

Russell County Commission Meeting Minutes
August 26, 2009
9:30 A.M. EDT

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

A quorum was established.

Chairman Dudley requested a motion to approve the August 26, 2009 agenda. Commissioner Martin motioned to approve the agenda and was seconded by Commissioner Epps. The vote was unanimous.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Screws.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kenneth Funderburk.

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

Chairman Dudley requested a motion to approve the August 12, 2009 meeting minutes. Commissioner Martin motioned to approve the minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

Larry Crane from Valley Partnership gave an update for Economic Development, BRAC and RAMP.

County Engineer Larry Kite stated The ACCA staff and county engineers are working collaboratively with eligible counties applying for a Tiger Grant for the replacement of deficient county bridges. Russell County's Pitts Road Bridge meets the criteria for this funding. This is a joint effort of approximately 35 counties, but only one application can be submitted. The Elmore County Commission has agreed to serve as the "applicant" on behalf of all counties included in the grant application; however, the application should include a statement from each county authorizing the Elmore County Commission to submit the application on their behalf. Dead line for the application is September 15, 2009. Mr. Kite requested approval of a resolution authorizing Elmore County the right to apply for the Tiger Grant on Russell County's behalf. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the resolution. Seconded By Commissioner Martin. The vote was unanimous.

Scott Holmes, architect at Hecht Burdeshaw, updated the Commission on the Judicial Building Roof bid held August 20, 2009. Nations Roof South, LLC had the lowest bids, but had used an incorrect sample proposal form. August 21, 2009 the company requested to withdraw the bid. M. Jordan Roofing, Inc was the next lowest bid, with a 5 year general contract warranty. Construction will begin October 1, 2009 and should be completed 90 days from the start date. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the bid recommendation of Mr. Holmes. Seconded By Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

County Administrator LeAnn Horne announced scheduling of the budget meeting:

August 31, 2009	3:00 to 5:00 p.m.	County Commission & Administrators
September 1, 2009	9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	County Commissioners, Departments & Administrators
September 2, 2009	2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	County Commissioners, Departments & Administrators & Appropriations

Ms. Horne made the Commission aware the next work session will fall on the Labor Day holiday. Options were to reschedule the session to Sept. 9 prior to the regular meeting or to cancel. Commissioner Lee motioned to cancel the work session and have only the regular meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2009 at 9:30. Seconded by Commissioners Reed and Epps. The vote was unanimous.

County Attorney Kenneth Funderburk discussed a requested special election from Russell County and Phenix City School Boards for tax renewal. Judge Hardin researched the issue of funding for the election. The county will not receive State reimbursement funding if the election is held in February 2010. The Commission is not mandated to hold the election when the School Board requests, but as the Commission sees fit. If the tax should be defeated, the School Boards can ask to hold a new election at anytime and the Commission can grant the election at anytime. However, the County supports education, this 13 mil tax is a renewal which has been in effect since 1957 and an economic burden would be placed on the county to hold a special election in February. The County is responsible for two elections in 2010, with possibilities of a run-off election. Judge Harden recommended not scheduling a special February election and to place the school tax issue on the June primary ballot. This will not place an extra financial burden on the county's budget. The City, also under the same budget restraints, is not willing to share the cost of a special election. The minimum cost of this election would be \$32, 000 (thirty-two thousand dollars).

Commissioner Pugh stated the Chairman of the School Board had talked with him extensively and requested for the Commission to table this item for two weeks. This will allow him time to convince the City Council to share funding a February election. The February date was requested because of the time limitations. If the tax should be defeated in June; the next election would not take place until November. The tax collection season begins in October, this timeline could create problems. The Boards want to address these problems prior to October 2010.

County Administrator LeAnn Horne inquired on recent state legislation that all counties are required to maintain a 10 mil tax for the school boards. If it was defeated, there would still be the mandatory 10 mil is my understanding.

Commissioner Martin motioned to table this item until the next Commission meeting in two weeks. Seconded By Commissioner Reed. District 1 (Lee) voted, yes; District 2 (Pugh) yes; District 3 (Martin) voted, yes; District 4 (Reed) voted, yes; District 5 (Epps) voted, yes; District 6 (Dudley) voted, yes; District 7 (Screws) abstained. The motion passed.

County Attorney Kenneth Funderburk recommended going into executive session. Commissioner Martin motioned to move into executive session and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Dudley requested announcements to be made before the upcoming executive session:

Mik Cole announced a meeting on Sept. 1, 2009 at 3:00 p.m.; Congressman Mike Rogers will be at the Fort Benning National Infantry Museum for the BRAC update.

Commissioner Epps thanked all citizens, department heads and employees, who attended the Town Hall meeting in Fort Mitchell. A lot of useful information was given and Commissioner Epps felt the meeting was a success.

Chairman Dudley requested a motion to reconvene the commission meeting. Commissioner Martin motioned to reconvene and was seconded by Commissioner Screws. The vote was unanimous.

Attorney Funderburk stated: There is no recommendation at this time.

Commissioner Lee motioned to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

August Checks				
General Fund 001				
16523	08-06-09	Phenix-Girard Bank		\$249,365.24
		Russell County Payroll Account		
		Salary 07/25/09 to 08/07/09		
16524	08-14-09	Postmaster	51920 252	\$500.00
16525	08-17-09	Operations Fund Regions Fund	21101	\$200,322.18
16526	08-20-09	Contingent Fund	62101 299	\$2,500.00
16527	08-20-09	Wachovia Bank	52104 299	\$35,702.92
16528	08-20-09	Phenix-Girard Bank		\$205,744.39
		Russell County Payroll Account		
		Salary 08/08/09 to 08/21/09		
16529	08-21-09	Phenix-Girard Bank	3030	\$6,537.00
		Russell County Payroll Account		
16530	08-27-09	Operations Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$94,291.91
16531	08-28-09	Gates Fences and Decks	59219 700	\$10,500.00
Court Cost 105				
0283	08-20-09	General Fund	62114 299	\$610,000.00
Gas Tax Fund 111				
12717	08-06-09	Phenix-Girard Bank		\$78,475.16
		Russell County Payroll Account		
		Salary 07/25/09 to 08/07/09		
12718	08-17-09	Operations Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$74,593.36
12719	08-20-09	Phenix-Girard Bank		\$63,770.03
		Russell County Payroll Account		
		Salary 08/08/09 to 08/21/09		
12720	08-21-09	Phenix-Girard Bank	3030	\$5,974.00
		Russell County Payroll Account		
12721	08-27-09	Operations Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$16,273.014
Road & Bridge 112				
666	08-17-09	Operations Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$29,982.05
667	08-20-09	Heritage Agency inc	51100 271	\$543.63
668	08-27-09	Operations Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$2,644.31
RRR Gasoline Funds 117				
1023	08-17-09	Operations Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$7,902.19

Reappraisal Fund 120				
1585	08-06-09	Phenix-Girard Bank		\$24,481.83
		Russell County Payroll Account		
		Salary 07/25/09 to 08/07/09		
1586	08-17-09	Operations Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$23,970.31
1587	08-20-09	Phenix-Girard Bank		\$20,542.97
		Russell County Payroll Account		
		Salary 08/08/09 to 08/21/09		
1588	08-21-09	Phenix-Girard Bank	3030	\$997.00
		Russell County Payroll Account		
1589	08-27-09	Operations Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$40,421.39
Emergency Shelter Fund 193				
151	08-05-09	House of Restoration	56900 199	12,047.08
152	08-05-09	Lee/Russell Council of Governments	56900 199	\$350.00
153	08-21-09	Lee/Russell Council of Governments	56900 199	\$350.00
154	08-21-09	House of Restoration	56900 199	\$14,852.66
Pistol Permit 740				
1336	08-21-09	Thomas F. Boswell	52100 499	\$4,411.53
1337	08-11-09	Communications & Electronic, Inc	52100 499	\$950.00
Russell County Law Library 755				
568	08-27-09	Thomason West	51100 410	\$2,513.25
569	08-27-09	Berney Office Supplies	51100 499	\$4.89
570	08-27-09	Lexis Nexis Matthew Bender	51100 410	\$479.95
Worthless Check Fund 761				
395	08-13-09	Worthless Check Unit Office of District Attorney		\$8,324.00
			51260 265	\$2,913.40
			51260 262	\$5,410.60
Probate Judge Fee Fund 783				
0568	08-07-09	Federal Graphics of Columbus, Inc	51300 499	\$960.00
0569	08-07-09	Stan Smith	51300 499	\$3,000.00
0570	08-07-09	Active Imagin Services		\$859.99
			51300 211	\$239.99
			51300 214	\$620.00
0571	08-07-09	Stan Smith	51300 499	\$232.40
MVL Commission Special 784				
992	08-20-09	Revenue Commission Manufactured Homes	45290 710	\$6.00
Land Redemption Fund 786				
632	08-19-09	Naomi Elliott Revenue Commission	21100 000	\$369.79
633	08-17-09	Void		Void
634	08-31-09	Laura Miess	21100 000	\$857.38
Tobacco Fund 797				
528	08-21-09	Task Force for Senior Citizen	21100 000	\$657.57
529	08-21-09	R.C. Volunteer Fire Dept. Association	21100 000	\$24,987.81
530	08-21-09	P.C. /R.C. Council for Neglected & Abused Children	21100 000	\$657.57

Attest: _____
County Administrator

Signed: _____
Chairman