

STATE OF ALABAMA)
COLBERT COUNTY)

Minutes of a Regular Meeting
of the
Colbert County Commission
4/15/2025

The Colbert County Commission met today in regular session at the Colbert County Courthouse. Chairperson Bailey called the work session to order at 5:00 p.m. with the regular meeting following at 5:14 p.m., the time and place previously scheduled for such work session and regular meeting. All Commissioners answered “present” at the call of the roll. Commissioner Bendall offered the prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairperson Bailey 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

Chairperson Bailey announced that the business before the Commission was the approval of the consent agenda. Commissioner Gardiner made a motion to adopt and approve the matters placed on the consent agenda during the work session. The motion was duly seconded by Commissioner Bendall. Chairperson Bailey 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. Approved April 1, 2025, meeting minutes and waived reading of same.
2. Approved April 15, 2025, bills as presented by the C.F.O.
3. Approved to adopt proclamation by Governor Kay Ivey declaring April 19, 2025, to be Two Lights for Tomorrow Day in Colbert County. The Governor’s proclamation was read aloud by Chairperson Bailey and Administrator Creekmore assisted with the ceremony by lighting two candles in observance of Two Lights for Tomorrow Day.
4. Approved request for payment of unused accrued annual leave to Jose Peralta for the amount of \$4,205.03.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Chairperson Bailey 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 made the following reports: Administrator Creekmore gave an update on the county's storm shelters. After the storms of April 6, there was a report that one of the shelter generators did not crank. Consequently, Maintenance Supervisor Robby Carter was instructed evaluate the operational condition of the generators at all 24 shelters. Alloys Park shelter had control box failures were identified at Alloys Park, Locust Shores, Barton and Tuscumbia Trenholm. The control panel failures are directly related to the units being installed in a sealed metal box, due to a FEMA construction mandate, parts are on order to effect complete repairs. These boxes are being retrofitted to provide ventilation; no failures were indicated at shelters where the retrofit work has been completed. Red Rock and Allsboro shelters needed a control reset, new batteries were installed at LaGrange and Crooked Oak. Cherokee's shelter failed to crank due to gas line issue. Colburn Mtn.'s shelter had a water leak that has since been repaired. The Maintenance department will be performing an interior and exterior repaint of Nitrate City and Underwood Crossing shelters, Hwy 247 and Appleton Avenue shelters will get an exterior repaint. Robby Carter will be doing periodic checks on the shelters and EMA Director Jody Hitt will be following up and starting the generators more frequently.

Creekmore also reported that Austin Hollander has resigned effective 3/31/25 from the Household Garbage Department; Blaine Howard was terminated effective 3/31/25 from the Road Department; Adam Overton was hired as PT Litter Crew beginning 4/2/2025 with starting pay of 12.36/hr.

County CFO:

CFO April Eaton made the following report: The mid-year financial report ending 03/31/25 was distributed to the Commissioners. Ms. Eaton anticipates that there will be a couple of budgets which will have to be amended due to unforeseen costs but suggests that the Commission should delay consideration of budget amendments until the end of the fiscal year. Eaton provided an update on the Department of Revenue on the Sales Tax collection. She reported that the only thing she's waiting on is the Lodging taxes for Tourism.

County Attorney:

No Report

E-911/EMA Director:

Director Jody Hitt made the following report: The County Hazard Mitigation Plan is due for renewal. In the past, the cost of updating the plan was off set with FEMA funding resulting from past disaster declarations and grants. This funding is not currently available. The County will have to share the cost, along with 7 Counties that are within our plan area. NACOLG estimates the Colbert County share to be \$18,000.00. NACOLG will administer the plan for all 7 counties. The cost can be budgeted for FY 26.

The new EMA building is in the final construction phase, cleaning and moving of furnishings and equipment is in progress. CAB positions are already being installed on the 911 side and are within budget.

The LEPC meeting was well attended with approximately 30 present. Dynamics were changed a little to include fire exercises. The response changes resulting from Muscle Shoals shrinking their police jurisdiction and emergency response to a half mile was discussed. Table top exercises went well, full scale exercises are planned for later in the year.

County Engineer:

No Report

NEW BUSINESS

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Bendall announced that the Celtic Festival at the Belmont Mansion will be held 10:00 AM on May 10th.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, upon motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Gardiner, which was duly seconded, the Commission adjourned its meeting at 5:16 p.m.

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 1

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 2

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 3

CHAIRPERSON

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 5

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 6