

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR
VACATE RIGHT-OF-WAY ON CIRCLE DRIVE
JULY 24, 2019 9:30 A.M. EDT**

CALL TO ORDER

Business:

- ❖ Vacate Right-Of-Way on Circle Drive

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ADJOURN

The Russell County Commission
Meeting Minutes
July 24, 2019
9:30 A.M. EST

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

Chaplain Lis-Mary S. Wilson, Civilian gave the invocation.

Commissioner Screws led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Joshua VanDusseldorp gave his comment concerning the change of the Building Inspection Codes.

Chair Martin thanked Cable T.V. of East Alabama and the Citizen of East Alabama for their coverage of the Commission Meetings. She also welcomed Elected Officials, Department Heads, Media and Guests.

County Administrator LeAnn Horne established a quorum. Members present were; Chair Peggy Martin, Vice Chair Cattie Epps, Gentry Lee, Carl Currington, Ronnie Reed, Chance Corbett and Larry Screws. Also, present was the County Attorney Kenneth Funderburk. A quorum was established.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chair Martin requested approval of the July 10, 2019 Minutes. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Corbett. Commissioner Epps motioned to table to the next meeting. She asked, why is it taking this length of time to do the minutes? I have not had the opportunity to read the minutes at this time.

Commissioner Corbett stated: Madam Chair, I received them by e-mail yesterday and I read them.

Commissioner Lee stated: I did too.

Commissioner Reed motioned to second the motion to table.

County Administrator Horne polled the Commission. District 1 Lee, no; District 2 Currington, no; District 3 Martin, no; District 4 Reed, yes; District 5 Epps, yes; District 6 Corbett, no; District 7 Screws, yes.

County Administrator stated: Motion to table failed as presented.

Commissioner Corbett stated: Madam Chair, motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Lee.

County Administrator polled the Commission: District 1 Lee, yes; District 2 Currington, yes; District 3 Martin, yes; District 4 Reed, no; District 5 Epps, no; District 6 Corbett, yes; District 7 Screws no. The vote was approved.

PROCLAMATION:

Judge Collins and Rodney Wood received a Proclamation for the 1st Annual Generations of Care claiming August 3 and every first Saturday of the month of August thereafter as Generations of Care Day.

Commissioner Corbett motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Lee. The vote was unanimous.

Building Inspector Bubba Roberts stated: There are two Resolutions to vote on. Whichever one the Commission decides, he will utilize. One of the Resolutions does away with copper clad and the other is all copper. I would prefer number one Resolution; all copper.

Chair Martin asked; what is the difference?

Bubba Roberts stated: Basically, the first ordinance that we have is the resolution where if you have nothing below a 40-amp circuit it is nothing but copper wire. It limits the small circuit to a 20-amp circuit with no more than 10 outlets. The other Resolution is taking a total 192017 NEC limiting 20-amp circuits to 10 outlets and 15 amp to 8 outlets.

Commissioner Lee motioned to accept Resolution 1, that is what our Building Inspector recommends. I know that pure copper wire is safe. Seconded by Commissioner Currington.

County Administrator polled the Commission: District 1 Lee, yes; District 2 Currington, yes; District 3 Martin, yes; District 4 Reed, no; District 5 Epps, abstained; District 6 Corbett, yes; District 7 Screws, no. The vote was approved.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

Chief Engineer Shawn Blakeney: On May 23rd I received a letter from Ronald and Joseph Osmond concerning vacating 350 linear feet of 30-foot-wide right-of-way know as Circle Drive from intersection of Woodland Drive to the intersection of Wiggins. I provided a map, the Citizen News advertised in a public meeting and it is ready to vote on whether to vacate or not. If the Commission approves to vacate it, they will have to get it surveyed and recorded for it to be final.

Commissioner Corbett motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Lee. The vote was unanimous.

Chief Engineer Shawn Blakeney requested a budget transfer.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

July 22, 2019

FY 2018/2019 BUDGET

GASOLINE FUND 111 ENGINEERING 53100

DECREASE	111 53100 550	MOTOR VEHICLES	\$5,000.00
INCREASE	111 53100 228	UNIFORM RENTAL	\$1,500.00
INCREASE	111 53100 241	ELECTRICITY	\$2,000.00
INCREASE	111 53100 265	REGISTRATION & TR	\$1,500.00
TOTAL			\$5,000.00

Commissioner Corbett motioned to approve. Seconded by Chair Martin. The vote was unanimous.

Commissioner Corbett stated: Madam Chair, Parkman Point Subdivision as we discussed at the Monday night Work Session the roads Anna Kate Way, Elizabeth Way and Taylor Way of Camp Parkman Road in the Parkman Point Subdivision at this time I make a motion that we accept these roads as County roads. Seconded by Commissioner Lee. The vote was unanimous.

Chair Martin stated: Department of Human Resources Reappointments. I am going to read for you, as a lot of citizens do not know who serves on what boards. The Department of Human Resources, the citizens are served by these Board Members; Mrs. Jo Ann C. Laney, Mr. Brad McDaniel, Mr. Leonard Gates, Dr. Joseph Appiah which he did request he no longer wanted to serve; and Commissioner Reed is going to address that appointment. Mrs. Caroline Batchelder warrants a Proclamation and a challenge coin for her many, many years of serving on the DHR Board. She is incapacitated and is housed in Auburn due to Alzheimer's. We did talk with her nephew and he understand DHR has to have a quorum present at Board of Director's Meetings to officially conduct their business. Dr. Appiah and Mrs. Batchelder positions are open. Mr. Jack Sanders and Mr. Oscar Tuff are also serving.

Commissioner Reed stated: I would like to appoint Mrs. Deborah Lowe.

Commissioner Corbett stated: I would like at this time to make a motion to appoint to the two vacant positions Ms. Gail Head and Mrs. Deborah Lowe. Seconded by Commissioner Lee. The vote was unanimous.

County Administrator LeAnn Horne stated: Madam Chair, I would like to request, at this time as we discussed Monday evening at the Work Session, changing the official budget review for the public to hear to July 29th at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Chambers.

Commissioner Lee stated; We need to announce it at the end of this meeting and reconvene until Monday the 29th at 9:00 a.m. and don't adjourn this meeting in case we want to pass something, we can do it. We can't schedule just a budget meeting that close. We would have to do it two weeks in advance. My suggestion is we announce, we will continue this meeting on July 29th at 9:00 a.m. for a purpose of budget. I will ask the attorney for his opinion. If we don't, we can't adopt the budget during that budget hearing because it is not an official meeting.

Commissioner Corbett stated: Point of order. Do we need to make a motion to cancel the meeting for this afternoon? There was actually a motion and a vote to for this afternoon for this meeting to start. I make a motion to cancel the meeting that was scheduled for this afternoon it was to continue until finished. Seconded by Commissioner Currington. The vote was unanimous.

County Administrator LeAnn Horne stated: As I presented to the Commission Monday at the Work Session it is a proposal for Payroll Services to be outsourced for Russell County. In your packet you were presented with a proposal from Mr. Behar that outlined, in detail, the services that would be provided by his firm to the County which is quite extensive. I think the proposal is very fair and in-line with today's rates and fees for these types of services. Mr. Behar has a very good reputation and has been in business a long time. He is a forensic accountant. He comes with outstanding credentials and references. I am honored he is willing to make this proposal to the County Commission for your consideration. I hope the Commission has had time to review the proposal presented Monday in order to move forward with this contract so we can continue the payroll services. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Corbett.

Commissioner Reed stated: Discussion, Madam Chairman; I just want to know, are we going to get the employees' paycheck on time this week?

County Administrator stated: The checks were ran last night; I have been working very diligently to make certain.

Commissioner Reed stated: That's all I wanted to know.

Commissioner Lee stated: In discussion, I think this is a way we need to go and try to see how it works because payroll and now with all the Federal Laws it is complicated. I think this is a 90-day contract. We can get out of it in 90 days. If this does not meet our expectations, we can go another route. I think it is something we need to try and let the professionals do it.

Commissioner Epps stated: My question is to this project; I think you said try it? What length of time will we be trying it? Will there be a time limit that we would do for 90 days and bring it back to the Commissioner's; or, would we just do it. The Commissioners have no say. I think the Administrator said, try it out.

Commissioner Lee stated: Madam Chair, this is a contract that is open ended. It has a 90 day out period. It won't end in 90 days but after a month or two months, if we want to end it; we can end it. The only vote we will take will be today, unless we want to end it.

Commissioner Epps stated: My next question is, so then we will have limited employees in the Commission Office? And will this position be eliminated? I am just trying to get clarification because a lot of stuff goes on. I get more information from the outside of this Commission than I do from the inside. I get more information what is going inside the Commission Office that the outside knows more than I do. I am a part of the Commission and I hear stuff.

Commissioner Corbett stated: Those are called rumors.

Commissioner Epps stated: I don't come on a Saturday. I don't come on a Sunday. I do pass by on Saturday's and Sunday's. I need clarification of what are we doing. Will this also eliminate other employees?

Commissioner Lee stated: Madam Chair, approving this contract will not eliminate any current employee.

Commissioner Epps stated: So ya'll have eliminated all you're going to eliminate?

Commissioner Corbett stated: The point that Commissioner Lee is trying to make is the motion on the table is to approve the contract period. It is not to do anything else. We cannot read anymore into that. We have budget time coming up. We can discuss all that then. Right now, this is to approve a budget. There is no since in trying to muddy the water and trying to add three or four things into the same motion. The motion is to approve the contract as presented.

Commissioner Epps stated: Madam Chair, I am sorry, and this will be my last comment on this section. As a Commissioner, we all have the right to ask questions when we don't understand and that is why we were elected by the taxpayers of this County to represent them. I believe the Chaplain said this morning. To be good steward's over this County not only the funds that come into this County but also how we treat our people that voted and put us here. This is a discussion item so I am not trying to say I am against approving what is here but I do need some answers for Cattie so I will know the best way to vote on this is.

County Administrator polled the Commission: District 1 Lee, yes; District 2 Currington, yes; District 3 Martin, yes; District 4 Reed, yes; District 5 Epps, yes; District 6 Corbett, yes; District 7 Screws, no. The vote was approved.

Announcements were made.

Commissioner Martin motioned to recess until Monday, July 29th at 9:00. Seconded by Commissioner Reed.

Commissioner Epps stated: I will not be present Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday.

The meeting was recessed.

After careful examination and considerations, the Commission authorized the Administrator to pay the following bills from the perspective funds.

July 2019 Checks

General Fund 001				
17922	07-01-19	Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll Account)	51100 122 51300 122 51550 122 51600 122 51970 122 52100 122 52200 122 52710 122	\$2,886.00 \$1,876.00 \$1,407.00 \$2,831.00 \$2,337.00 \$8,622.00 \$6,734.00 \$974.00
17923	07-08-19	Russell County Fire Department Association	3040	\$1,162.40
17924	07-08-19	Intersecure Tech, Inc.	41250 018	\$648.00
17925	07-08-19	Tucson Atlantic Consulting	41250 018	\$1,500.00
17926	07-11-19	Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll Account) Sal. 06/29/19-07/12/19	3030	\$417,560.65
17927	07-11-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$184,177.40
17928	07-11-19	Joel Jones	41250 018	\$500.00
17929	07-23-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$137,218.47
17930	07-24-19	Russell County Child Advocacy Ctr., Inc.	44741 810	\$15,435.00
17931	07-24-19	Joel Jones	41250 018	\$500.00
17932	07-25-19	Payroll Fund PG Bank Sal. 07/13/19-07/26/19	3030	\$311,527.63
17933	07-26-19	Payroll Fund PG Bank Sal. 7/6/19-7/20/19	3030	\$8,158.65
Contingent Fund 002				
Ft. Mitchell Senior Center				
1236	07-11-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$50.16
Masonic Lodge Fund 104				
1132	07-08-19	Millicent Belrose	51100 499	\$200.00
1133	07-12-19	Pine Hollow Landfill	51100 499	\$320.00
1134	07-29-19	Trugreen	51100 499	\$92.70
Gasoline Tax 111 Fund				
13609	07-01-19	Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll Account)	53100 122	\$14,270.00
13610	07-09-19	General Fund PG Bank	53100 213	\$9,772.01
13611	07-11-19	Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll Account)	3030	\$94,983.03

		Sal. 06/29/19-07/12/19		
13612	07-11-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$35,242.66
13613	07-23-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$18,168.18
13614	07-25-19	Payroll Fund PG Bank Sal. 7/13/19-7/26/19	3030	\$73,941.34
13615	07-29-19	Blue Cross & Blue Shield of AL	53100 122	\$32.00
13616	07-29-19	Blue Cross & Blue Shield of AL	53100 122	\$167.60
		Road & Bridge 112		
1357	07-09-19	Gasoline Fund PG Bank	62109 299	\$200,000.00
1358	07-11-19	Operation Fund P.G. Bank	3020	\$552.00
1359	07-23-19	Operation Fund P.G. Bank	3020	\$9,609.70
		RRR Gasoline Tax 117		
1202	06-23-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$55,719.11
		Secondary RD Fund 118		
167	07-12-19	RRR Gas Fund	62111 299	\$300,00.00
		Reappraisal 120		
2247	07-01-19	Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll Account)	51985 122	\$938.00
2248	07-11-19	Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll Account) Sal. 06/29/19-07/12/19	3030	\$24,748.86
2249	07-11-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$17,800.05
2250	07-23-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$3,242.54
2251	07-25-19	Payroll Fund PG Bank Sal. 7/13/19-7/26/19	3030	\$20,585.36
		Juvenile Drug Court Fund 195		
1264	07-01-19	Tommy Powell	56900 199	\$895.71
1265	07-16-19	Tommy Powell	56900 199	\$895.71
		Garbage Fund 511		
1621	07-01-19	Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll Account)	54100 122	\$16.00
1622	07-11-19	Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll Account Sal. 06/22/19-07/05/19	3030	\$77,361.84
1623	07-11-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$33,204.11
1624	07-23-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$31,719.78
1625	07-24-19	Postmaster	54100 252	\$2,613.50
1626	07-25-19	Payroll Fund PG Bank Sal. 07/06/19-07/20/19	3030	\$52,834.27
1627	07-26-19	Payroll Fund PG Bank Sal. 07/06/19-07/20/19	3030	\$1,094.99
61051	07-08-19	David Meehan	3040	\$34.00
61052	07-08-19	Jessie Phillips	3040	\$40.00
61053	07-08-19	Electra Davis	3040	\$44.18
61054	07-08-19	Edward Petrich	3040	\$20.00
61055	07-08-19	Inez Wright	3040	\$91.35
		Garbage Escrow Fund 513		
0027	07-17-19	Garbage Fund PG Bank	3040	\$923.31
		Donation Fund 750		
		Law Library Fund 755		

1075	07-01-19	Walmart	51100 499	\$758.00
1076	07-09-19	RELX Inc DBA LEXISNEXIS	51100 410	\$419.05
1077	07-10-19	Malone Office Environment	51100 499	\$135.98
1078	07-16-19	Connie Marshall	51100 499	\$33.00
1079	07-16-19	Elves LLC	51100 499	\$3,059.68
		Worthless Check 761		
518	07-08-19	Worthless Check Unit Office of District Attorney	51260 365 51260 362	\$1,496.14 \$2,778.52
		Motor Vehicle Special Fund 782		
		Land Redemption Fund 786		
771	07-02-19	Naomi Elliott, Rev. Comm	3040	\$15,500.37
772	07-02-19	Naomi Elliott, Rev. Comm	3040	\$29,554.35
		Juvenile Service Fund 787		
2264	07-01-19	Walmart	52600 499	\$61.98
2265	07-16-19	Verizon	52600 499	\$130.62
		County Tobacco Fund 797		
497	07-25-19	Task Force for Senior Citizens	3040	\$643.73
498	07-25-19	Project Greene Light	3040	\$643.73
499	07-25-19	Russell County Volunteer Fire Department Association	3040	\$24,462.21
		County Beer Tax 798		
713	07-24-19	Russell County Board of Education	3040	\$25,476.33
714	07-24-19	Russell County Fire Committee Special Account	3040	\$12,738.16
715	07-24-19	Phenix Girard Bank (General Fund)	3040	\$2,892.66
716	07-24-19	Phenix Girard Bank (General Fund)	3040	\$12,738.16

Attest: _____ Signed: _____
 County Administrator Chair