

The Russell County Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
July 8, 2015  
9:30 A.M. EST

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

The invocation was given by Dr. Robert Dickerson, Pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Martin.

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, Tillman Pugh, Ronnie Reed, and Larry Screws. Commissioner Corbett was absent. Also present were Attorney Kenneth Funderburk and County Administrator LeAnn Horne, who kept the minutes.

A quorum was established

Chair Martin requested a motion to approve the June 24th, 2015 meeting minutes. Commissioner Pugh motioned to approve the minutes and was seconded by Commissioner Epps. The vote was unanimous.

Alabama National Guard Adjutant Major General Smith gave special recognition to Sheriff Heath Taylor.

Probate Judge Alford Harden Jr. announced that Troy University has notified him that the room the college allows the county to use as a voting precinct will be leased out as a day care. Judge Harden has contacted Chattahoochee Valley Community College and has requested permission to use the old voting precinct. If that is approved by the college the County will need to move Chattahoochee Valley Community College back into District 6. No residence will be involved in redistricting the college. The County will have to report it to the Justice Department, just to inform them, not for their approval. After Chattahoochee Community College gives Judge Harden their answer concerning use of the building he will bring it back to Commission for approval.

Special Coder Enforcement Officer Bill Friend and Building Inspector Greg Smith presented a proposal for the Ambulance Building / Sheriff's Substation. This proposal is for a 2,000 foot commercial type wood structure, which will include an enclosure for one Ambulance and the Sheriff's Substation. The Engineering Department has agreed to include pouring the pad for the building into their schedule. Mr. Friend requested to approve Administrator Horne to solicit bids for the Ambulance building as a 2,000 foot

commercial type wood structure, with sprinklers, a 10 foot electric roll-up door for the ambulance to park. The Sheriff substation will be included as well as 3 bathrooms one of the bathrooms will be handicapped assessable with a shower. There is to be a firewall. If the bids are again over the budgeted amount, he will seek approval for a previously proposed metal building that does fall within the allotted amount. Mr. Friend also requested that the Engineer Department begin construction of the pad so it will be prepared regardless of which building is constructed. Commissioner Screws motioned to approve Mr. Friend's request to allow the Administrator to begin the bid process for the turn key building project and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. Administrator Horne stated the bid opening will be August 5<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. EST. in the Commission Conference room. Mr. Friend and Greg Smith thought that would be sufficient time for the specs to be completed and mailed to the contractors so they will have time to submit bids.

County Engineer Larry Kite stated that he wanted to make sure the Commission was clear and they would be happy to begin on the project, but on their project scheduling they have the ambulance pad as to be determined and currently show their regular projects have already been scheduled will be completed by October 31, 2015, which is a month into the next fiscal year, due to delays they have already had though-out this year. That included pulling additional crews off jobs to get those done. To insert this project now would add an additional 2 week delay. We will be glad to do that, but wanted the Commission to be clear.

Commissioner Screws stated since we are cutting the building size down it may not take as much time as we think.

The Administrator polled the Commission. The vote was unanimous.

The Public Building Authority Appointment term is up. The current member Bobby Mathews is no longer able to serve. Commissioner Pugh stated that he has asked someone if they would be willing to serve on this board and is waiting for an answer. He motioned to table this item until the next meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Screws. The vote was unanimous.

The County's appointment for the Board of Equalization will expire in August 2015. Chief Mapper Heath Crowe has acknowledged that the current member Tommy Railford is a very good member and wants to continue serving. Commissioner Lee motioned to reappoint Tommy Railford to the Board of Equalization and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

The Wiregrass Resource Conservation and Development Board appointment is also expiring in August. Pastor Johnnie Robinson has served on this board for several terms and wishes to continue serving. Commissioner Screws motioned to reappoint Johnnie Robinson to the board and was seconded by Commissioners Lee and Epps. The vote was unanimous.

County Engineer Larry Kite requested approval of an agreement with ADEM for the clean-up of a scrap tire site located in Hurtsboro at the end of Clay Road. County forces will be used for the removal and disposal of the tires and will be reimbursed in the amount of \$42,416.05. Commissioner Pugh motioned to approve the agreement and was seconded by Commissioner Screws. The vote was unanimous.

Special Code Enforcement Officer Bill Friend requested for the Commission approve clean-up of property at 2 Rampart Street, Fort Mitchell and abatement of the property. A lien of \$250.00 will be placed on the property for cost of the clean-up. Commissioner Screws motioned to approve the abatement. Seconded by Commissioner Pugh. The vote was unanimous.

Administrator Horne stated that Troy University has scheduled an open house Friday, July 10<sup>th</sup>. They have requested the Commission to loan a couple of the Mike Howard paintings for this event. Commissioner Lee motioned to approve their request and was seconded by Commissioner Reed. The vote was unanimous.

County Attorney Funderburk distributed a real estate lease between Russell County and Phenix City Museum, Inc. for review. He requested to place the lease agreement on the next meeting agenda.

Personnel Manager Carolyn Robinson included in the Commission packets a list of new hires and open positions.

Commissioner Epps announce she will be attending NACo Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, next week.

Commissioner Pugh asked Larry Kite what line item will the unbudgeted \$42,000 be placed.

Larry Kite stated that this revenue was expected and was budgeted in the 2014-2015. It will be place in the Gas Tax.

Chair Martin requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lee motioned to do so.

Meeting adjourned.