

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

An adjourned meeting of the Russell County Commission was called to order; members present: Chair Peggy Martin, Vice Chair Gentry Lee, Ronnie Reed, Cattie Epps and Larry Screws. Tillman Pugh and Mervin Dudley were absent. Also present were the 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 Reed stated that since the old Tag Office roof problem is solved, he motioned to approve the meeting agenda with the deletion of this discussion item. Seconded by Commissioner Epps. The vote was unanimous.

The invocation was given by Charlie Short, Pastor of the Seale Road Baptist Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Chair Lee.

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

Chair Martin requested a motion approving the May 26, 2010 meeting minutes. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the meeting minutes with the verification of the Sheriff's budget amendment. Seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

Administrator Horne gave a status report on the Judicial Building Renovation Project. The County Administrator met with the Architect and all Judicial Officials and the District Attorney. The final plan for the renovations is being reviewed once more by Judicial Members. The bid specs are anticipated to be presented to the Commission for approval in July. Mr. Funderburk stated the validation hearing has been set for July 6, 2010 at 2:30 P.M. EST at the Old Library. The validation is a public hearing and will be advertised in the papers.

Revenue Commissioner Naomi Elliott presented the Final Settlement Report for fiscal year 2009-2010 as follows:

Collection	\$19,946,208.29
Supplement	\$1,778,702.54
Errors	\$2,031,048.28
Insolvent	\$42,222.80

Mrs. Elliott requested the Commission to allow the Chair to sign the Final Settlement Report for submittal to the State. Commissioner Reed motioned to approve the report and to be signed by the Chair. Seconded by Commissioner Lee. The vote was unanimous. (Report in Revenue Commission Office)

Sheriff Boswell requested approval to reapply for CHRP Funds. This grant will pay for the hiring of 4 new officers and provide 100% of their salary and benefits for three years. A county match is not required, but must sign an agreement to maintain employment of the officers for 1 year after the 3 year grant period has been terminated. The application submitted last year was denied, but were invited to resubmit for this year's funds. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the application and the agreement. Seconded by Commissioner Epps. The vote was unanimous.

County Administrator Horne made the Commission aware the 911 Board appointment for District 7 will expire this month. This is a 4 year term and is currently being served by Katie Mitchell. This item will be brought back to the next meeting. Since this is first time being discussed.

Ms. Horne presented Bio information for the proposed Library Board appointments, Rosolyn Durden and Ed Colley. Commissioner Lee asked since Mrs. Durden is not a resident of Russell County, would that have any bearing on her being a Library Board Member. Martha Noyes, Director of the Phenix City/Russell County Library, stated she has checked with the Alabama Public Library Service and has documentation that board members are not required to be residents of Russell County, but they must be appointed by Russell County Commission. Commissioner Reed motioned to approve the recommendation of Martha Noyes. Seconded by Commissioner Screws. The vote was unanimous approving the 4 year appointment of Rosolyn Durden and Ed Colley to the Library Board.

Ms. Horne stated the Public Building Authority appointment was carried over from the last Commission Meeting. The 6 year term has expired. Current member, Bobby Mathews, has served on the board since May 1990.

Chair Martin stated there is a question of being a Russell County resident as a board requirement. He does own property in Russell County.

Commissioner Lee stated Mr. Mathews is no longer a resident of the county, but does own property in the county. He asked the opinion of the County Attorney before voting.

County Attorney Funderburk stated to be appointed to a new term he would have to be a resident of Russell County. You have to be a resident at the time of appointment. Any action taken to this point, by the board is by majority vote and is valid.

Commissioner Lee asked if it was confirmed that Mr. Mathews was not a resident.

Ms. Horne acknowledged it was confirmed.

Commissioner Epps motioned to table this appointment.

Commissioner Lee asked if an appointment is able to stay on until there is another appointment.

Mr. Funderburk acknowledged they could remain until another appointment was made.

Commissioner Reed seconded the motion to table the appointment. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Horne presented the 2010 Sales Tax Holiday Resolution. This annual resolution is required to be signed by the Commission Chair and returned to the State for sales tax exemption from August 6-8, 2010 on certain items. Commissioner Screws motioned to approve the resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous. (Resolution in Commission Office)

Ms. Horne invited all residents to attend the County Comprehensive Plan Town Hall Meetings to be held from 6:00 to 7:30 P.M. EST on:

- June 10 at the Old Seale Court House and the Central Activity Center
- June 24 at Ladonia School and the Ft. Mitchell Senior Center

Commissioner Lee announced a meeting being held June 15, 4:00-8:00 P.M. EST at the Russell County High School concerning Fort Benning acquiring more land, possibly in Russell County. The area being looked at by Fort Benning is located in the center of the county.

Commissioner Lee motioned to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.