

The Russell County Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2012
9:30 A.M. EDT

Public Comment: Father Tom Weise invited everyone to his 50th Anniversary Celebration of Priesthood, June 3rd, 2012 at the Mother Mary Mission Gymnasium.

Father Tom discussed rumors concerning Mother Mary Mission and St. Patrick School. Mother Mary Mission will not be closing and St Patrick's School does have the money to rebuild.

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

A quorum was established.

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

The invocation was given by Tom Weise, Pastor of the St Patrick and Mother Mary's Catholic Churches Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Epps.

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

Chair Martin requested a motion to approve the May 9th, 2012 meeting minutes. Commissioner Dudley motioned to approve the minutes and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

The County Administrator presented a resolution stating the County will participate in the 2012 Sales Tax Holiday which will begin August 3, 12:01 a.m. and end August 5th at 12:00 p.m.. School items will be tax exempt from county and state taxes. Commissioner Epps motioned to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Dudley. The vote was unanimous.

Homeland Security/ EMA Interim Director Bob Franklin announce that his office has received notification that Russell County has been awarded the Safe Room Grants. Residents that have applied for this funding can begin installing safe rooms. The Siren Grant that was applied for have not been awarded at this time due to the 4000 applications that were submitted.

Chair Martin appointed a committee to look into the use of the old Tag Office by the Russell County Board of Education. The committee will consist of the School Superintendent Mr. Green and the School Board Chair Keith Mitchell, Sheriff Taylor, Interim EMA Director Bob Franklin, the County Administrator and the Commission Chair. After some discussion it was agreed the School Board Chair could appoint a replacement for his position on the committee should he feel that he could not serve or the School Board should have an additional member. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the committee members and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

County Administrator LeAnn Horne stated the Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a Garrett Miles Concert on June 16th from 7:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. and have requested the use of the Courthouse Atrium as a pre-concert intermission event where the Commission members, City Officials and other related concert individuals. Commissioner Dudley motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Epps. The vote was unanimous,

County Attorney Kenneth Funderburk presented a recommendation from the Russell County Utility Board for the Commission to approve as follows:

- ❖ BancorpSouth Lease-Purchase Agreement \$153,669.00 2013 Kenworth Garbage Truck
- ❖ Accurate Billing Service — One year contract for debt collections
- ❖ Reorganization of Personnel: Elimination (2) FT positions and (1) PT position created Utility Shop Supervision and adjusted pay grades to match county pay scale
- ❖ Water Board to continue handling all accounting services and billing until October 1, 2012 for \$1.27 a transaction; Bill Friend will continue to handle enforcement activities of delinquent accounts

Commissioner Epps motioned to accept the recommendations and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

Announcements made by Chair Martin:

- ❖ *The Courthouse will be closed May 28th for Memorial Day*
- ❖ *District 5— Commissioner Epps will host a public meeting at the Senior Activity Center on Hwy 165 on May 29th at 7:00 p.m.*
- ❖ *Tri Rivers Annual Meeting will be May 31st thru June 1st at the Columbus Convention and Trade Center*
- ❖ *Help elect Miss Alabama USA, Katherine Webb, as Miss USA by voting on line by June 3rd, 2012 at WWW.MissUSA.com click on the "Contestants". You can vote up to 10 times/email.*

The meeting was adjourned.