

**July 18, 2022**

At a scheduled meeting of the Walker County Commission held in their offices in the Walker County Courthouse Annex, Jasper, Alabama, at 9:30 a.m. on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of July 2022, Chairman Miller gave the welcome and called the meeting to order.

After Chairman Miller gave the invitation for comment from citizens and other elected officials, the County Administrator called the roll and commissioners present were: Keith Davis, Jeff Burrough, Jim Borden and Steven Aderholt.

Commissioner Davis gave the invocation and Renee Sides led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

None.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Davis to Approve the Agenda; Approve the Minutes of June 7<sup>th</sup> & June 23<sup>rd</sup> meetings; Approve the Claims Against the County for June 2022 and to Approve a list of New Vendors for June, 2022.

With no discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

**REPORTS FROM STAFF:**

County Administrator Robbie Dickerson gave an update on C-Spire. She further informed the department heads that it is time to get started on the budget and that they have their printouts and would be getting their packets this week, along with their labor projected for next year and projection for all the expenses related thereto. She said they would be setting up meetings for department heads and whoever else the department heads wanted to include in the meetings. She said she would be emphasizing trends for this year because of the variations and the different taxes that supports the county and everything that's going on related to that so that they can do a very good conservative revenue figure.

County Engineer Mike Short said he just wanted to let the Commission know that on Wednesday they would be opening bids on the projects in their districts. He said that they changed the rules on them, and they now have a recommended three-week advertising period and a specific opening of bid days, which has thrown them a little behind than where they would normally be. He gave an update on Brown's Bridge. He said it has been delayed because there are endangered bats in the area.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Approval to liquidate a confiscated vehicle – Sheriff Department.

After explanation by Sheriff Nick Smith, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Davis to approve the liquidation of a confiscated vehicle – Sheriff Department.

With no discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Davis to open discussion of the Approval to sell to Oakman a 1985 dump truck in District Three.

After explanation by Commissioner Borden, input from County Administrator Robbie Dickerson, County Attorneys Richard Fikes and Eddie Jackson, Commissioner Aderholt and much discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to approve to sell to Oakman a 1985 dump truck in District Three.

With no further discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Abstain.

With three Ayes and one Abstention, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

(Commissioner Borden stepped outside the meeting room)

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of the Approval to liquidate on gov. deals the removed hanger lights.

After explanation by Chairman Miller and County Engineer Mike Short, motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to approve to liquidate on gov. deals the removed hanger lights.

With no discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to open discussion for a Budget Amendment Approval for Fund 120-Appraisal.

After explanation by County Administrator Robbie Dickerson stating that this is a line-item shift which has already been approved by the State, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to approve the Fund 120-Appraisal Budget Amendment.

With no discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to open discussion of Budget Amendment Approval Sheriff Department due to funds received due to an accident.

After explanation by County Administrator Robbie Dickerson, motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to approve the Budget Amendment for Sheriff Department due to funds received due to an accident.

With no discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to open for discussion Software and Hardware Purchase approval and budget amendment for the coroner.

After explanation by County Administrator Robbie Dickerson, motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Davis to approve Software and Hardware Purchase and budget amendment for the coroner.

With no discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

(Commissioner Borden returned to the meeting room)

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of the ACCA Legislative Committee Nominee and approval.

After explanation by Administrator Robbie Dickerson, motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to nominate Commissioner Keith Davis to the ACCA Legislative Committee.

With no further discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to open discussion of the Bid Approval for Tahoe-EMA (Fund 172).

After explanation by County Engineer Mike Short, input by County Administrator Robbie Dickerson and much discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to approve the Bid from Carl Cannon for the Tahoe-EMA (Fund 172).

With no further discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of the Bid Approval for Mill Creek Road culvert replacement.

After explanation by County Engineer Mike Short, and much discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to approve the bid for Mill Creek culvert replacement.

With no further discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of a Resolution allowing City of Cordova to be included in County pavement bid.

After explanation by County Engineer Mike Short, motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Davis to approve a resolution allowing the City of Cordova to be included in County pavement bid.

With no discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye, District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Borden seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of the Approval of Renee Sides as Director of the America 250 Initiative for Walker County.

After explanation by Chairman Miller and comments by Ms. Sides and Commissioner Borden, motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to Approve Renee Sides as Director of the America 250 Initiative for Walker County.

With no further discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Davis to open discussion of the New Account Approval for Fund 755 Fiduciary Custodial Fund-Probate.

After explanation by County Administrator Robbie Dickerson, input by Chief Clerk of Probate Jerry Davis, and a brief discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to approve the New Account Approval for Fund 755 Fiduciary Custodial Fund-Probate.

With no further discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioners Davis and Borden (simultaneously) to open discussion the Polling Place Change District Two.

After explanation by Chief Clerk of Probate Jerry Davis and a brief discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to table the Polling Place Change District Two.

With no further discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to open for discussion the Approval of the Opioid Settlement Resolution along with Settlement Agreements (McKesson and Janssen).

After explanation by County Attorney Eddie Jackson and a brief discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to approve the Opioid Settlement Resolution along with Settlement Agreements.

With no further discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

(A brief discussion occurred between the County Attorney and Commission afterwards regarding how the monies can be used)

Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of the Approval to appoint Star King to Solid Waste Administrative Assistant.

After explanation by Solid Waste Director John Dunagan, (who thanked everyone for their assistance last week in putting out the fire at the landfill), motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to approve the appointment of Star King to Solid Waste Administrative Assistant.

With no discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Borden to discuss items 16 through 19 as one item for discussion.

After explanation by Solid Waste Director John Dunagan and Chairman Miller, motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to Approve to hire Wayne Kimbrell as Part-time driver/operator for Solid Waste; to in service Chris Redmill to Journeyman mechanic for Solid Waste; to post for Solid Waste Full-time driver/operator and to post in service maintenance technician.

With no discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

None.

**DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONER:**

Commissioner Davis stated, "Again, I want to thank everybody for their attendance and coming out and showing your interest in local government." He asked that everyone continue to pray for them, that they have to make decisions from time-to-time and are trying to make the right decisions, that they're doing the best they can with what they have.

He said the Mill Creek Project that they touched on will be a major project, that hopefully they will have the bids on the labor within a six-weeks-timeframe; that they would put the closing timeframe out on various websites so the community will know when that road will be closed and be repaired; that they would be opening bids for Smith Lake Dam Road on the 20<sup>th</sup> and hopefully that work can start late August, but the paving companies are backed up; that there are a lot of work and projects going on in his District.

He said he appreciated everybody's response time and help at the incident at the landfill.

He further stated that the Curry Shelter site prep has been approved and now it's in the shelter's manufacturer's hands, that hopefully they will see a shelter the next few months. He said it's coming along slowly but surely and thanked Glenn Peek for his work on that.

Commissioner Burrough thanked everyone for coming out today. He said it's been a busy summer and each of them are working hard on trying to get the roads

paved that they can pave. He said they had bid openings Wednesday for the Dogtown Road and get in line with the paving companies and maybe get started on them in August or September sometime. He thanked Renee Sides for her work and volunteering. He thanked Keith for continuing to be the Representative to the Legislative Committee.

Commissioner Borden thanked everyone for coming today. He stated, "I just want the people to understand that as Mike Short said earlier the studies for the wildlife is a lot of the problems in the county when it comes to waterways and that sort of thing, all of these topics come into the discussion and a lot of delay. But the bridge is still on track to be started and completed. I just want to let everybody know as of today we're starting to mill down some on the Underwood Ferry Road. We're going to be working on Reed's Ferry Road. We have milled up several miles since last fall. We have a lot more that we're going to mill up. A lot of the District Three problem -- some of the other guys have done talked about their road projects and I get asked this a lot of times, I don't think they understand what's going on -- a lot of the roads that we're working with in District Three are to the point to where you can't come in--hire a contractor come in and just retar and gravel over the surface of that road. You have too many potholes, I mean, the truck traffic, the industrial traffic on these roads just beat them to death, so you have to mill roads up to get to the road surface, the base there back in some sort of shape to put a finished product." He said he just wanted people to understand that they are working, it's time consuming and can only get a few hundred yards a day and they have hundreds of miles. He asked that people be patient with them that they are making progress.

Commissioner Aderholt thanked everybody for being here. He said he couldn't believe nobody said it was hot outside, that he thinks this is the hottest summer we've had in a long time. He stated, "Again, as Mr. Davis said, pray for us, we're praying for y'all, trying to make good decisions for this county each and every day and your prayers certainly are appreciated." He said they're working on Pinewood/Sipsev Road and mentioned to Mr. Short that he would like to add Mountain View Road in Argo and County Line Road to the bid out list. He said there's a lot of roadwork moving in the right directions. He thanked everybody for being here and for their cooperation.

Chairman Miller stated, "I, too, would like to say, thank you for everybody attending. A little bit of updates on our jail, our unit for the office is ongoing to installing. I think it will still be two or three weeks before that coil comes in, but we've been working on it. Then, also, Russ is here and we'll get a little update on him how our units are going at the jail."

Russ from Johnson Control gave an update on the jail. He said that they did have

some supply chain issues that everybody is aware of. He stated that everything is on site and that their goal is to have everything done by the end of July, installed and moving forward, hopefully attacking some of this hot weather that Steven mentioned.

The Chairman stated that that should eliminate some of the heat, just like Mr. Aderholt was talking about, it's hot. He stated that they have several other little projects going on at the annex and the courthouse and working hard towards moving these. The coroner's office, Ms. Robbie and I continue to stay in touch with our folks about this and the automobiles, that they did finally get a VIN number for those, they're in the process, just don't have a date for delivery, so there are many things that they're working on with these logistic issues and hoping to make this move along quicker.

County Administrator Robbie Dickerson stated, "Pertaining to that, we did roll all the ADECA grants that we are getting that Mr. Boswell helped us on that had to do with the shelter and ADA compliance. All of those we've rolled to another fiscal year on those. And Senator Reed helped us since we're having so much difficulty getting what we need."

**ADJOURN:**

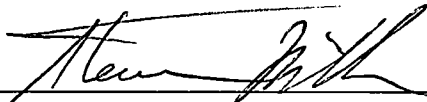
Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Burrough, that this meeting be adjourned to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled meeting or at the call of the Chairman.

With no discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows:

District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Read and Approved:

  
Chairman

  
Attest