

The Russell County Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
September 23, 2008  
10:00A.M. EST.

An adjourned meeting of the Russell County Commission was called to order. Members present were: Chairman Gordon Cox, Vice Chair Peggy Martin, Gentry Lee, Johnnie Robinson, Cattie Epps, Mervin Dudley and J.D. Upshaw. Also present was the County Attorney, Kenneth Funderburk and the County Administrator, LeAnn Horne.

A quorum was established.

Chairman Cox requested a motion to approve the September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008 agenda. Commissioner Dudley motioned for approval and was seconded by Commissioner Martin. The vote was unanimous.

The invocation was presented by Sammy Turner, Pastor of the Seale First Baptist Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Epps.

Chairman Cox welcomed Elected Officials, Department Heads, Media and Visitors.

A motion was requested for approval of the September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008 meeting minutes. Commissioner Martin motioned for approval. Seconded by Commissioner Robinson. The vote was unanimous.

The County Administrator, LeAnn Horne presented a Proclamation declaring September 21<sup>st</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>, Resource Conservation and Development Week. Receiving the proclamation for the Resource Conservation & Development Council was Commissioner Robinson who is the Commission's appointed member. Commissioner Upshaw motioned to approve Resource Conservation & Development Week and was seconded by Commissioner Martin and Commissioner Epps. The vote was unanimous.

LeAnn Horne stated September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008 a dedication for the J.C. Dykes Ball field was held at Russell County Sports Complex. We presented a resolution to Mr. Dykes recognizing his commitment making the complex a reality for area children and I request this approved for entry into the official minute book. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the resolution and was seconded by Commissioner Dudley. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman Cox stated he received correspondence from the Alabama Bureau of Tourism & Travel requesting a letter of support from the Commission. The Alabama Bureau of Tourism & Travel, if approved, will place signs marking the Old Federal Highway beginning in Ft. Mitchell moving westward toward the county line. The Old Federal Highway was considered the Super Highway of its day and played an important role in Alabama's History. Commissioner Dudley made a motion to approve a letter of support; seconded by Commissioner Martin. The vote was unanimous by the Commission.

Ms. Horne reminded the Commission the next work session will fall on Columbus Day, which is a state holiday. When this has happened, the Commission has rescheduled work sessions to 9:30 a.m. EST prior to the official Commission Meeting at 10:00 a.m. EST. Commissioner Martin motioned to reschedule the work session of October 13<sup>th</sup> to October 14<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 a.m. EST. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

James McGill stated the Russell County / Phenix City Chamber of Commerce are negotiating with a commercial developer. There is a need to upgrade the signal light on Hwy 80 and Woodland Drive to a four-way signal light intersection. This will require permission from the Alabama DOT and permitted back through the Russell County Commission. The State has mandated that the intersection be realigned. Presently, the intersection has an offset of 37 feet; therefore, additional right-of-way will need to be acquired before the State will allow the light permit. The County Commission may have to provide funds and build the 500 feet of right-of-way for the connector to this commercial development. Currently, we are negotiating with the developer so the Commission will not have to fund this road and/or development project. The undertaking will be very expensive as major water, sewer lines and power poles will need relocating. It is recommended by me that the Commission proceed with this project. A resolution informing the State that the Commission is sincere about what we are trying to accomplish and second will work toward acquiring the right-of-way for the construction of this road if necessary. The estimated cost of this road construction is one hundred forty two thousand dollars (\$142,000.00). This amount does not include the additional right-of-ways. We are asking for land donations for the right-of-ways as it will increase the value of those properties. The Administrator was asked if the funds for this project were in the budget? Mrs. Horne responded, no.

Commissioner Lee motioned to have the County Attorney compose a resolution supporting the development of North Woodland Drive to be presented to the Alabama DOT. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion. There were 6 votes approving the resolution; Commissioner Dudley abstained from the vote. The motion was passed.

Mr. McGill thanked the Commission for all the accomplishments at the Russell County Sports Complex. The new grass will need to be maintained for the remainder of the fall season. We need to keep the grass

cut for at for as long as the next ten weeks. The cost will be \$75.00 per cutting roughly. The Foundation can handle this until the end of the year if the Commission wishes. Commissioner Epps motioned to accept Mr. McGill's offer concerning lawn maintenance. Commissioner Upshaw seconded. The Commission approved the request by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Upshaw presented a request for repairs to the road leading to the Battle Community Cemetery. Kenneth Funderburk asked Larry Kite, the County Engineer, if he would look into whether this is a county maintained road and return with a report at the next Commission Meeting. Mr. Kite agreed to investigate.

The County Attorney, Kenneth Funderburk, discussed a date change need to be made for the Deep South Disposal & Recycling Hearing with was to take place October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008 prior to the Commission meeting. The advertising requirements will not have been met by that date. The new public hearing date should be October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. prior to the Commission meeting. Commissioner Dudley motioned to change the public hearing date as recommended by the County Attorney. Seconded by Commissioner Martin. The approval was unanimous.

Mr. Funderburk has drawn up a contract for rental for of a 12 x 12 foot space in the Coulter Building for Carol Argo. The space is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, there will not be access to the voting machines that are secured and located on the first floor. They will have a key to the main entrance and will provide their own lock and key to the rental space. The Rental amount is \$100.00 monthly. Commissioner Dudley motioned to allow the rental and was second by Commissioner Epps. The vote was unanimous to approve the contract on a month-to-month basis.

Mr. Funderburk recommended moving into an executive session. Commissioner Dudley motioned to enter into executive session. Seconded by Commissioner Upshaw. The vote was unanimous. Commissioner Dudley motioned to reconvene the Commission Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Upshaw. All the Commissioners agreed to reconvene.

Mr. Funderburk stated electronic bingo has been approved in several counties. The Russell County District Attorney has taken the position that electronic bingo is illegal. To allow electronic bingo, you should establish county regulations to protect the county. The law does not distinguish electronic bingo from bingo cards. The rules and regulations essentially would protect the County and those who currently operate bingo organizations. It will also establish economic development guidelines for potential developers. The attorney general defined electronic bingo in his opinion, which several counties have adopted and are operating. I am not here saying whose legal opinion is correct. I am only suggesting that the Commission form some regulations for when bingo licenses are purchased in this County. Commissioner Upshaw motioned to accept the recommendation of the County Attorney to established regulations and guidelines for bingo in Russell County. Seconded by Commissioner Epps. The vote was unanimous.

Commissioner Lee recommended recessing and returning to discuss budget items. Chairman Cox recessed the meeting.

Russell County Commission Meeting  
(Continuation) Budget Meeting  
September 23, 2008

Chairman Cox requested a motion to resume the meeting. Commissioner Upshaw motioned to continue the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Epps. The vote was unanimous.

County Administrator LeAnn Horne presented 2007-2008 year-end budget amendments as follows:

**Board of Registrar**

Decrease	001	51920	Line Item 262 Mileage	\$400.00
Decrease	001	51920	Line Item 214 Minor Equipment	\$550.00
Increase	001	51920	Line Item 252 Postage	\$950.00
Decrease	001	51920	Line Item 253 Advertising	\$100.00
Increase	001	51920	Line Item 303 Dues	\$100.00
Decrease	001	51920	Line Item 265 Registration & Training	\$350.00
Increase	001	51920	Line Item 327 Uniforms	\$350.00
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,400.00</b>

**Building Inspectors**

Decrease	001	52710	Line Item 499 Other	\$450.00
Decrease	001	52710	Line Item 211 Office Supplies	\$600.00
Increase	001	52710	Line Item 214 Minor Equipment	\$606.70
Increase	001	52710	Line Item 234 Vehicle Repair & Maint.	\$264.58
Increase	001	52710	Line Item 239 Other Repairs & Maint.	\$40.22
Increase	001	52710	Line Item 303 Dues	\$138.50
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,050.00</b>

**Coroners**

Decrease	001	52400	Line Item 211 Office Supplies	\$1,450.00
Increase	001	52400	Line Item 304 Contract Services	\$1,450.00
Decrease	001	52400	Line Item 250 Communications	\$950.00
Increase	001	52400	Line Item 241 Electricity	\$950.00
Decrease	001	52400	Line Item 499 Other	\$799.00
Increase	001	52400	Line Item 214 Minor Equipment	\$799.00
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,199.00</b>

**Juvenile**

Decrease	001	52600	Line Item 306 Medical Dental Services	\$2,500.00
Increase	001	52600	Line Item 214 Minor //equipment / Repair	\$2,500.00
Decrease	001	52600	Line Item 306 Medical Dental Services	\$500.00
Increase	001	52600	Line Item 211 Office Supplies	\$500.00
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>

**Revenue Commission**

Decrease	001	51550	Line Item 541 Equipment & Furniture	\$2,500.00
Increase	001	51550	Line Item 214 Minor Equipment	\$2,500.00
Decrease	001	51550	Line Item 541 Equipment & Furniture	\$1,500.00
Increase	001	51550	Line Item 211 Office Supplies	\$1,500.00
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>

**Maintenance Dept.**

Decrease	001	51970	Line Item 541 Equipment & Furniture	\$15,000.00
Increase	001	51970	Line Item 214 Minor Equipment	\$1,700.00
Increase	001	51970	Line Item 327 Uniforms	\$730.00
Increase	001	51970	Line Item 524 Additions & Renovations	\$12,570.00
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>

**Commission**

Decrease	001	51100	Line Item 124 FICA	\$1,000.00
Decrease	001	51100	Line Item 223 Copy Machine Rental	\$900.00
Decrease	001	51100	Line Item 214 Minor Equipment	\$2,850.00
Decrease	001	51100	Line Item 219 Other Misc. Supplies	\$250.00
Decrease	001	51100	Line Item 262 Mileage	\$450.00
Decrease	001	51100	Line Item 519 Other Cost	\$500.00
Decrease	001	51100	Line Item 541 Equipment	\$5,000.00
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,950.00</b>

Increase	001	51100	Line Item 212 Fuel & Lubricants	\$350.00
Increase	001	51100	Line Item 233 Office Equipment Repairs	\$500.00
Increase	001	51100	Line Item 252 Postage	\$1,100.00
Increase	001	51100	Line Item 253 Advertising	\$3,100.00
Increase	001	51100	Line Item 304 Contract Services	\$4,000.00
Increase	001	51100	Line Item 250 Communications	\$1,900.00
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,950.00</b>

**Appraisal**

Decrease	120	51985	Line Item 199 Misc. Services	\$3,700.00
Increase	120	51985	Line Item 241 Electricity	\$3,700.00
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,700.00</b>

Commissioner Martin motioned to approve the 2007-2008 budget amendments. Commissioner Epps seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

We have met many times discussing the 2008-2009 proposed budget and have provided opportunity for public discussions and meetings with elected officials and department heads. This Commission has been very progressive and outlined several capital projects to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Russell County and regional area. I will provide a brief overview so that the public present today will have an idea of what is included in the proposed budget.

The county met the 2007-2008 revenue projections. Ad Valorem Tax revenue is one of our largest producing revenues along with the county sales and use taxes.

The business license program was approved during this fiscal year. The Commission approved the rate at 75% of the City of Phenix City's license rate. The City reported collecting \$2.5 million in 2007. Without historical data, we anticipated 75% of the City's total, which was estimated \$1.2 million; however, I did not budget that amount based on 75% of the City's collections. I budgeted this revenue line conservatively and the county just did meet the budgeted \$800,000.00 amount. This licenses fee program was what the county was relying on to help our salaries remain competitive with other neighboring counties and payment on the bond for the new County Government Center, which includes the current Courthouse renovations.

Due to the minimal growth in revenue this year this was a difficult budget to achieve with the aggressive agenda outlined by the Commissioners with several capital projects, cost of living increase, increasing fuel prices, 15% increase in utilities, health and liability insurances increased, general operating expenses, etc. Fortunately, Russell County is in a good position with the potential growth in our area. We have all types of businesses and industries looking to locate to our county. We are anticipating 30,000 new residents from BRAC evident of the growth in Fort Mitchell area. In the 2008-2009 budget, I am not projecting any additional revenue, which will not provide for any fund balance savings. It is important for Commissioners to realize we must remain within our budget.

I request that each elected official and department head to make every effort to obtain three estimates before major purchases of \$300.00 or more. The County cannot control rising utilities and fuel costs; but let us control the expenses in our control by managing expenditures daily. Projects proposed in this budget included are: (4) four million County Road 4 construction project (the County is estimated to match 1.2 million in conjunction with the 431 state highway); joint construction with Phenix City on an Animal Shelter which our pledge is two hundred fifty thousand (\$250,000) of the construction cost; renovations are being carried over on the former Mead building soon to be County Government Center; Courthouse renovations to create a Judicial Center; Retiree's increase is proposed in this budget; a 6% cost of living for all county employees; Russell County Sports Complex funds carried over for further development and a recreational manager; six deputy vehicles; staffing the Jail with an assistant administrator and a part-time clerk to assist due the jail's increase with inmates. If there are not any questions, I would like to make the recommendation approving the 2008-2009 proposed budget.

Commissioner Cox stated he would like to see a cost-of-living raise for our employees to include the Sheriff's Department. We have talked about a steady increase in the deputies' salaries to avoid losing them to other cities and counties. We need to make sure to make every effort to make their salaries compatible with the surrounding areas. Commissioner Cox requested that a pay study be completed in the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

Commissioner Martin stated, I want to remind the citizens we do not receive any of the sales taxes within the City limits.

Commissioner Robinson acknowledged the level of protection we receive from the deputies. I have always applauded all our public safety departments. The Sheriff's Department, EMA and supporting area agencies. I receive a conference call every month from the Veterans Administration. During our conversation, we discuss safety and other important topics. I talk about how well our departments work together and keep us in the forefront of safety. The V.A. and ADECA want to come to Russell County to review and talk to us about economic development and how to include programs we have employed. Just recently, the evacuations of people during hurricane storms indicate the types of plans you have in place to provide public safety. A lot of preparation is required for such emergencies. I have stated many times, we need to get knee-deep into economic development, which is the only way to bring money into this county and keep quality people.

Look at the training that provided in different departments; we have very competent employees. I traveled to places where people have great jobs, but don't know what to do with them. Recently, utilizing our tag office I did not have a title for a used van we had purchased. I have been to places where I would have gotten the run around but those employees were very knowledgeable. All our departments have great people and I believe they should be rewarded and it can only be rewarded if we make a tough investments and investments in economic development developing our tax base through industries. Mrs. Horne stated recently that Russell County needs to identified as a destination location for people to come. Who is coming to Phenix City? People from New York, Las Vegas, all over the world are coming to Russell County. There has to be an investment in development.

Commissioner Dudley stated our County is second to none. You can see what is going on in other counties; for example, in North Alabama. I would not want to deal with the problems they are

experiencing, especially with the financial problems. I know our goal is to reward our employees as well as we can with the revenue we have available. Everyone knows we receive zero sales tax from within the city limits; in the jurisdiction we receive half and the City receives half the revenue or all if the City annexes. We had a bill this past year and hopefully that bill would have equalize some of the benefits so we could share some of the revenue but it did not pass. I compliment all our departments. Being with the volunteer fire department, I work with the Sheriff's Department and Homeland Security/EMA, who are our primary emergency responders, and the service they provide are second to none. I am proud of every thing they do and I am out working as a volunteer, it is not like there are a couple of hundred of us, but all of us work together to provide and improve the services of the county. I commend each one of you and I look at other counties and recognize that there is a raise in the budget and that is a good feeling to have the 6 percent raise in-light of recent events. I feel that our Administrator and Department Heads have done a very good job in working with each other on the budget.

Commissioner Dudley motioned to approve the budget as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Upshaw.

Chairman Cox stated, I would like to proceed updating our pay plan so we can have a steady growth in salaries based on the revenue and keep us from falling further behind other counties.

Commissioner Martin thanked the Sheriff's Department for working with us and on the budget. We know you can't put a price on your dedication and that includes firemen volunteer or hired as the city does. The County has to progress. We need the City to come to the table and say, yes, we will share some of the sales tax revenue. It would help tremendously if the two governments would work together, because they value their public safety departments as we do ours. I appreciate the job ya'll do and thank you for going beyond the call of duty and bear with us.

Commissioner Epps stated it bothers me because we do not the have the revenue to give our employees what they deserve, not only the Sheriff's Department, but also those that work in the Engineering Department who also put their lives on the line everyday working on the highways. Our Department Heads go beyond the call of duty to do good work. Sometimes when I get an e-mail from a Department Head, it makes me feel good that they think enough of me to let me know what is going on. We are in a recession and depressed right now. Maybe sometime after you have completed the pay study, Madam Administrator, we can look at giving an across the board increase if salaries fall short compared to others. I appreciate every Elected Official and all who elected me. I appreciate all the employees who make this county run smoothly and safely as possible.

The Sheriff's Department and the Volunteer Fire Departments are always there when called; we need to do more for them, but at this time, we do not have the revenue available I understand. We need to look at other ways to save money. Utilize employees retired to work part-time and do not need benefits; we should utilize those people to our advantage and save money.

Commissioner Upshaw announced I'm in agreement with the other Commissioners. I will not be here next year for the budget review, but I am here now. I think the reason we are in this position with the deputy's raises is because we are trying to play catch-up and you are unable to catch-up overnight. You need to start when you need to in order to be where you need to be later. I hope this Commission will continue to support these employees because they have done a tremendous job. I wished we could raise their salaries to the standards of surrounding counties, but we unfortunately aren't able to do at this time. Do not let the opportunity slip by when the time comes to pay them what they are due.

Chairman Cox asked if there were no other questions, it is time to vote please. District 1 (Lee); voted no; District 2 (Cox); voted yes; District 3 (Martin); voted, yes; District 4 (Robinson); abstained; District 5 (Epps); voted, yes; District 6 (Dudley); voted, yes; District 7 (Upshaw); voted, yes. The motion to approve the proposed 2008-2009 budget was approved. Copies of the 2008-2009 Budget are located are the Commission Office.

Ms. Horne stated you were given the salary schedule last evening. Commissioner Lee asked me to check the building inspections. I have done so and now that line item includes figures for the inspectors hired during the year that was not included previously. This morning you were given the Engineer's recommendation for his department. His department includes the 6% COLA; however, he has made additional adjustments, changes and reorganizations. It does not change his overall budgeted amount according to Larry. I recommend adopting the salary schedule before you and the Engineer's salary plan for his department.

Commissioner Dudley stated in light of the times, we all have to face different things. There is reluctance from some on this matter but each year since I have been a Commissioner; we have been given raises. Considering what we have in front of us now, I motion to approve the recommendation for the pay scale as presented/recommended today by the County Administrator. Commissioner Epps seconded the motion. District 1 (Lee); voted, no; District 2 (Cox); voted, yes; District 3 (Martin); voted, yes; District 4 (Robinson); voted, yes; District 5 (Epps); voted, yes; District 6 (Dudley); voted, yes; District 7 (Upshaw); voted, yes. The motion to approve the salary schedule with a 6% COLA and the Engineer's salary schedule passed.

Ms. Horne stated, the state local government health insurance board requires a resolution approving the new rates, which increased again this year. The Commission does not have an opportunity to discuss health insurance rates. We just get a notice of increase each year after the rates have changed through a board at the State. The State approved and is recommending the new rate for local government employees to be \$333.00 a month, per person, that the county commission will pay 100% for each employee. That is a fifteen dollar (\$15.00) increase for an est. 200 full-time count employees.

The family insurance coverage has increased twenty-two dollars (\$22.00) from \$456 to \$478; Retirees over sixty five (65) increased from three hundred twelve dollars (\$312.00) to three hundred thirty one dollars (\$331.00). A nineteen dollar increase (\$19.00). Retirees that are under sixty five (65) changed from three hundred twenty six dollars (\$326.00) to three hundred sixty six dollars (\$366.00) which is a forty dollar (\$40.00) increase. I want to public and employees to know that the County Commissioners did not set the insurance rates or participate in the decision making process. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Robinson. The vote was unanimous to approve the rates the state recommended.

Ms. Horne stated the rise in health insurance premiums bothers me very much. I have talked with representatives from the local government insurance dept. at our conventions stressing the hardships that these rates are placing on our employees for family coverage and counties. My comments appear to fallen on deaf ears. I called last year to cancel our contract and wanted to negotiate a new health plan for county employees. However, I was informed that if the county were to op out of the program for hardship reasons that they would not allow us to use Blue Cross/ Blue Shield for two years minimum. We discussed that BC&BS was dominating insurance manager in this State and that their rates were cheaper for us if we went outside the local government program. I asked would you deny insurance for county employees just because we cannot afford your rates any longer. They stated; yes. It is according to contract. I understand our contract; however, since Blue Cross dominates the market, I feel that it is just unfair not to allow employees to participate in a less expensive plan or the County for that matter saving tax dollars. The insurance board could offer alternatives for county employees through the local government plan—BC&BS offers several types of plans. Since the state local government indicated they would take legal action if the county contracted with Blue Cross outside of the local government prior to two-years; I am encouraging each employee to inquire directly with BC&BS or another provider on an individual basis to save you and your family money.

I know some of you cannot even afford to eat for having to insure your families. I sign your paychecks and know. This upsets me. The County cannot do a payroll deduction and pay your private premiums for you, but we will assist you in locating alternative insurance coverage for your family outside the state local government that you can afford and still feed your family. Commissioner Lee stated we authorized United Health Care to come in and ended up being a little more than Blue Cross / Blue Shield.

Ms. Horne stated; yes in some ways. However, the State made the decision not to allow the employees to have that option—now we only have one. We were just notified we could no longer use United Health Care period.

Commissioner Martin asked how much did the insurance go up.

The County pays for all full-time employees and that went up \$15 per employee for an estimated budget increase of \$3,000.00 over last year, a monthly total of \$333.00 per employee. So far, the County has not asked the employees to pay the increase. The family coverage is a \$22.00 increase which the employees pay all the family coverage for a total monthly of \$478.00.

Mrs. Martin stated it seems as if insurance companies are dictating.

Mrs. Horne stated, yes. If you talk with local BC&BS insurance representatives the premium amount on an average policy is less than half the amount of the state local government premium – based on family health history. A person would think the more people in a program the less the insurance rates would be such as the teachers insurance rates. However, the state insurance representative states that our rates are higher due to the number of people rather than less people due to combined health history and experiences. So maybe an employee will do better with an individual policy using only their health experience rather than being combined with hundreds of other county employees, which is not working for the employee now or the county by providing lower or affordable rates. We talk about us controlling costs. Families need to do the same and if you can reduce your insurance premiums however maintain coverage then please do so even if it means you cannot utilize the local government insurance due to high rates.

Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the health insurance resolution and new local government rates. Commissioner Robinson seconded. The vote for approval for the Health Rate Resolution was unanimous.

The last item to discuss is the Retiree Resolution approving the recommended increase by the resolution in your packet. This is a one-time payment, which is included in the budget. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the resolution and was seconded by Commissioner Dudley. The vote was unanimous for approval of the Retiree Resolution.

Commissioner Dudley stated, I believe it is understood; every time it comes up about State Retirees or employees participating in it, we have approved it. I think if you look at our figures, we are talking about benefits that the County is paying out which is an in creditable amount of money. The purpose is to get good employees. It is no doubt when you really look and weigh it; Alabama has been very fortunate with Dr. Bronn and what he has done with the State retirement system. It is very solid and the benefits are immense because it goes thru our whole region. People that are retired, it is something we owe them and we know each time we are giving it to them. It is amazing the benefits we provide. I have always been told that you may not be making the most money, or what you bring to the table, but when you consider the benefits and what all is going on, it puts you well ahead and in step up in the community. Every one of our employees is tied in and basically we are all in community service. I feel we should vote yes for it.

The County Administrator thanked the Department Heads and the Commission for working with this year's budget. This year was truly a team effort and everyone worked very well to create a good budget for the Commission and County.

Chairman Cox stated I wished things could be different and hopefully in the future they will be for better salaries. The Administrator and her staff have done an excellent job preparing the budget. She has been burning the midnight oil, more than a few times, and it took many of hours to pull this information together. They have done an excellent job.

The meeting was adjourned.

September 2008				
<b>General Fund 001</b>				
09-04-08	16418	Phenix-Girard Bank		\$252,378.97
		Russell County Payroll		
		Salary 08/23/08 to 09/05/08		
09-05-08	16419	Catherine Lipscomb	51100 305	\$764.00
09-09-08	16420	Operations Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$191,075.04
09-18-08	16421	Phenix-Girard		\$216,416.44
		Russell County Payroll		
		Salary 09/06/08 to 09/19/08		
09-22-08	16422	Wachovia Bank N.A.	62100 006	\$37,752.92
09-19-08	16423	Gasoline Fund	62100 002	\$153,100.00
09-23-08	16424	Operations Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$198,133.24
09-24-08	16425	Postmaster	51920 252	\$550.00
09-26-08	16426	United Rental North American Inc	52300 541	\$37,000.00
09-29-08	16427	Postmaster	51300 252	\$1,417.78
<b>FT. Mitchell Senior Center 103</b>				
09-12-08	1002	Operation Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$729.41
<b>Gas Tax Fund 111</b>				
09-04-08	12657	Phenix-Girard Bank		\$69,968.01
		Russell County Payroll		
		Salary 08/23/08 to 09/05/08		
09-12-08	12658	Operations Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$69,383.47
09-18-08	12659	Phenix-Girard Bank		\$54,682.42
		Russell County Payroll		
		Salary 09/06/08 to 09/19/08		
09-23-08	12660	Operations Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$67,253.92
<b>Road &amp; Bridge Fund 112</b>				
09-12-08	625	Operations Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$32,011.16
09-19-08	626	Gasoline Fund	62100 001	\$174,801.94

<b>RRR Gasoline Fund 117</b>				
09-12-08	1007	Operations Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$8,396.59
09-23-08	1008	Operations Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$28,257.67
<b>Reappraisal Fund 120</b>				
09-04-08	1525	Phenix-Girard Bank		\$22,928.38
		Russell County Payroll		
		Salary 08/23/08 to 09/05/08		
09-12-08	1526	Operations Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$6,051.19
09-12-08	1527	Postmaster	51100 499	\$11,933.30
09-18-08	1528	Phenix-Girard Bank		\$19,302.77
		Russell County Payroll		
		Salary 09/06/08 to 09-09-08		
09-23-08	1529	Operations Fund Regions Bank	21101	\$218,740.51
<b>Emergency Shelter Grant 193</b>				
09-05-08	131	House of Restorations	56900 199	\$45,565.57
09-05-08	132	Lee/Russell Council of Governments	56900 199	\$388.88
<b>Payroll 710</b>				
See Check Register in the County Commission's Office				
<b>Operations Fund 718</b>				
See Check Register in the County Commission's Office				
<b>Donations Fund 750</b>				
09-12-08	150	The Exchange Club of Phenix City	51100 499	\$148.33
09-12-08	151	Buds and Blooms	51100 499	\$195.43
09-16-05	152	Buds and Blooms	51100 499	\$54.00
<b>Pistol Permit Fund 740</b>				
09-02-08	1291	Summerville Animal Hospital	52100 499	\$354.80
09-10-08	1292	Thomas F. Boswell	52100 499	\$134.71
<b>Russell County Law Library Fund 755</b>				
09-19-08	529	Berney Office Solutions	51100 499	\$8.69
09-19-08	530	Lexis Nexis Matthew Bender	51100 499	\$733.11
09-19-08	531	Lexis Nexis	51100 499	\$275.00
09-19-08	532	Thomas West	51100 499	\$2,150.60
09-22-08	533	Berney Office Solution	51100 499	\$11.31
09-22-08	534	Thomas West	51100 499	\$51.25
09-25-08	535	Alabama Office Supply Co.	51100 499	\$65.50
<b>Worthless Check Fund 761</b>				
09-05-08	384	Worthless Check Unit Office of the District Attorney		\$9,502.28
		51260 265	\$3,325.80	
		51260 362	\$6,176.48	

**Probate Judge Fee Fund 783**

09-17-08	0555	Stan Smith	51300 499	\$3,000.00
09-25-08	0556	Icon Software Corp		\$1,735.87
		51300 211	\$ 11.99	
		51300 214	\$1,723.89	

**Land Redemption 786**

09-04-08	611	SFS, LLC	21100 000	\$24,112.53
09-14-08	612	Bank of New York	21100 000	\$16,583.86
09-19-08	613	Otis Hodge & Katrina N. Hodge	21100 000	\$392.42
09-19-08	614	Otis Hodge & Anita Hodge	21100 000	\$690.17
09-19-08	615	Otis Hodge Jr.	21100 000	\$18,214.41

**County Tobacco Tax Fund 797**

09-24-08	495	Phenix City/ Russell County Council for Neglected and Abused Children	21100 000	\$678.48
09-24-08	496	Task Force for Senior Citizen	21100 000	\$678.48
09-24-08	497	Russell County Volunteer Fire Department Association	21100 000	\$25,782.24

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
LeAnn Horne, County Administrator

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gordon E. Cox, Chairman