting, gifts will be given to some of Russell County's disadvantaged children.

Chair Martin requested a motion to reconvene the Commission Meeting. Commissioner Screws motioned to reconvene and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

County Attorney Funderburk stated there were no recommendations at this time.

The meeting was adjourned.