

The Russell County Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2009
9:30 A.M. EST

An adjourned meeting of the Russell County Commission was called to order. Commissioners present were Gentry Lee, Tillman Pugh, Peggy Martin, Ronnie Reed, Cattie Epps and Mervin Dudley, Larry Screws was absent. Also present was the County Attorney, Kenneth Funderburk and the County Administrator, LeAnn Horne who kept the minutes.

The invocation was given by Johnnie Robinson, Pastor of Higher Power Outreach Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Pugh.

Chairman Dudley welcomed elected officials, department heads, media and guests.

Chairman Dudley requested a motioned to approve the April 22, 2009 meeting minutes. Commissioner Reed motioned to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Epps. Five votes yes. Commissioner Martin abstained due to her absence at the last meeting.

Chairman Dudley requested a motioned to approve the May 13, 2009 meeting agenda. Commissioner Martin motioned to approve the agenda and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous

Russell County Engineer, Larry Kite presented a resolution for the paving of Russell County's portion of Pierce Road using 100% stimulus funds. There will not be a cost to Russell County. Lee County is pursuing this project and will take care of the Russell County's portion of that project, which is approximately 1/10 of a mile at Home Depot. Approval is needed for this resolution allowing them to incorporate that section of road into their project. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the recommendation of the County Engineer. Seconded by Commissioner Martin. The vote was unanimous.

Gary Jones from the Valley Partnership discussed the Regional Growth Management Plan.

Heath Taylor, Sheriff's Department Investigator, requested approval to send out for the annual uniform bids. They would like the bid opening to be in thirty days at a work session and tabulations presented to the Commission at a regular meeting for approval. Commissioner Reed motioned to approve the annual uniform bid and was seconded by Commissioner Martin. The vote was unanimous.

Micheil Cole presented The Russell County Sports Project. These projects consist of a two or three phase transportation enhancement grant program. The plans include a bike trail which also has a historical significant connection throughout the county. Phase 1 will connect the Sports Complex with the Old Russell County Courthouse. The second phase will move along the 165 Corroder and County Road 22 approximately 14.228 miles. This is an extensive project, but will allow bicycling and traveling to significant historical sites in Russell County including: Trail of Tears, Bartrum's Trail and several historical churches and structures. The other project will be the Ladonia Walking Trail which will include Woodland Drive, Bayview Drive and Whiterock Road and will be connected to the Ladonia Sports Complex. We need approval to continue to pursuing these projects and to apply for grants associated with these types of development. Commissioner Pugh made a motion to approve these projects with the inclusion of a possible bike trail in the Ft. Mitchell Historical Area up the

Chattahoochee River and connect to the River walk. Seconded By Commissioner Martin. The vote was unanimous.

Chief Appraiser J.W. Brannen requested a budget transfer for the Mapping/Appraisal Department. Due to the lost of an excellent Mapper in August 2008 and the inability to find a permanent replacement; it was necessary to contract a vender in Franklin, Tennessee to catch up mapping projects from October 2008 to April 2009. The amount spent for this work was \$7,450. To continue with this company until a new Mapper is found, will be \$1,750. per-month. Mr. Brannen's request is moving funds from Mapping's salary line into the contract services line to catch up the mapping projects, leaving enough money in the salary line to hire a new Mapper to finish this facial year. The transfer is as follows:

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|--|---------------|-------------|
| Mapper/Appraisal Departmental Transfer | | |
| Decrease | 120-51985-113 | \$10,950.00 |
| Increase | 120-51985-199 | \$10,950.00 |

Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the Mapping/Appraisal budget transfer as requested. Seconded by Commissioners Martin and Reed.

County Administrator LeAnn Horne, requested a recommendation from the Commission concerning the next work session which will fall on Memorial Day. Commissioner Lee motioned to cancel the work session and to start the regular meeting at 9:30 a.m. EDT, as normal. Seconded by Commissioner Epps. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Horne also requested approval of a resolution for an energy efficiency and conservation block grant. This is an application for Federal Government stimulus funds that will come through ADECA. Lee/Russell will manage the funds which will be a reimbursement type funding, if Russell County is chosen to receive the grant. This grant is to reduce fuel emissions created and assist in the air quality both inside and outside the zone known as the Judicial Building. This will also reduce energy consumption, due to plans of replacing both chillers and boiler systems which date back to 1970. The amount of the grant is \$250, 000. with no match from the county. There will be a \$2,500 administrative fee for Lee/Russell's management of funds. It is a requirement for the Commission Chairman to sign a letter of support along with the resolution. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the grant submittal and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Horne presented a recommendation for architect, Hecht/Burdeshaw, Inc. to move forward with the re-roofing project at the Judicial Building. Once an architect has been approved; they will write the bid specks which will be brought back to the Commission for approval before advertising. The advertisings are required to run 4 weeks and at that point, bids will be let. We then can move forward with the renovations. Commissioner Reed motioned to approve the recommendation of the County Administrator.

Commissioner Lee: I want to second the motion, but I would like to make it clear; Hecht/Burdeshaw, Inc. is the architect we are selecting for the renovations of the Judicial Center, not just the re-roofing.

Ms. Horne: If that is what the Commission wants.

Commissioner Lee: That is what I want.

Commissioner Pugh: With the accepting of that award, I would like to put the architect on notice that the Commission would expect at least 2 physical visits per week to the job site. We would like reports coming back to this Commission at our bi-monthly meeting, so when we meet we will know where our money has been spent and what progress has been made. I would like to make that part of the motion.

Commissioner Reed: I will amend my motion to include Commissioner Pugh's request.

Commissioner Lee: I second the motion, but I would like for their communications to be forwarded to the Commissioners, not necessarily from the architect, but for the architect to communicate with the County Commission Office and then I would like all Commissioners to receive a copy. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Horne requested to place the State Driver's License Office on notice, that within 30 to 60 days they maybe relocating to old Health Department building. There is adequate space at this location, more than they have at the present time and has ample parking. They have been requesting this for several months and I just want to put them on notice. I will bring this back to the Commission for final plans. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the relocation of the Driver's License Department. Seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

Commissioner Pugh made a motion to allow the County Administrator to talk to each department in the Judicial Center; to hear their needs and give her limited authority to discuss what would be available to them. Seconded by Commissioner Reed.

Ms. Horne requested the County Attorney could be added to the motioned.

County Attorney, Kenneth Funderburk stated he would assist Ms. Horne. The Commission was polled and the vote to approve was unanimous.

Commissioner Dudley announced: May 21st at 6:30 in the Commission Chamber the Commission is inviting the City Council and other applicable parties to a presentation on rabies control. The Alabama State Veterinarian will also be there.

Commissioner Dudley stated due to the passing of Hedy King, Naomi Elliott's sister, we ask to keep the family in their thoughts and prayers.

Commissioner Lee motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned.