

STATE OF ALABAMA)
COLBERT COUNTY)

Minutes of a Regular Meeting
of the
Colbert County Commission
11/16/2021

The Colbert County Commission met today in regular session at the Colbert County Courthouse. Chairman Bendall called the work session to order at 5:06 p.m. with the regular meeting following at 5:29 p.m., being the time and place previously scheduled for such work session and regular meeting. All Commissioners answered "present" at the call of the roll. Commissioner Mansell offered the prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Bendall declared that a quorum was present for the purpose of the transaction of business.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD APPOINTEE REPORTS

None

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

None

PUBLIC HEARING

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Bendall announced that the business before the Commission was the approval of the consent agenda. Commissioner Gardiner made motion to adopt and approve the matters placed on the consent agenda during the work session. The motion was duly seconded by Commissioner Mansell. Chairman Bendall stated that the adoption and approval of a consent agenda comprised of the following items of business was properly before the Commission and stated the matters as follows:

1. Waived reading of November 2, 2021 minutes and approved the same as written.
2. Approved payment of November 16, 2021 bills as presented by the Chief Financial Officer.
3. Approved payment of unused accrued annual leave for Jason Sassin for the amount of \$1,117.60.
4. Adopted and approved the following Resolution honoring Colbert County Deputy Dan Coggins:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2022-0009

A RESOLUTION HONORING COLBERT COUNTY DEPUTY SERGEANT
DAN COGGINS FOR HIS BRAVERY AND HEROISM ON OCTOBER 1, 2021

WHEREAS, Sergeant Dan Coggins has served the citizens of Colbert County, Alabama as a Sheriff's Deputy for ___ years; and

WHEREAS, on October 1, 2021, Sgt. Coggins, along with other members of law enforcement, bravely responded to reports of shots fired and requests for assistance in capturing the fugitive gunman in the city of Muscle Shoals, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Sgt. Coggins, in capturing the fugitive and while protecting the citizens of Colbert County, without regard for his personal safety, bravely and selflessly put himself in harm's way and was fired upon by the fugitive; and

WHEREAS, Sgt. Coggins's patrol vehicle was struck by incoming gunfire; and

WHEREAS, Sgt. Coggins bravely held his position, thereby playing a significant role in capturing and arresting the fugitive; and

WHEREAS, Sgt. Coggins, his fellow Colbert County Sheriff's Deputies, and their local law enforcement partners who responded to the dangerous and deadly incident on October 1, 2021, are heroes of the highest order to whom the Colbert County Commission and the citizens of Colbert County, Alabama owe a deep debt of gratitude.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COLBERT COUNTY COMMISSION honors and commends Sgt. Coggins for the selfless acts of bravery and heroism displayed on October 1, 2021, in risking his own life to protect and serve the citizens of Colbert County, Alabama.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator be, and he is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to Sergeant Coggins and to the Colbert County Sheriff.

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5. Approved Payroll Deductions for 911 Employees with Omni Benefits. Details for deduction to be addressed with CFO Eaton and EMA Director Smith.
 6. Approved formal amendment for CBDG-CV Grant # CV-NC-20-022, by adoption of the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2022-0010

*A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A FORMAL AMENDMENT FOR
CDBG-CV GRANT #CV-NC-20-022*

WHEREAS, THE COLBERT COUNTY COMMISSION received Community Development Block Grant-CV funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and other infectious diseases; and

WHEREAS, on October 19, 2021, correspondence from Midway Trailers DBA Missouri Great Dane notified the Colbert County Commission of a manufacturer price increase of an additional \$30,000 and production delays accruing to an additional 6 months before product receipt; and

WHEREAS, such increases will exceed funds allocated for this project and delay response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Colbert County Commission wishes to change the scope of the CDBG-CV project to the purchase and renovation of a new Emergency Operations Center to house essential workers within the County's EMA department and 911 center, and to serve as an additional testing/vaccination site for the local Department of Public Health.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COLBERT COUNTY COMMISSION:

1. Per Alabama CDBG Intergovernmental Policy Letter Number 2 (Revision 6), the Colbert County Commission recognizes a formal amendment is necessary to authorize the proposed change in scope to CDBG Project #CV-NC-20-022, and
 2. The Chairman of the Colbert County Commission is duly authorized to sign all documents necessary for this formal amendment.
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7. Approved Letter to be sent to CWI contesting recent Rate Increase, as also adopted and sent by Cities of Tuscumbia, Sheffield and Muscle Shoals.
8. Declared December 23, 2021 to be celebrated as Christmas Eve Holiday and that the Courthouse will be closed on that date.
9. Reappointed Commissioner Jimmy Gardiner to serve as a Colbert County Commission representative on the Inspiration Landing Board.
10. Approved \$132,000.00 loan from General fund to the Road Dept. to be repaid after Bank Independent loan is approved for the purchase of Tractors.
11. Approved use of ARA funds to purchase water meters instead of utilizing the DWSRF Grant / Loan as previously approved, provided the expenditure is vetted and approved by IAC.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Chairman Bendall announced that the Commission would hear reports from staff. Upon being recognized by the Chair, the following reports were heard by the Commission:

County Administrator:

Administrator Roger Creekmore requested addition to meeting agenda for a resolution allowing NACOLG to amend CBDG-CV Grant. He referred to a letter sent by the Cities of Muscle Shoals, Tuscumbia and Sheffield, to CWI regarding rate increase at the landfill. Administrator Creekmore announced the dates of the Christmas parades for Tuscumbia, November 30 at 6:00 P.M., Sheffield, December 7 at 6:00 P.M., Muscle Shoals, December 12 at 7:00 P.M. and Leighton-December 7 at 6:00 P.M. Commissioners decided to move the December 7 Commission meeting to 4:00 P.M. as to allow time for Commissioners to participate. Administrator suggested to the Commission that December 23 be added to holiday schedule in observance Christmas Eve. Administrator also announced that he was informed that Commissioner Gardiner's term on the Inspiration Landings Board has expired. The Commission received an invitation to the Muscle Shoals Solar Farm December 2, 2021 at 10:00 A.M.. He also reported that the ad for the sale of the building on Hwy 72 ran on Friday.

Chief Financial Officer:

CFO April Eaton reported that she has completed certification with a 5% raise. Eaton and County Engineer Robison are still working on the equipment loan with Bank Independent, however the tractors to be financed by the loan are available now, with a cost of \$132,000.00. Engineer is requesting a short-term loan from the General Fund to purchase this equipment now and repay when loan is finalized.

County Attorney:

Attorney Black reported that Betsy Frick may be revisiting the Commission on the vacation of road.

EMA Director:

Chief Engineer Michael David reported that they have started the mobile vaccines. He reported that even with the Veterans Parade being rained out, they still gave 7 COVID vaccines. The Colbert COVID-19 Mobile Vaccine Clinic will be at the Community Storm Shelter in Leighton, Thursday, November 18 between 8:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. as well as East Colbert Senior Center between 1:00 P.M. and 4:00 P.M. Smith announced and invited the Commission to the ceremony honoring the graduates of the Emergency Management Professional Program and National Emergency Management Basic Academy of which Jody Hitt and Keith Reeves will be participating. Graduation is held Friday, November 19, 2021 at 4:00 P.M. in Decatur.

County Engineer:

Chief Engineer Jeremy Robison reported that the Road Department has ordered 3 new tractors. Drawings for the Pump Station Project are being submitted and will be starting the first of the year.

Robison requested the Commission Consider allowing water meters approved under the DWSRF Grant / Loan program be purchased utilizing ARA funds. He reported that if the water meters were purchased now, the County will realize a \$180,000.00 savings.

NEW BUSINESS

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Bailey stated that Lauderdale County asked if we'd like to purchase their mobile vaccine trailers for \$100,000 each at which she respectfully declined. Commissioner Barnes stated that he met with Allison Bullock who did a study on boat ramps and would like to come to a Commission meeting in the near future to discuss future potential projects.

Chairman Bendall announced that there was being further business to come before the Commission, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 1

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 2

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 3

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 4

CHARIMAN

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 6