

Russell County Commission
Russell County Commission Chambers
Meeting Minutes March 24, 2021
9:30 A.M. EST

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

The invocation was given by Paster Alice Hubbard from the True Believers Ministry.

Commissioner Epps led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Fred Hart, from Highway 165, stated that he had spoken to Commissioner Epps the other day about the speed limit on Highway 165. He lives at 849 and has been there about 11 years, on a site that his wife's family has lived on for over 100 years.

They love it over there and he knows this Commission knows the growth has been exponential out there since the BRAC, and the number of people that have moved there. He was pleased where he lives at the that intersection of County Road 24 and Highway 165 there is a Marathon Station, about a mile down from the Fort Benning back gate. He sees that they are surveying it to put a turn lane in which will be a blessing in itself because he can sit on his porch, and every now-and-then, hear cars crashing and tires squealing. He has talked to the Sheriff's Department, and their resources are stretched so they cannot be out there every day controlling the speed limit. He has lost a mailbox out there from speeding cars and when he talked to a deputy that came out, he said that he has clocked people going 80 or 90 miles an hour going down the road. That and on top of the logging trucks but it has essentially become a strip mall from the Benning back gate to Owens Road. With the Post Office moving to Rainbow, it's a left turn. You have the Rainbow Foods and you have a couple of restaurants that have opened up. The trailer courts and the housing areas that have gone in, it's really ridiculous. What prompted him to come here was that his granddaughter, who was staying with them, was going to Mount Olive and riding the bus so when the bus would leave and go south on 165, it would stop to let her out and she'd have to cross the highway. Well, the bus driver called them and said he can't do that because the cars are turning from that intersection and not stopping so he said he'll leave her on the bus and bring her where he can let her out at the driveway. It was ok, but it put her on the bus for another hour and he didn't think that was fair to her. Mr. Hart just wanted to ask the Commission, he knows it's a state road, but he thinks that it's worth taking a look at and do some analysis to see because every little town that he drives through heading down to Florida, or wherever, you come to those that slow you down or reduce speed, drop down to 45, then drop down to 35, and then when you clear the city you go back up to the speed limit. Mr. Hart says that's all he is looking at, if someone from the Benning back gate to Owens Road could look at that area and determine because with 55 mph, people generally drive 65 when you come off that hill by the national cemetery. He has seen police and sheriff with funerals have a time out there trying to slow down cars coming down through that area. He knows there has been a lot of accidents and before another tragedy happens, he wanted to ask the Commission to kindly take a look at it and contact the state to see if there is any mechanism there is to analyze it, study it to see if we can reduce the speed before we endanger anybody else. That was all he had and thanked the Commission. Chairman Corbett thanked him.

Chairman Corbett thanked media partners Cable TV East Alabama and Citizen of East Alabama for covering out Commission meetings and we have it on Facebook Live. He appreciates having the ability for our citizens to see the meetings even if they are not present especially in the COVID environment we are still in and trying to get out of. Chairman Corbett also welcomed elected officials, department heads, media, and guests. It's always happy to have them in the room viewing what we are doing in county business.

Chairman Corbett stated that the agenda and minutes was approved this past Work Session, Monday night the 22nd.

Interim County Administrator Paulette Colbert called roll of the Commission. Member's present were Commissioner Rod Costello, Commissioner Cattie Epps, Commissioner Scott Chambers, Commissioner Larry Screws, Commissioner Ronnie Reed, and Chairman Chance Corbett. Also, present was the Interim County Attorney Hope Hicks and Interim County Administrator Paulette Colbert, who kept minutes. Vice Chairman Gentry Lee was absent.

A quorum was established by Interim County Administrator Paulette Colbert.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairman Corbett presented to approve the March 10, 2021 Commission meeting minutes. Motion to approve by Commissioner Costello. Seconded by Commissioner Reed. Commissioner Reed stated to approve the minutes, but he stated for the record where it stated "Chairman Corbett presented the New Life Center for a change assisted by Commissioner Reed. Commissioner Reed stated that the New Life Center for change is doing outstanding job in the community" (add job to the minutes). Commissioner Costello amended motion to include the change. All Commissioners were in favor by saying aye. None opposed. The Commission approved the minutes unanimously.

PROCLAMATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

No proclamations or resolutions were in the meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Chairman Corbett presented EMA Director Bob Franklin who gave updates on the COVID-19 Vaccination program. Mr. Franklin stated that he gave a picture of where we are and where we've been. The last Commission meeting we had 92 cases, in the last 14-day period new covid cases so it went up a little bit because we are at 100 cases in the last 14 days right now. We are kind of hovering in that area and we still want people to know it is out there, so they still need to social distance and practice all of those things we have been trying to do to get this disease behind us.

One thing he wanted to bring up is the number of those vaccines we have in the county administered so far is 7,712 people have been vaccinated with at least one dose of the vaccine. Another 5,000 plus have received their first dose only. He corrected it by saying 7,712 is total doses, 5,000 is one dose only, and then 2,600 have completed to regimen with both doses. He stated we are moving slowly, as you know he is not thrilled with the pace we are going but we can only work with what we get, and we are trying to get more. Mr. Franklin said that currently we are changing the criteria Monday, the state Health Department changed it to anyone that is 55 or older, and then those who are 16 and above that have underlying conditions such as cancer, kidney failure, heart conditions, organ transplants, and there is a whole list out there on the public health website. They have also opened it up to food service workers, waste and waste-water workers, transportation folks, finance and bank tellers and those type of people. So, they have opened it up a bit more, of course, if we don't have the vaccine it's going to be hard to get them, but we are working on those. We have CVS Pharmacy now on Crawford Road now has the vaccine. He has heard Walgreens has the vaccine, but he has not been able to verify it yet because they are not on the state's list of folks for us. He said we do have a large push coming on April the 2nd. Mr. Franklin said we will have the National Guard teams come in that the Governor has activated, and they are going to try to vaccinate 1,100 people that day. It will be at the Chattahoochee Valley Community College from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Time. He clarified it with the guard that most of these vaccines are held 9-5 Central Time and they have adjusted their schedule so we will do ours from 9-5 Eastern Time. He encourages everyone to go. It is a first come, first serve. He's talked to a couple of the counties that have already started this process and it appears most of these people try to show up first thing in the morning to make sure they get a vaccine and once those couple of hundred people are through, then it really thins out in the afternoon so he encourages folks that they don't have to be there first thing, you might want to plan it to come a little bit later and you will be able to walk right in and get on through. His understanding is that they'll have 16 different stations so the process will move pretty quickly. There is a consent form online that they can download at the Public Health website. He also had some packets in

front of the room for anyone that would like to take one with them that has the consent form and all the information in it. Commissioner Costello asked what vaccine they will administer? Mr. Franklin said they will use the Pfizer vaccine. The state gets a lot. Pfizer has increased the production so there is a lot more Pfizer available. He added that the problem we have in the state of Alabama is and Russell County is that we do not have the refrigeration to keep it for long term and that requires a sub-zero, really cold freezer and once you take it out of that freezer, you have to use it within 2 weeks. So, with every dose, when you puncture that valve there are 10 doses that you have to use that day within 6 hours. With the Pfizer, once you open that up, you have 1,100 doses you have to use, so Pfizer is a little more cumbersome to work with the of vaccines you have to turn around pretty quickly. He said that when we are doing these kinds of big events, the Pfizer is the best way to go because it's easier to push it out that way. Commissioner Screws asked what is the total population for Russell County? Mr. Franklin stated that the total population is a little around 60,000. Based on the 60 and above, we are looking at what Public Health has, we have 45,000 people so roughly we have vaccinated about 11% of our population.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

Chairman Corbett presented the letter sent to the Phenix City Utilities regarding the use of our Russell County Courthouse dumpster by the Russell County Historic Commission by Commissioner Reed. Commissioner Reed turned it over to Ms. Paulette Colbert because he did not see Naomi. Interim County Administrator Paulette Colbert said that the Historic Commission has requested the use of the commercial dumpster behind the Buchanan House located 1040 Broad Street, which is owned by Russell County. If so approved, they request to send a letter to the Phenix City Utilities department requesting them to stop billing them for that service. Commissioner Reed motioned to allow the Chair to sign a letter to the Phenix City Utilities to this affect. Seconded by Commissioner Chambers. All Commissioners were in favor by saying aye. None opposed. The Commission passed the motion unanimously.

Chairman Corbett presented the requested budget amendment from the Coronavirus Relief Fund reimbursement check received from Sheriff Taylor. Sheriff Heath Taylor asked for a reimbursement to their Jail budget. This is reference to the state inmates that had been sentenced to the county jail and have been there for over 30 days. The Department of Corrections, the ACCA, the Commission Association, and our association at the end of last year came to an agreement to pay the Sheriff's in the counties \$28 a day for every inmate that was held over 30 days. Currently, they have 47 inmates that are over 30 days to DOC so this check that has come in is the first check we have received for this reimbursement status and it was \$62,888. He asked the funds to be as follows:

<u>Jail Increase Line #</u>	<u>Amount</u>
113-Salaries	\$10,000
216-Cleaning Supplies	\$10,000
239-Other Repairs/Maintenance	\$15,000
306-Medical/Dental	\$17,888
327-Uniforms	\$10,000

This would cover the \$62,888 and all of those line items are affected directly by the state inmate and the overpopulation of the state inmates in our jail budget. Chairman Corbett thanked him and recognized Ms. Colbert for the funding accounts. Ms. Colbert stated that, for the minutes, she would like to increase the line item in General Fund #44291 820 prisoner removal in the amount of \$62,888. Motioned by Commissioner Reed. Seconded by Commissioner Epps. Interim County Administrator Paulette Colbert called the vote of the Commission, and it was passed unanimously. Sheriff Heath Taylor stated that he and Ms. Colbert have been in conversation on how they are going to do this going forward. He said that this money is being used by the state, as he believes, as some of the COVID money that the state is giving out, so it is going to run out, and he does not know how long this is going to stay in place. They do not want to have to come up here every month to do this. They talked about was to either every two, three, or four months, or maybe just one more time before the budget ends and redo this amendment but they just don't know how long it is going to last but they do not want to come up every month, and ask for it to be put in so I think she is going to hold it

until they find out how often they need to put it back in to the budget, if that is ok with the Commission. Chairman Corbett stated he thought it was ok, as long as we are doing what is best for the Administrator's Office with the funds.

Chairman Corbett presented to request to send out and advertise for bids for the first phase of the courthouse window repairs by Maintenance Director Leon Watson. Mr. Watson stated that the maintenance department is requesting the Commission to allow advertisement of the first phase of the courthouse window repairs project. He referred to the scope paperwork in their packets, this would be the first of four. Maintenance would advertise in the local paper, The Citizen, starting on 3/25/2021 and would run for 3 consecutive weeks. Mandatory pre-bid walk though would follow on 4/15/2021 at 9 a.m. Bids to be received no later than 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time on 4/22/2021, and then bid opening will follow at 11:15 at the Commission Conference Room. He is anticipating the bid award at 5/5/2021 at the regular Commission meeting. Mr. Watson added that this is a pre budgeted repair for this year. Chairman Corbett verified that Ms. Colbert looked into this and it is falling into line with the bid rules. Ms. Colbert agreed. Moved by Commissioner Costello. Seconded by Commissioner Epps. All Commissioners were in favor by saying aye. None opposed. The Commission passed the motion unanimously.

Chairman Corbett presented the County Administrator job search with new summary sheets. The goal to start the search process for the County Administrator and he referred to the job description given to them at a previous meeting along with a standard Russell County job application in their current packets.

His proposal today is that he would like to entertain a motion to approve the job description that is placed in their packet before. Motion to approve the job description by Commissioner Epps. Seconded by Commissioner Reed. All Commissioners were in favor by saying aye. None opposed. The Commission passed the motion unanimously.

Chairman Corbett presented a search committee limited to 3 Commissioners. He entertained a motion to approve the initial search committee being Chairman Corbett, Commissioner Epps, and Commissioner Chambers. Commissioner Costello motioned. Seconded by Commissioner Reed. Commissioner Reed mentioned that if any of these Commissioners cannot attend meetings and all, we would need to rotate someone out so we can have someone here at all times. Chairman Corbett stated that in an event all 3 cannot make the meeting, they probably will need to reschedule the meeting and, in the event, if one cannot serve in this capacity, they will bring it back in front of the Commission. Commissioner Screws verified that they will initially look at applications. Chairman Corbett agreed. Commissioner Screws then asked if we should have Ms. Colbert on it since she is aware of the job and what needs to be done. Chairman Corbett said that was a good point. Commissioner Reed also said that he would like to see Max Herring, being the Human Resources Director, on it as well. Chairman Corbett stated that, probably in this case, might not be the right position or reason to do it because we have other issues with that. Commissioner Costello moved to amend the motion to add the Interim Administrator Paulette Colbert to that committee. All Commissioners were in favor by saying aye. None opposed. The Commission passed the motion unanimously. Chairman Corbett stated the job process, for the Commission to know, is that they will be advertising the job on Monday, March 29, 2021 and we will go through all the channels they need to and that are approved for them to do. They will receive applications for 30 days or cut off receipt of applications on April 30, 2021 at 5 p.m. Eastern Time. All applications will be turned into the Interim Administrator Colbert. Applications will be gathered and submitted to the Chair to bring to the search committee and will narrow the applications down to the top 5. They will be then submitted to the Commissioners for review by April 16, 2021. Interview dates will be discussed at the April 26, 2021 work session. Interviews by the Commission body, the approved date, is sometime possibly in May 2021 and consider job offers any time after that or around in mid-June 2021. He stated that obviously these dates can change by any action of the Commission. This allows that if a candidate is chosen for them to work a notice if they already have a job. The goal is to have a County Administrator somewhere around August 1, 2021, but again that is subject to change by the action of the Commission. The other suggestion mentioned Monday night was to allow the Interim Administrator, Ms. Colbert, to be allowed to on board the new administrator for up to 6 months or longer, if needed, to get that person acclimated to the job. Motion to approve these dates and any adjustments, as needed, by

Commissioner Screws. Seconded by Commissioner Reed. All Commissioners were in favor by saying aye. None opposed. The Commission passed the motion unanimously.

Chairman Corbett presented a FOP Project by Gary Leeds. The Chair said Mr. Leeds spoke to the Commission Monday night about a memorial for fallen peace officers in Russell County. He requested that they have a project with a cost of about \$21,000 for the project and this was approved to be placed in front of the Judicial Building, in the entrance, which is off 14th Street and Broad. The request on Monday night was the Commission consider assisting in the fundraising portion by dedicating some of the county funds of their district money to this project. The only Commissioner we have absent today is Commissioner Lee, he is out of town. Chairman Corbett, at this time, open the floor to the Commissioners to discuss what their wishes are. He started by saying that the remaining amount on the project is \$7,000 for 7 Commissioners and he would love to see that all Commissioners would give \$1,000 out of their project money to this project. Obviously, we will not know the answer from Commissioner Lee until he returns but at this time Chairman Corbett will dedicate \$1,000 out of his project account. Mr. Gary Leeds said that if the Chairman, County Commissioners, or if anyone from the audience would like one of their packets that they have put together, they do have extra packets to give them. Mr. Leeds added that the Executive Officers: himself, Treasurer Mr. Bill Friend, and Vice President Phyllis Pendleton have all 3 pledged \$500 to go into this project, and that is how serious they are about this project. This project has never been done and should have been done a long time ago, but it took a citizen who was born and raised here in the county to realize that something needed to be done for all of our officers that have given and paid the ultimate sacrifice. Mr. Leeds said that we have Sheriff Taylor and Chief Smith that are totally behind this and 100% on it, so anything that the County Commission can do they would greatly appreciate it. Commissioner Screws asked that on the paper he has it is \$10,500 as the balance not \$7,000. Mr. Leeds said that is a first half cost. First half down payment before any tools will be set to stone. Once that is done, it is 4 to 8 weeks and after it is completed, they must have the balance paid to the monument company. Commissioner Screws asked if the balance is \$7,000 or \$10,500 left to be raised? Mr. Leeds said they have \$16,280 towards the project and he added that this process is not over with. They have established an account at Synovus where the money that is raised strictly for this project will stay in that account, like for maintenance. Which in talking to the builder, light maintenance has to be redone every 2 months, plus if, but he doesn't sincerely hope we don't have to, we have to add another name to it which will cost approximately no more than \$300 for each name. The monument company will come down and sand blast the name, right there, on the spot to add any name. Commissioner Screws stated that his question was not to understand how much but to make sure if you needed more money, he is willing to give the \$1,000 too. Mr. Screws did not want the project to need more money and not give enough. Mr. Leeds stated that if he understands his question and said the \$21,000 is set in stone. Outside the cost of maintenance, the additions of the county and city badges in color and in stone and coming down and putting the monument in place. That is the total cost. Mr. Screws agreed and said he would give \$1,000. Chairman Corbett stated for the record, since the microphone system is failing in the audience portion and for those who are watching on Facebook, the report from Mr. Leeds was that they have had fundraising efforts to around \$16,000 and the money the Commission gives today will fulfill that obligation and actually put some money in the account for maintenance and future maintenance. He said to keep in mind too, that this monument will be placed in front of the Judicial Center, so it is vital to us that it is maintained and looks very presentable at all times due to our building there too.

Commissioner Reed stated he would like to refer this to our attorney because once you place this on the county property, the county is responsible so it may be a conflict of interest so he would like to see what our county attorney has to say on this. Chairman Corbett said that he had reached out to our county attorney Monday night about it. Interim County Attorney Hope Hicks said that she has no issue with the Commissioners donating from their project fund to this, but if this is going to be placed on county property it probably needs to be given to the county to maintain, so when it is dedicated it no longer needs to be a FOP owned statue, it needs to be dedicated to the county in honor of those fallen officers. That would clear up any concerns about the county doing maintenance. Chairman Corbett mentioned if there would be any issues if maintenance is needed and allowing the FOP to pay for that maintenance, as long as it was on county property. Ms. Hicks agreed. Chairman Corbett said to Mr. Leeds that we can take that in front of the FOP, but he does not see that there would be an issue with

that. Mr. Leeds addressed the Chairman and said that right now there will be no problem with it. Mr. Corbett said that is great. Mr. Leeds said they (FOP) will still maintain the funds, if necessary, in the bank account to where any maintenance or additional names, they will take care of that. Chairman Corbett thanked Mr. Leeds. Commissioner Reed stated before they get started donating money, he said he only has \$2,200 left and he has another organization dealing with kids and he has promised them something as well, and then we have the school board issues and they need stuff down in Russell County High School, so he does not know how we are going to deal with this concerning his money. He does not know about the other Commissioners since Gentry Lee is not here. Chairman Corbett polled the Commissioners: Commissioner Chambers said he will get with them outside on it, Commissioner Costello said he would commit \$1,000 from his funds towards the monument, and Commissioner Epps said she would give \$1,000. Chairman Corbett entertained a motion that they allocate \$4,000 which would be from Commissioner Costello, Commissioner Screws, Commissioner Epps, and Commissioner Corbett's accounts towards this project, and they will work with Commissioner Lee when he returns. If they have additional, they can discuss it at another meeting. Commissioner Costello moved the motion. Seconded by Commissioner Screws. All Commissioners were in favor by saying aye. None opposed. The Commission passed the motion unanimously.

Chairman Corbett presented Sheriff Heath Taylor having the County Attorney draw up a contract. Sheriff Heath Taylor said that he simply asked this morning that the Commission grant our County Attorney permission to research, and he has the current contract with the county schools and he would give that to her, and just grant her the ability to look at it and put together a contract, let's make sure we have all the bases covered, with the part-time position that would be paid for by Glenwood School to put a part-time deputy coming through the Commission there so that would be his request this morning. Chairman Corbett said, before he entertained a motion, he would like to ask that the attorney present the Sheriff the cost of that works so it can be included in this with the school. Commissioner Reed moved the motion. Seconded by Commissioner Epps. Interim County Administrator Paulette Colbert called the vote of the Commission: Commissioner Costello, Commissioner Epps, Commissioner Screws, Commissioner Reed all said yes, while Commissioner Corbett abstained. Commissioner Lee was not present. The Commission passed the motion.

Chairman Corbett presented the Russell County High School football project. He said they were approached about this program from the new coach, Mr. Dillon Griggs. Chairman Corbett said that the conversations he has had with him and the superintendent of the county schools, as well as some Commissioners, and the Sheriff, that we have a glimmer of real hope that our football team is going to be turned around and really turn it into a winning program. Chairman Corbett says that he knows the new coach is completely enthused and he is obviously coming in at time that the school system has really pumped a lot of money, including some money the Commission did, to help with the baseball fields, which is a very good program there. Coach Griggs is really looking forward to having a Class A program and he is looking into bringing into any recruits that he would have never received before, in that program. They are interested in coming there. The problem is the facilities. The school was built in 1990 and the facilities are in pretty bad shape. They have not been maintained as much, obviously, education gets all the dollars. The football program and the athletic programs do not. So, as he presented Monday night, he has requested some assistance from the Commission. Again, Chairman Corbett knows we are looking at project dollars and the initial cost that he had, and he is getting more estimates, the initial cost he had for the carpeting inside of the offices and the weight room was right at \$21,000. The superintendent has already pledged that whatever the county can do, she will match towards that project. Chairman Corbett opened up to the Commission to discuss that and see if this is something that we can push some of our project money towards to really help this program along. He thinks we will see a good return on that money. Commissioner Chambers stated that he had talked to Griggs yesterday and he has a meeting setup tomorrow. He is going to call him when he comes into town, because he would like to go down and see what the facility looks like. He and Mr. Taylor has talked, and he knows he has done some work down there and he would like to see what is actually needed because he would like to help some himself. He like to see what all he is expecting to be done down there. Commissioner Screws asked if they he had an amount that they would like to pledge? Chairman Corbett agreed and said the goal was to see if we could get as close as we could to

\$11,000, and that would be a little tough because that would cost each Commissioner about \$1,600 if he remembers right. He had it in his notes Monday night, but does not have them in front of him now. Ms. Colbert said it would be \$1,571 each. Chairman Corbett said that, if each Commissioner was able to give from their project money, it would be about \$1,600, but he is not sure that we are in that vote based on the previous project so he would like to poll the Commission before we make a motion to see the pulse of what we are doing is. Commissioner Reed asked if maybe they should wait for Commissioner Lee to get back. If you are all not in a hurry, let us just wait till Gentry gets back since he is on vacation right now. Chairman Corbett said Gentry is watching the meeting right now by his text he has sent. The Chair said that he is fine with waiting and so he entertains a motion to postpone this. Commissioner Epps asked if the county as a whole have any discretionary funds that they can add to what the Commissioners added from theirs? Chairman Corbett said he can look into it because he does not know the answer to that off hand and Ms. Colbert does not know that either. He said because of the comments here and that we did present this Monday night and that is not a lot of time to think about it, but each Commissioner probably needs review their projects and their project money and maybe we can come back to the next meeting for discussion. Commissioner Screws and Commissioner Epps said they are both planning to donate so Chairman Corbett said they can postpone it. Commissioner Epps motioned it and Commissioner Screws seconded it. All Commissioners were in favor by saying aye. None opposed. The Commission passed the motion unanimously to postpone it.

COUNTY ENGINEER:

Chairman Corbett presented several purchases from the County Engineer Shawn Blakeney. Mr. Blakeney said that the Russell County Highway Department is looking to purchase a mower max boom mower off the ACCA County joint bid. He had a demo of this machine along with Commissioner Screws and Commissioner Corbett was also at it. Mr. Blakeney asks, at this time, for the Russell County Commission to authorize the Chair to enter into a lease purchase agreement with leasing to incorporated to finance the purchase a new mower max boom mower in the amount of \$193,050 purchased from CoBlentz Equipment and Parts Incorporated. Moved by Commissioner Screws. Seconded by Commissioner Costello. All Commissioners were in favor by saying aye. None opposed. The Commission passed the motion unanimously.

Chairman Corbett presented the 3 different purchases from Sourcewell Contract from the County Engineer Shawn Blakeney. Mr. Blakeney said this will be off the Sourcewell contract for the Sanitation Department. As he stated Monday night, they currently have 9 trucks, and which the majority of the trucks are 2014 year or older and they are starting to give them a lot of problems. He has looked into the possibility into going into a 5 or 3 year rotation plan, that was a buyback program that Kenworth and Ingram is offering where at the end three years, they buy their current trucks back and you purchase 3 more. I would like to, as this time to ask the Commission to authorize the Chair and the Administrator to help through KS State Bank financing to purchase 3 Kenworth T370's, it's the side arm trucks with 26-yard bodies on them, and they are \$268,999.22 apiece. One 25-yard hill 5000 Kenworth for \$216,087.05 and one 18-yard Kenworth 5000 for \$211,139.01. Motion to approve by Commissioner Epps. Seconded by Commissioner Screws. Chairman Corbett discussed that he appreciates the work Mr. Blakeney is doing because it seems that he is getting us to a point where we have fairly new equipment, all the time, and have reliable equipment while cutting down on the costs. It is amazing that he is able to do this and show them a savings in the cost. He really appreciates it. Interim County Administrator Paulette Colbert polled the Commission and motion was passed unanimously.

Chairman Corbett presented a purchase 2021 Tahoe from the County Engineer Shawn Blakeney. Mr. Blakeney stated he asked to purchase a 2021 Tahoe from a state bid in the amount of \$39,531.75, and this was budgeted money. Chairman Corbett said the number he gave is a different amount that is on the agenda that shows \$39,678.75 Mr. Blakeney verified that the amount is \$39,531.75. Motioned by Commissioner Costello. Seconded by Commissioner Screws. Chairman Corbett stated the reason they are doing this is because it is in the budget but is over the \$7,500 policy that is brought to the Commission. Interim County Administrator Paulette Colbert polled the Commission and motion was passed unanimously.

Chairman Corbett presented a purchase of a vehicle from State surplus from the County Engineer Shawn Blakeney. Mr. Blakeney stated he has a purchase for Sanitation Department that is a budgeted item that would replace the vehicle Mr. Johnny Barnes is driving for as roadside pickup. It is a 2014 Ford F150 extended cab that has 49,366 miles, and it is \$16,289. Commissioner Screws motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Reed. Commissioner Screws asked if Mr. Blakeney could separate what is coming from Sanitation and what is coming from the Engineering, in the future. Mr. Blakeney agreed that he would. Chairman Corbett said that is a good point and that is the reason he stated it earlier because he was getting a little confused himself, too. Interim County Administrator Paulette Colbert polled the Commission and motion was passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR:

Interim County Administrator Paulette Colbert had no discussion items.

ATTORNEY:

Interim Attorney Hope Hicks discussed that she wanted to update the Commission that she will be sending a letter to the property owner on Leconte Street in Pittsview at Mr. Friend's request for a nuisance. Also, she wanted to let us know that she is watching and monitoring the American Rescue Plan Act that came out of Congress, that this county will be getting a significant amount of money on. Watching for guidance, and to be able to guide you on how to use and spend those funds.

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Epps stated that she would like to announce that since we met the last time, we have had 2 Commissioners to pass away. One was a past Commissioner Mr. Marion McIntosh from Wilcox County and also Commissioner Mr. Joey Hargrove from Lawrence County passed away the other day, and she has also received word that the brother of Judge Bellamy passed. So, we need to keep these families in our prayers and remember them.

Chairman Corbett discussed that he has 2 additions he would like to add. On April 10th in Crawford there will be a Health Fair that is being sponsored and all proceeds are going to the American Heath Association that will be held at the Walking Trail. There is a lot of support for that right now so hoping to see you there April 10th, in the morning. Also, starting May 15th we will start back Crawford Market Days and we have had a lot of requests for when that would happen, so May through November this year, the 3rd Saturday of the month.

Mr. Fred Hart mentioned that he gave a statement at the opening (in Public Comments), and asked how would he receive any kind of feedback information or what does he need to do? Chairman Corbett stated that what we will have to do, as the Commission, since it is a state road, we probably need to do is put on agenda to send a letter to the Department of Transportation asking them to consider it, so we will put that on our agenda. Commissioner Epps stated that after she had a conversation with Mr. Hart, she had spoken with the County Engineer and he is contacting the State Engineer to see what we can do for Hwy 165, so there is something already in process and being taken care of.

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Screws. Seconded by Commissioner Reed.

The Commission meeting was adjourned.