

STATE OF ALABAMA)
COLBERT COUNTY)

Minutes of a Regular Meeting
of the
Colbert County Commission
12/16/2025

The Colbert County Commission met today in regular session at the Colbert County Courthouse. Chairman Bendall called the work session to order at 5:08 p.m. with the regular meeting following at 5:28 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 except for Commissioner Barnes who was absent. Commissioner Tyrus 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

Mr. Perry Burgess readdressed the Commission about reinstating COAARM’s appropriation. Burgess asked for consideration of an appropriation of \$1,500 instead of \$2,500. Burgess made a special request to Commissioner Bailey to make the motion to reinstate the appropriation to COAARM with \$1,500 and thanked the Commission for listening and taking the appropriation request into consideration. He stated that they are still trying to keep their doors open and help our children. Commissioner Bailey responded that she has had some wonderful conversations with his wife and is still looking forward to going over COAARM’s financials. Mr. Burgess responded by saying, “give me a call, were shut down right now so this would be a good time.”

BOARD APPOINTEE REPORTS

None

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

Mrs. Ruby Richardson was presented with a proclamation that was read before the Commission honoring her with over 46 years of dedicated services to the county. Mrs. Richardson began her career with Colbert County on March 1, 1979, serving in numerous capacities in the Probate Judges office. Mrs. Richardson has worked for 3 Probate Judges. December 31, 2025, Mrs. Richardson will end her service with Colbert County, serving nearly 47 years rarely being absent and has provided exemplary service to our citizens. The Colbert County Commission thanks and congratulates Mrs. Richardson wishing all the best and continued health and happiness in the years to come.

Commissioner Tyrus Mansell presented Representative Kerry “Bubba” Underwood a plaque on behalf of the Commission and the ACCA in honor and gratitude for his hard work and support of county government as well as for dedication and service to the ACCA through the House sponsorship in passage of Act 2025-282.+

PUBLIC HEARING

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairperson Bendall announced that the business before the Commission was the approval of the consent agenda. Commissioner Mansell 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 Gardiner. 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. Approved December 2, 2025, meeting minutes and waived reading of same.
2. Approved Dec 16, 2025, bills as presented by County C.F.O.
3. Approved Resolution, Participation in ACCA Liability Self Insurance Fund for the years 2027 - 2029.
4. Approved request for payment of unused accrued annual leave by Lance Biddle in the amount of \$2149.14.
5. Approved placement of speed limit sign on Claunch Loop, setting the maximum allowable speed at 30 miles per hour. The County Engineer is authorized to place such sign or signs on the county right of way in such location or locations as he deems wise and expedient..
6. Approved 2026 County Holiday Schedule.
7. Approved to Schedule a Public Hearing for consideration of Alen Enterprise Liquor License Transfer, to be held January 6, 2026.

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 made the following reports:

From the Colbert County Sheriff's Department: Isaac Gray resigned from the Colbert County Sheriff Office, effective Dec 26, 2025. Lance Biddle as Jailer, effective Dec 13, 2025. Daniel Blake Campbell resigned his position with the Sheriff's Department effective Dec 20, 2025. Tyson Fields was terminated from his position as Jailer. Aiden Cowart was hired as a FT Corrections Deputy, effective Dec. 10, 2025, with a beginning salary of \$33,974.83. Nicholas Looney was hired as FT Corrections Deputy, effective Jan. 1, 2026, with a beginning salary of \$33,974.83. Amanda Spence was hired as a FT Corrections Deputy, Effective Dec 16, 2025, with a beginning salary of \$33,974.83.

From the Revenue Commissioner's Office; Julia Michaels was hired, effective Dec. 16, 2025, to fill the vacant position of Administrative Assistance I Collections Clerk, grade 4 on the current pay scale with a beginning salary of \$28,210.90.

From the Probate Judge's Office; Emily Benson and April Southern, have both completed the Alabama Certified Licensing Administrator Program and are now eligible for a budgeted 5% pay raise.

From the Honorable Chad Smith; a letter was sent to the Commission expressing his appreciation for it support and continued support of the Colbert County Veterans Service Office.

Creekmore also announced that the damage to the LaGrange Sr. Center has been repaired and completed.

County CFO:

No Report

County Attorney:

No Report

E-911/EMA Director:

No Report

County Engineer:

Reminded the Commission of the LO Bishop Christmas Lunch scheduled for Friday, December 19, at Noon. The traffic control devices were pulled up on Hwy 20 from in front of the Road Department today and traffic is now open.

NEW BUSINESS

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Bailey stated that she was so proud of what we have done in Leighton, Alabama at the old Leighton Training School and expressed a special thanks to Commissioner Bendall enough for allowing himself to be supervised by Mr. Martin. She went on to say that there has been a lot of progress made. The building looks good. It was suggested to ask for sponsorship of the windows of the building. The project is continuing to progress; plans are to repurpose the old cafeteria as a meeting place and event center. Bailey thanks the Commissioners for making it happen.

Chairman Bendall thanked Eddie Mitchell and the Iron Workers Local for volunteering their time. Bendall also thanked David Isom for supplying the crane and operator in the construction.

Commissioner Isom thanked the Sheriff’s Office for their response to a call he placed on one of the coldest days we’ve had, for a young boy and girl on Hwy 157 and Hwy 20 that needed help. They picked them up and carried them to one of Florence’s warming centers. He again expressed his gratitude for the Sheriff and his crew for what they do.

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 1

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 2

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 3

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 4

CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 6