

The Russell County Commission
Meeting Minutes
August 26th, 2015
9:30 A.M. EST

An adjourned meeting of the Russell County Commission was called to order.

The invocation was given by Alan Griffith, Pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Reed.

Public Comments:

Mrs. Lofton spoke on the behalf of residents of Lonesome Pine Road. County Engineer Larry Kite addressed issues Mrs. Lofton discussed, as well as Commissioner Corbett and Commissioner Screws.

Mik Cole discussed two fishing tournaments the FOP will be hosting August 29th at the Lake Point Marina in Eufaula.

Chair Martin welcomed elected officials, department heads, media and guests. She also thanked Cable T.V. of East Alabama and the Citizen News for coverage of the Commission meeting.

The Commission roll was called. Members present were: Chair Peggy Martin, Vice Chair Cattie Epps, Gentry Lee, Ronnie Reed, Commissioner Corbett and Larry Screws. Tillman Pugh was absent. Also present were Attorney Kenneth Funderburk and County Administrator LeAnn Horne, who kept the minutes.

A quorum was established

Chair Martin recognized the New Parks & Recreation Director, Bill Taylor.

Chair Martin requested a motion to approve meeting minutes for August 12, 2015. Commissioner Corbett motioned to approve the minutes and was seconded by Commissioner Epps. The vote was unanimous.

Commissioner Corbett and Chair Martin presented proclamations to the 2015 Phenix City 12 year old American All-Star team.

Chair Martin announced that amendments to the meeting agenda have been requested. County Attorney Funderburk recommended adding the B.P. Claim to the agenda.

Commissioner Corbett stated due to uncertainty of venue he would like to take Sponsorship for the Jr Rodeo off the agenda and brought back at another meeting. Commissioner Epps motioned to amend the agenda and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

Special Enforcement Officer Bill Friend gave the results of the Ambulance Building and Sheriff's Substation Bid held August 21st. Two bids were received: Hosey-Lancour Construction, whose bid was \$184,619.00, and Webb Construction Group, Inc., who entered a bid of \$228,861.00. He requested awarding the bid to Hosey-Lancour Construction. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. Administrator Horne wanted to make the Commission aware that she and the Attorney Funderburk will review the contract and authorize to go forward, once they meet the legal criteria. The vote was unanimous.

Sherrie Miles presented the 2015-2016 Detention Subsidy Contact from the State of Alabama. This yearly agreement states that Russell County will fund one bed and the State of Alabama will fund one bed at the Lee County Youth Development Center. Commissioner Screws motioned to approve the agreement and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

Attorney Funderburk stated last the last time the BP Claim was discussed, terms could not be disclosed, because they had not been approved by the Courts. Since then, money has been paid and a standard disbursement sheet has been distributed for the Commission's review showing the amount of the settlement which is \$197,628. The disbursement sheet shows deductions taken for expenses and attorney fees to Beasley-Allen. The County will receive a net fee of \$145,918.87. The Commission must authorize the Chair to sign the settlement sheet and mail today, before the disbursement check can be received. Commissioner Screws motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

Administrator Horne requested the Commission to consider closing the Courthouse, Friday, September 18th, for repair of the rooftop units. Due to the size of the project, the scope of work, and public and employee safety, it was recommended by the contractor that we close this building that day. All entrances will be blocked; neither the public nor employees will be able to access departments in the Courthouse during the construction project. Also, the HVAC and all electrical systems will be shut down. Commissioner Screws motioned to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

Administrator Horne announced the next work session will fall on the Labor Day Holiday, September 7th. The Commission has previously voted that if a work session falls on a holiday the work session is canceled and the Commission will go into the regular meeting on Wednesday following the holiday.

Announcements were made.

Commissioner Reed motioned to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.