

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR
2021 ICC Building Codes Resolution
County Commission Chambers
June 28, 2023 9:30 AM ET**

The public hearing was called to order by Russell County Commission Vice-Chair Chance Corbett. In addition to the vice-chair the following Commissioners were present: Commissioner Gentry Lee, Commissioner Scott Chambers, Commissioner Ronnie Reed, and Commissioner Larry Screws.

BUSINESS:

Vice-Chair Chance Corbett recognized Chief Building Official Bubba Roberts who presented the 2021 ICC Building Codes along with the 2023 NEC codes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No public comments were made.

Commissioner Lee moved to close the public hearing; Seconded by Commissioner Reed. All Commissioners present were in favor and said aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Russell County Commission
Russell County Commission Chambers
Meeting Minutes June 28, 2023
9:30 A.M. EST**

An adjourned meeting of the Russell County Commission was called to order by Vice-Chair Chance Corbett.

The invocation was given by Reverend Karen Siefert with Summerville Methodist Church.

Commissioner Chambers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ms. Shawnese Benton with TEARS, Inc. came with some of the TEARS children to present appreciation awards to the Commissioners.

Vice-Chair Chance Corbett thanked BEAM Cable TV for broadcasting the meeting live for the public on Facebook, and The Citizen of East Alabama for covering the meetings. He welcomed the elected officials, department heads, media, and guests.

County Administrator Paulette Colbert called roll of the Commission. Members present were Commissioner Gentry Lee, Commissioner Chance Corbett, Commissioner Scott Chambers, Commissioner Ronnie Reed, and Commissioner Larry Screws. Commissioner Cattie Epps and Chair Rod Costello were not present. Also present were County Attorney Hope Hicks, and County Administrator Paulette Colbert who kept the minutes.

A quorum was established by the County Administrator Paulette Colbert.

Vice-Chair Chance Corbett stated the agenda was approved in the work session on Monday, June 26, 2023.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Vice-Chair Chance Corbett requested approval of the minutes from Commission meeting on June 14, 2023. Commissioner Lee moved; Seconded by Commissioner Reed. All Commissioners present were in favor and said aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Vice-Chair Chance Corbett recognized Commissioner Reed who presented the following proclamation for Mr. Dennis Vaughn read by County Administrator Paulette Colbert as follows:



Commissioner Reed requested approval to compose a proclamation for Mr. Harvey Glance to be presented at a later date. Commissioner Reed moved; seconded by Commissioner Lee. All Commissioners present were in favor and said aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

There were no discussion items.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

Vice-Chair Chance Corbett recognized Mr. Ben McGarr with Lee-Russell Council of Governments who presented a funding opportunity for a growth management plan in Russell County through the US Department of Defense Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation and would be completed in partnership with Fort Moore and the University of Georgia. Mr. McGarr asked if the Commission would like Lee-Russell Council of Governments to work with the University of Georgia to pursue this opportunity. Vice-Chair Corbett requested that the Commission approve for the Chair to sign the letter of support to support the growth management planning document which will be coordinated through Lee-Russell Council of Governments. Commission Corbett moved; Commissioner Reed seconded the motion. All Commissioners present were in favor and said aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

Vice-Chair Chance Corbett recognized Enforcement Jackie Thorne with the request for an additional part-time enforcement officer as a deputy license inspector, deputy solid waste officer, and be allowed to start next month not exceeding working 29 hours per week after being sworn in by Probate Judge Harden. This position will be filled by Mr. David Griggs and it is already a budgeted position. Commissioner Lee moved; seconded by

Commissioner Chambers. All Commissioners present were in favor and said aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

Vice-Chair Chance Corbett recognized Chief Building Official Bubba Roberts who requested the Commission approve a resolution approving the whole body of the ICC 2021 edition of the building codes which is the same as the State of Alabama is using and go to the 2023 National Electrical Code to be effective on October 1, 2023. Mr. Roberts stated that the penalties would remain the same. Commissioner Reed moved; seconded by Commissioner Chambers. All Commissioners present were in favor and said aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

Vice-Chair Chance Corbett stated that Tuesday, July 4th is a state holiday that has already been approved, but Monday, July 3rd was not included. He requested to approve July 3rd be a holiday as well. Commissioner Corbett moved; seconded by Commissioner Reed. All Commissioners present were in favor and said aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

COUNTY ENGINEER:

Vice-Chair Chance Corbett recognized County Engineer Shawn Blakeney who presented the Gammage Road paving project bid results. He recommended awarding to the sole bidder which was East Alabama Paving in the amount of \$707,582.86. Commissioner Screws moved; seconded by Commissioner Reed. All Commissioners present were in favor and said aye. None opposed. Motion carried. County Engineer Shawn Blakeney requested to allow the chair to sign the contract. Commissioner Lee moved; seconded by Commissioner Reed. All Commissioners present were in favor and said aye. None opposed.

Vice-Chair Chance Corbett recognized County Engineer Shawn Blakeney who presented the ARPA Storm Water Grant Resolution. Mr. Blakeney asked if the chair would sign the application for upsizing pipes for better drainage. It's a \$150,000 grant per county and in-kind work should cover the match requirements. Commissioner Screws moved; seconded by Commissioner Chambers. All Commissioners present were in favor and said aye. None opposed.

Vice-Chair Chance Corbett asked Attorney Hope Hicks if it would be proper for the vice-chair to sign the County Engineer's documents if the Chair is not available to sign them? Ms. Hicks said it would be proper in the Chair's absence for the vice-chair to sign them.

SANITATION:

Sanitation Director Ward Dudley shared the sanitation schedule for the holiday week.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

The Economic Development Director had nothing to present.

ADMINISTRATOR:

The County Administrator had nothing to present.

CORONAVIRUS RESCUE ACT FUND:

County Administrator Paulette Colbert requested to pay the invoice for Hecht-Burdeshaw Architects, Inc. in the amount of \$5,712 from the Coronavirus Rescue Act Fund. Commissioner Lee moved; seconded by Commissioner Reed. County Administrator Paulette Colbert took a roll call vote of the Commission as follows: District 1: Commissioner Lee, yes; District 6: Commissioner Corbett, yes; District 2: Commissioner Chambers, yes; District 4: Commissioner Reed, yes; and District 7: Commissioner Screws, yes. Motion passed.

County Administrator Paulette Colbert requested to pay the invoice for Hosey-Lancour Construction, LLC. in the amount of \$180,617.80 from the Coronavirus Rescue Act Fund. Commissioner Reed moved; seconded by Commissioner Lee. County Administrator Paulette Colbert took a roll call vote of the Commission as follows: District 1: Commissioner Lee, yes; District 6: Commissioner Corbett, yes; District 2: Commissioner Chambers, yes; District 4: Commissioner Reed, yes; and District 7: Commissioner Screws, yes. Motion passed.

ATTORNEY:

Attorney Hope Hicks had nothing to present.

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Reed asked Economic Development Director Victor Cross to share updates on the DCIP grant.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Announcements were made.

There being no further business, Commissioner Lee moved to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Reed seconded. All Commissioners present were in favor and said aye. None opposed. The meeting was adjourned.