

STATE OF ALABAMA)
COLBERT COUNTY)

Minutes of a Regular Meeting
of the
Colbert County Commission
07/18/2023

The Colbert County Commission met today in regular session at the Colbert County Courthouse. Chairman Mansell called the work session to order at 5:02 p.m. Chairman Mansell called the regular meeting to order at 5:47 p.m. All Commissioners answered “present” at the call of the roll with the exception of Commissioner Gardiner who was absent. Judge Mitchell Hays offered the prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Mansell 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 Mansell announced that the business before the Commission was the approval of the consent agenda. Commissioner Bailey made motion to adopt and approve the matters placed on the consent agenda during the work session. The motion was duly seconded by Commissioner Bendall. Chairman Mansell 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 July 06, 2023 minutes and approved the same as written.
2. Approved payment of July 18, 2023 bills as presented by the Chief Financial Officer.
3. Approved a one-time appropriation of \$10,000.00 to Colbert County Community Corrections to start a Veterans Court Program in Colbert County. Presiding Circuit Judge Kyle Brown, Circuit Judge Mitchell Hays and District Judge Chad Smith as well as Bill Gist with Community Corrections addressed the Commission speaking in favor of the program.

4. Approved Speed Limit Posting of 35mph on Jarmon Lane at the Request of the County Engineer, and adopted the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2023-0033

*A RESOLUTION SETTING THE MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE SPEED
FOR JARMON LANE*

WHEREAS, the Colbert County Commission, pursuant to *Ala. Code* § 23-1-80, et seq. (1975, as amended), is charged with the general superintendence of the public roads, bridges, and ferries within Colbert County so as to render travel over the same as safe and convenient as practicable; and

WHEREAS, Jarmon Lane, being part of the county road maintenance program, is located between County Line Road and Hatton School Road within sections 31, 32, and 36, T-3-S-, R-9-W, Colbert County, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the County Engineer, based upon population, horizontal and vertical curves, passing and stopping distances, shoulder and pavement widths, and/or sight distances specific to the said roads, that the maximum allowable speed for Jarmon Lane, be set at 35 miles per hour.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COLBERT COUNTY COMMISSION that the posted maximum allowable speed for Jarmon Lane, a Colbert County Road located between County Line Road and Hatton School Road within sections 31, 32, and 36, T-3-S-, R-9-W, Colbert County, Alabama, be and is hereby is set at 35 miles per hour.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Colbert County Road Department, under the superintendence of the County Engineer, or his designee, be and hereby is authorized and directed to post signs setting the maximum allowable speed at 35 miles per hour along the rights of way of Jarmon Lane, in such places and in such manner as he deems to be in the best interests of the citizens of Colbert County, Alabama.

5. Authorized Chairman Mansell to seek reallocation of remaining activity funds to the rehabilitation activities line item of CDBG CV Project #CV-NC-20-022 Local Amendment #2.
6. Approved Nomination of Commissioner Tommy Barnes to serve as the Commission's representative on the ACCA Legislative Committee for the 2024 Term.
7. Approved payment of Overtime to the EMA Director in the case of a Disaster Declaration. Overtime will qualify for reimbursement from FEMA as a Disaster has been declared.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Chairman Mansell 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 Creekmore informed the Commission that Brian Behel will begin work as a Deputy in the Sheriff's Department, effective August 1, 2023 at a pay rate of \$33,778.84. Ashlee Davis has been terminated as Jail Corrections Officer effective July, 17 2023. Austin Hester will begin work as a full-time Jailer at an annual salary rate of \$30,499.56. Larry Strickland has been hired, effective

July 17, 2023 as a Litter Crew Helper, part-time in the Household Garbage Department at an hourly rate of \$12.00 per hour, no benefits.

Judge Rosser has verified Roger Jones, who passed away 6/23/23 as indigent and the County will be responsible for payment to Morrison Funeral Home for disposition of Mr. Jones's remains. Creekmore also communicated that the fourth quarter FY 2023 invoice has been received from Tennessee Valley Juvenile Probation, and because the Commission choose to reserve an extra bed for the County's use in the Juvenile Detention Facility, the County did not incur additional costs due to the need for additional beds. Creekmore also announced that the Colbert County Extension Service will host its annual Tomato Sandwich Day on July 28, 2023 @ 11:00 A.M. on the Courthouse East Lawn. The public is invited to attend.

Chief Financial Officer:

CFO Eaton presented the Commission with the 3rd quarter FY 2023 financial report. Overall, the budget is in good shape with revenues exceeding expenditures with the notable exception of Household Garbage which is overbudget and operating on reserve funds. This is directly attributable to increased disposal and transportation costs incurred while using out of county disposal facilities due to the continued closure of the Barton Industrial Landfill.

Budget requests have been sent to all department heads and budget hearings will be scheduled beginning after August 1.

County Attorney:

None

EMA Director:

Director Smith informed the Commission that a tug boat sank in Florence Harbor over the weekend, causing up to five thousand gallons of diesel fuel to spill into Pickwick Lake. A great deal of the spilled fuel has been captured using booms placed by Florence Fire Dept., and a clean-up crew has been dispatched. Currently, there is no indication of any effects on the Colbert side of the River. Smith announced a Full-Scale Exercise at Northwest Regional Airport scheduled for August 25, 2023, which will involve a live fire scenario at MSFD Training Center and patient extraction and transportation exercises later that evening. A Regional Distribution Site Full Scale Exercise is scheduled for July 20, 2023 at the Courthouse Annex building in partnership with the Alabama Department of Public Health.

County Engineer:

Chief Engineer Jeremy Robison announced that the paving contract is under review by the ACCA's Investing in Alabama's Counties Program to determine permissible use of ARPA funds. Paving should begin by the end of August. Midsouth Paving is also willing to consider helping the cities with paving projects for roads meeting a certain design. Robison requested that he be allowed to promote James Durham to an open position at the Road Department with a 5% salary increase. There was no objection by Commissioners.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Mansell announced that the St. Jude's Trail ride raised over \$400K for St. Jude Hospital.

Commissioner Bailey reminded the Commission that the Handy Festival will kick off next week.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Bailey, which was duly seconded and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 PM.

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 1

CHAIRMAN, DISTRICT 2

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 3

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 4

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 5

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 6