

The Russell County Commission
Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2019
9:30 A.M. EST

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

Reverend Curtis Doleman, with Praise Ministry Tabernacle Church gave the Invocation.

Commissioner Currington led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chair Martin requested approval of the July 24, 2019 minutes.

Commissioner Lee motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Currington. The voted was approved.

Chair Martin requested approval of the July 29, 2019 minutes.

Commissioner Lee motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Currington.

Assistant County Administrator Vickie Perry polled the Commission: District 1 Lee, yes; District 2 Currington, yes; District 3 Martin, abstained; District 4 Reed, yes; District 5 Epps, abstained; District 6 Corbett, yes; District 7 Screws, yes. The vote was approved.

Chair Martin requested approval of the August 14, 2019 minutes.

Commissioner Lee motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Martin. The vote was approved.

County Engineer Shawn Blakeney stated: I brought to you the new 2020 transportation plan for the new gas tax money we are going to receive. It is required by law that we get this approved through the Commission. I have a spread sheet with a list of roads and the money we are going to spend on that road. I have a map of the County where the roads are located. I need to get this approved and posted at the Courthouse and the Engineering Department.

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

County Engineer Shawn Blakeney stated: We have a travel ball team using our facility to practice. There were concerns in using it without having a contract to use our facility for liability issues. I added to the contract that I previously presented as far as insurance. Russell County shall be named as an additional insured to the River City Baseball insurance. This will give them permission to use the fields for practice, but they still have to coordinate with the league President. The league President has total use of the facility as long as there is not a conflict between them and the league President. I have talked to both league Presidents and they would coordinate with the ball team. I have a copy their insurance policy where Russell County is added as an additional insured, Russell County Sports Complex. They have met all their

requirements we have presented to them. I just need for the Commission to approve the contract so we can get everyone to sign it.

Commissioner Currington stated: Are they going to pay us to use the fields?

Commissioner Currington stated: They will if they have tournaments.

Commissioner Lee stated: No use of lights.

County Engineer Shawn Blakeney stated: We will do no additional maintenance outside our normal maintenance. It will cost the County nothing for them to use the field. They have a machine they drag the field with when the League uses it. If there is a week's worth of rain and the grass is too high, the League will cut the grass.

County Commissioner Epps motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Reed.

County Commissioner Corbett asked for a discussion. I just urge the Engineer that at any point this agreement begins costing us additional money even maintenance personnel; I then ask you to bring this back to us to reconsider this. It was my understanding. I am voting for this because it's for the kids and I think it is the right thing for the kids. If it starts costing us and this is an organization that is charging for it, I want to make sure it is taken care of accordingly.

County Engineer Shawn Blakeney stated: If it starts costing the Parks and Recreation Department the Commission will be the first to know.

County Commission Epps stated: I would like a copy of the contract and a copy of the insurance to be filed at the Administrator's Office.

County Engineer Shawn Blakeney stated: Yes ma'am, there will be one filed at the County Administrator's Office and one filed at the Parks and Recreation Department.

County Corbett stated: I want to ask the County Attorney if we are in our legal rights to do this with a contract.

County Attorney Mr. Funderburk stated: We are.

County Commissioner Lee stated: Just one concern, please make sure the sprinkler system is not damaged. If it is, they need to pay for it.

Assistant County Administrator Vickie Perry polled the Commission. The voted passed.

County Engineer Shawn Blakeney stated: I am asking to decrease line item 219 which is miscellaneous supplies by \$2,500 and increase line item 212 fuel and lubricants by \$2,500.

County Commissioner Epps motioned to approve. Chair Martin seconded. The vote was passed.

Commissioner Screws stated: I asked to put the Phillips Family Cemetery on the agenda because we were just going back and forth in which way to vote. Listening to the residents that came Monday night at the Work Session, I find it hard for me to vote for it. At this time, I make a motion to not approve the Phillips Family Cemetery.

Seconded by Commissioner Reed.

Commissioner Corbett stated: Madam Chair discussion, In the future I would appreciate that items like that in my District be left to the Commissioner like I give the courtesy. But I completely agree this does need to be denied.

Commissioner Screws stated: Madam Chair, we were going back and forth it was just lingering out there that is why I put it back on the Agenda.

Commissioner Corbett stated: Madam Chair, on Monday night at the Work Session I expressed my intentions to make the motion, so I appreciate the courtesy rule be thrown out here.

Assistance County administrator polled the Commission and the vote was passed.

Commissioner Reed stated: Madam Chair, the last time I had appointed Deborah Lowe to the Department of Human Resources Board, and I found out there has been a conflict of interest. At this time, I would like to make a motion that I appoint Barbara Jones to the Department of Human Resources Board.

Commissioner Corbett stated: Madam Chair, this isn't an appointment by Commissioner Reed, this is a nomination. This is not an appointment by District this is nominations from the floor to be voted on by all Commissioners.

Commissioner Reed stated: Madam Chair, I nominate Barbara Jones.

Commissioner Corbett stated: Madam Chair, I nominate Jackie Davis to that position as well.

Commissioner Reed stated: Madam Chair, I want to say this too before we get started. Commissioner Corbett has put 4 people on that Board. I had a lady to call me. I am not mentioning her name, so we need other people to make decisions.

Commissioner Corbett stated: Madam Chair, I have never put anyone on this Board it has always been a vote of the Commission. In fact, 2 of the members from my District were on it for 20 years or longer. I appreciate the facts. The fact is I have never been able as a Commissioner to appoint anybody to this Board. We take nominations from the floor and they are voted on by the entire Commission.

Commissioner Lee stated: Madam Chair, don't we just have 7 members serving on the Department of Human Resources Board. I think 5 of those I appointed, so I don't know how Commissioner Corbett could appoint them. Let's call for the vote with Jackie Davis being first.

Commissioner Epps motioned this nomination be closed. Seconded by Commissioner Corbett. The vote was passed.

Chair Martin stated: We will take the vote for Jackie Davis which is in reverse order. Everyone in favor for Jackie Davis raise your hand. There were 4 yes votes and 3 no votes. The vote passed for Jackie Davis.

Commissioner Corbett stated: Madam Chair, since this was added for points to be for Commissioners to make points that were not on the Agenda. This was brought to my attention after the Agenda. I think it is an appoint and I urge the Commission to consider this in the future and consider if we need a policy for it. It was brought to my attention prior to going to the Conference last week Commissioner Reed went to Building Inspections and demanded a vehicle that was actually being used for County business. We don't currently have a policy for that. Not only did he go but he took another County employee away from work with him to do this. From what I understand he actually took someone out of their vehicle that was doing their job. We need to have something in place that we as County Commissioners can prevent even a County Commissioner from just showing up at somebody's office demanding a vehicle and saying they will take their vehicle if they don't give them the one, they want. We have got to put something in place. I suggest that this matter be added under Discussion for next Commission Meeting. I urge the Commission to consider for the future putting a policy in place even if we only do this if the Administrator or the Assistant Administrator is aware and agrees it is the right vehicle. We have a job to do and we demand our Department Heads to do a good job for this County. They can't do their job if I or any County Commissioner is going to a department and say I need your vehicle and they just get out of it.

Commissioner Lee stated: We had a policy in the past. The policy was that the vehicle request would be made at least a week in advance and through the Administrator.

County Screws stated: Each year in October we do a Resolution for the Tuskegee-Morehouse Classic. I have asked the person who handles that to call the Commission Office to update the information. I will put that on the Agenda at the next meeting to be signed and we will give to the Tuskegee-Morehouse Committee on the last meeting of October.

Announcements were made.

Commissioner Lee motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Currington. Chair Martin adjourned the meeting.

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

August 2019 Checks

General Fund 001				
90861	08-01-19	Hasler	51550 252	\$6,000.00
17934	08-01-19	Intersecure Tech Inc.	41250 018	\$648.00
17935	08-01-19	CVT Beam	41250 018	\$1,000.00
17936	08-07-19	Russell County Fire Department Association	3040	\$851.20
17937	08-08-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$170,682.98
17938	08-08-19	Payroll Fund PG Bank	51100 122	\$2,886.00
			51300 122	\$1,876.00
			51550 122	\$1,1407.00
			51600 122	\$2,381.00
			51970 122	\$2,337.00
			52100 122	\$8,622.00
			52200 122	\$6,734.00
			52710 122	\$974.00
17939	08-08-19	Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll Account) Sal. 07/29/19-08/09/19	3030	\$394,641.39
17940	08-08-19	Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll Account) Sal. 07/29/19-08/09/19	3030	\$224.44
17941	08-12-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$2,978.16
17942	08-12-19	Blue Cross & Blue Shield of AL	52100 122	\$2,412.56
17943	08-13-19	Dutch Cummings	41250 018	\$6,500.00
17944	08-13-19	East Alabama Title	41310 020	\$33.32
17945	08-16-19	Victor Cross	41250 018	\$112.18
17946	08-19-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$114,944.68
17947	08-22-19	Joel Jones	41250 018	\$500.00
17948	08-22-19	Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll Account) Sal. 08/10/19-08/23/19	3030	\$321,452.20
17949	08-27-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$346,184.94
Contingent Fund 002				
Ft. Mitchell Senior Center				
1237	08-12-19	Operation Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$540.00

		Masonic Lodge Fund 104		
1135	08-01-19	Home Depot	51100 499	\$287.60
1136	08-06-19	Millicent Belrose	51100 499	\$275.00
1137	08-07-19	BW Capps & Son Inc.	51100 499	\$15.09
1138	08-13-19	Pine Hollow Landfill	51100 499	\$320.00
1139	08-26-19	TRUGREEN	51100 499	\$260.00
		Court Cost Fund 105		
302	08-27-19	Road & Bridge Fund	62121 299	\$207,000.00
		Gasoline Tax 111 Fund		
13617	08-05-19	Local Government Health Insurance Board	53100 122	\$481.00
13618	08-08-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$33,998.54
13619	08-08-19	Payroll Fund PG Bank	53100 122	\$14,270.00
13620	08-08-19	Payroll Fund Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll Account) Sal. 7/29/19-08/09/19	3030	\$92,602.11
13621	08-08-19	Payroll Fund Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll Account) Sal. 07/29/19-08/09/19	3030	\$469.15
13622	08-19-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$7,501.21
13623	08-22-19	Payroll Fund Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll) Sal. 8/10/19-8/23/19	3030	\$73,306.33
13624	08-27-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$141,875.17
13625	08-27-19	Local Government Health Insurance Board	53100 122	\$481.00
13626	08-27-19	Blue Cross & Blue Shield of AL	53100 122	\$32.00
13627	08-27-19	Blue Cross & Blue Shield of AL	53100 122	\$167.00
		Road & Bridge 112		
1360	08-08-19	Operation Fund P.G. Bank	3020	\$30,591.33
1361	08-27-19	Operation Fund P.G. Bank	3020	\$10,510.58
1362	08-27-19	Gasoline Find P.G. Bank	62108 299	\$178,019.11
		Capital Imp. Fund Fund 116		
314	08-06-19	Heath Taylor	51970 541	\$28,500.00
315	08-27-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$13,400.00
		RRR Gasoline Tax 117		
1203	08-19-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$59,184.72
		Secondary RD Fund 118		
		Reappraisal 120		
2252	08-08-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$7,887.80
2253	08-08-19	Payroll Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	51985 122	\$938.00
2254	08-08-19	Payroll Fund Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll) Sal. 7/29/19-08/09/19	3030	\$24,748.87
2255	08-19-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$2,036.97
2256	08-22-19	Payroll Fund Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll) Sal 08/10/19-08/23/19	3030	\$20,585.36
2257	08-27-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$1,568.68
		Juvenile Drug Court Fund 195		
1266	08-01-19	Tommy Powell	56900 199	\$895.71

1267	08-16-19	Tommy Powell	56900 199	\$895.71
		Garbage Fund 511		
1628	08-06-19	Alabama Department Transportation	54100 541 54100 550	\$11,494.00 \$42,000.00
1629	08-08-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$34,725.17
1630	08-08-19	Payroll Fund P.G. Bank	54100 122	\$16.00
1631	08-08-19	Payroll Fund Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll) Sal. 07/29/19-08/09/19	3030	\$70,392.11
1632	08-19-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$9,066.68
1633	08-22-19	Payroll Fund Phenix-Girard Bank (Russell County Payroll) Sal. 8/10/19-08/23/19	3030	\$52,776.48
1634	08-26-19	Postmaster	54100 252	\$2,594.68
1635	08-27-19	Operations Fund P.G. Bank of P.C.	3020	\$39,975.52
61056	08-02-19	Terrance Walker	3040	\$12.00
61057	08-02-19	Vincent Foster	3040	\$122.10
61058	08-02-19	Monika Houseman & Michael Houseman	3040	\$17.50
61059	08-02-19	Bettie J. Jackson	3040	\$14.00
61060	08-02-19	Ruby C. Reynolds	3040	\$28.00
61061	08-02-19	Alexandria Jewel Neel	3040	\$16.00
61062	08-02-19	Pyhlis Kay Winklmaier	3040	\$17.50
61063	08-02-19	William S. Ferguson	3040	\$88.00
61064	08-02-19	Gertrude Karabas	3040	\$12.19
61065	08-02-19	Joseph Hill Bowers	3040	\$16.00
		Garbage Escrow Fund 513		
0028	08-26-19	Garbage Fund PG Bank	3040	\$608.40
		Donation Fund 750		
478	08-27-19	Gasoline Fund PG Bank	62106 299	\$10,000.00
		Law Library Fund 755		
1080	08-01-19	ELVES LLC	51100 499	\$241.82
1081	08-07-19	RELX Inc. DBA LEXIS NEXIS	51100 410	\$419.05
1082	08-22-19	Linda Wilson	51100 499	\$270.00
1083	08-22-19	Catherine Lipscomb	51100 499	\$270.00
		Worthless Check 761		
519	08-07-19	Worthless Check Unit Office of District Attorney	51260 365 51260 362	\$1,673.89 \$3,108.67
		Motor Vehicle Special Fund 782		
		Land Redemption Fund 786		
773	08-06-19	Naomi Elliott, Rev. Commissioner	3040	\$5,629.98
774	08-06-19	Naomi Elliott, Rev. Commissioner	3040	\$9,666.81
775	08-16-19	Naomi Elliott, Rev. Commissioner	3040	\$2,700.38
776	08-26-19	Naomi Elliott, Rev. Commissioner	3040	\$32,431.46
		Juvenile Service Fund 787		
2266	08-01-19	Walmart	52600 499	\$52.41
2267	08-14-19	Verizon	52600 499	\$132.04
2268	08-14-19	Linda Elias	52600 499	\$65.99
2269	08-14-19	Rodney Woods	52600 499	\$121.69
2270	08-14-19	Zack Collins	52600 499	\$774.50

2271	08-19-19	Springhill Suites by Marriott	52600 499	\$1,169.55
2272	08-27-19	Office Depot	52600 499	\$107.03
		County Tobacco Fund 797		
500	08-23-19	Russell County Volunteer Fire Department Association	3040	\$21,697.25
501	08-23-19	Project Greene Light	3040	\$570.97
502	08-23-19	Task Force for Senior Citizens	3040	\$570.97
		County Beer Tax 798		

Attest: _____ Signed: _____
County Administrator Chair