

The Russell County Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
9:30 A.M. EDT

An adjourned meeting of the Russell County Commission was called to order. Members present were: Vice Chair Cattie Epps, Gentry Lee, Tillman Pugh, Ronnie Reed and Larry Screws. Chair Peggy Martin and Chance Corbett were absent. County Attorney Kenneth Funderburk and County Administrator Horne were also present.

A quorum was established.

Vice Chair Epps requested a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the meeting agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

The invocation was given by Tommy Poole, Pastor of Pine Grove Baptist Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Screws.

Vice Chair Epps requested a motion to approve the May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 meeting minutes. Commissioner Lee stated he did not have a correction for the minutes but would like the minutes to reflect that at the beginning of the County Insurance item, he left the meeting and was not present during that discussion. Commissioner Screws motioned to approve the minutes and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The Commission was polled: District 1(Lee) abstained, District 2 (Pugh) abstained; District 4 (Reed) voted, yes, District 5 (Epps) , voted, yes: District 7 (Screws) voted, yes. 3 yes votes and 2 abstentions; the minutes were approved.

Vice Chair Epps presented a proclamation for Elder Abuse Awareness Day to DHR Supervisor Mrs. Florence Bellamy and other representatives from DHR. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the proclamation and as seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

Revenue Commissioner Naomi Elliott gave the County's 2012 Final Settlement Report. Mrs. Elliott requested approval of the report and approval to submit the report to the State with Vice Chair Epps signature. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the report. Seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

Sheriff Taylor requested a Budget transfer as follows:

Sheriff Department -52100		
Decrease 001 52100 233	Office Equipment Repairs and Maintenance	\$1,000.00
Decrease 001 52100 327	Uniforms	\$4,000.00

Increase 001	52100	215	Tires and Tubes	\$3,000.00
Increase 001	52100	316	Wrecker Fees	\$2,000.00
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$5,000.00</b>

Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the transfer. Seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

Sheriff Taylor stated the Ambulance committee met to discuss two issues: Care Ambulance vacated the station provided for them by the County at the old Seale Fire Station due to black mold that had formed under the tile floors. A temporary office, at the new Seale Fire Station, was set-up until options for a new location could be discussed. Seale Volunteer Fire Department has offered to construct a new building for the ambulance service and the County pay the same amount that is being paid to Dewey Johnson for rent and utilities at the old station, which is approximately \$750. Another option is for the county to purchase land and build its own ambulance station. There are several available properties:

- County property located on Poorhouse Road, the road frontage at the Sanitation Transfer Station
- Property owned by the Board of Education next to the Sports Complex on Mathis Road. Sheriff Taylor stated this is the best option due to its availability to the complex and the school.
- Land owned by Bill Tugwell on Hwy 431 S next to the fireworks stand, which cost and land would be split with Russell County Water Authority.

Sheriff Taylor recommended that the ambulance committee review and decide what the best location is and bring their recommendation to the Commission. Sheriff Taylor also requested to pay Seale Fire Department the amount of \$750 monthly while housing the ambulance service temporary. Also give permission to Administrator Horne and the Ambulance Committee, who include Chair Martin, Bob Franklin, Tim Jenkins, Administrator Horne and Sheriff Taylor, could find the most feasible answer and report back.

Commissioner Lee motioned to authorize to pay the \$750 to the Seale Volunteer Fire department. He stated that he did not think a motion is needed concerning what the Ambulance Committee can study until they come back to the Commission with a recommendation. Seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

Sheriff Taylor requested permission to submit an RFP for Ambulance Service. Commissioner Screws made a motion to approve Sheriff Taylor's recommendation and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

Special Enforcement Officer Bill Friend presented land abatement for a mobile home damaged by fire, December 1, 2012. The mobile home located in Rusk Mobile Home Park, lot 20 has been stripped of the metal siding leaving the rest of the debris. The owner of the mobile home park was contacted twice, but the owner feels he was not responsible even though it is located on his property. Mr. Friend requested for the

Commission to declare by resolution that a public nuisance exists at Rusk Mobile Home Park Lot 20, and to post the notice and a public hearing be set. Commissioner Pugh motioned abate the property per Mr. Friend's investigation and recommendation. The public hearing will be held in 45 days. Seconded by Commissioner Screws. The vote was unanimous.

Assistance Engineer Shawn Blakeney discussed a request from resident concerning lowering the speed limit on Tigner Drive. He stated after a review by the Engineering Department he recommended lowering the speed limit to 25 mph on Tigner Drive. State law recommends all paved county roads that are not posted to be 45 mph and dirt roads that are not posted to be 35 mph. Tigner Drive is a .2 mile dead-end dirt road with a bad hill. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the request and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Blakeney also requested to transfer funds to cover unforeseen expenses for vehicle repairs that have occurred. He also seeks approval to have repairs to the Duramaxx Patcher by Old River Truck Sales for the amount of \$14,193.00. The engine in the UD chassis is bad and they are actively pursuing the manufacturer to cover these repairs under warranty, but have been denied due to issues with the air cleaner system. There is evidence that the air filter was defective. However, the patcher needs to be repair and placed back into service. The transfer is as follows:

Engineering Department 53100

Decrease 111 53100 561	Construction Equipment	\$60,000.00
Increase 111 53100 215	Tires and Tubes	\$3,000.00
Increase 111 53100 213	R & M Construction Equipment	\$57,000.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$60,000.00</b>

Commissioner Lee motioned to approve both requests: the budget amendment and the repairs to the pothole patcher by Old River Truck Sales. Seconded by Commissioner Reed. Commissioner Lee stated the repairs to the pothole patcher could cost more than the \$14,193 and will not be known until repairs begin. The vote was unanimous.

County Administrator Horne announced American Legion Post 135 Commander Leroy Davis has invited everyone to attend the installation of officers, June 14<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.

Vice Chair Epps stated that Commissioner Corbett was absent due to a training class and Chair Martin is on a Church Retreat.

She also announced the Burn Ban went into effect May first and will end November 1, 2013.

Shawn Blakeney stated a public meeting will be held June 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Russell County Sports Complex for the Public Involvement Meeting for ALDOT Transportation Alternative Program project and application process. This is for a grant to place a sidewalk from the Russell County High School to the Russell County

Complex. The meeting will be moved to 97 Poor House Road at the Engineering Complex if it is raining.

The Commission is schedule for a redistricting meeting at the State house in Montgomery, Monday June 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. EDT.

The meeting was adjourned.