

STATE OF ALABAMA)
COLBERT COUNTY)

Minutes of a Regular Meeting
of the
Colbert County Commission
1/06/2026

The Colbert County Commission met today in regular session at the Colbert County Courthouse. Chairman Bendall called the work session to order at 5:03 p.m. with the regular meeting following at 5:17 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 Tommy Barnes 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

Chairman Bendall announced that the order of business before the Commission was a Public Hearing concerning the application for a transfer of ABC License (990 - Tobacco Only) by Alen Enterprises, Inc., and declared the Public Hearing be convened. Chairman Bendall asked if there were any parties who wished to speak in favor of the license transfer but received no response. Chairman Bendall made two additional calls for anyone wishing to speak in favor of the license transfer and received no response. Chairman Bendall then asked if there were any parties wishing to speak against the license transfer but received no response. The Chair made two additional calls for anyone wishing to speak against the license transfer; again, there was no response. Chairman Bendall then declared the public hearing to be closed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Bendall announced that the next item of 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 Bailey. 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 Dec 16, 2025, meeting minutes and waived reading of same.
2. Approved Jan 6, 2025 bills as presented by County C F O.
3. Approved ABC License transfer for location at 7060 Highway 72, Cherokee, AL (990 - Tobacco Only) to Alen Enterprises, Inc. Chairman Bendall directed the County Administrator to forward a letter of approval to the Florence ABC Office and further to notify the applicant of the approval of the transfer application by the Commission.
4. Approved request by Issac Ray for payment of unused accrued annual leave in the amount of \$674.73.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Commission considered the vacancy on the Colbert County 911 Board. Tim McMullins was the sole applicant for the position. The new appointee's term will begin on March 1, 2026 and run for a period of four years. Upon motion made by Commissioner Gardiner and duly seconded by Commissioner Bailey the Commission unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. McMullins. The Chair directed the County Administrator to notify the Board and Mr. McMullins of the Commission's action.

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Chairman Bendall announced that the Commission would next 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: Effective Jan. 7, Daniel Horn was hired as a Full Time Corrections Deputy with the Sheriff's Department at a beginning salary of \$33,974.83 replacing Issac Ray who resigned. Effective Dec. 27, Kenneth Smith began work as a Part Time Security Deputy in the Sheriff's Department, taking the place of Kirk Jones who has taken a contract position. Deputy Smith's pay will be \$15.91/hr. Effective Jan 5, Betsey Berry began work as a Tag Clerk, grade 4 in the Probate Judge's Office with a salary of \$28,262.30. Amber Hodges will transfer to Driver License Clerk, effective Jan 1 as a grade 7 employee with a salary of \$32,950.11. Effective Jan 5, Blake Howard's job as a FT Household Garbage Helper was terminated due to Mr. Howard not calling in or showing up for work. Effective Jan. 5, Jadairon Hampton has resigned from his FT Household Garbage Helper position via phone call to Kevin Pruitt. Mr. Creekmore then conveyed that Jake Flannagan with the HHG Dept. had recently reported that the incinerator is back online.

County CFO:

CFO April Eaton made the following reports: The first quarter of the fiscal year is complete and she will have a financial report for that quarter available to Commissioners at the January 20 regular meeting.

County Attorney:

No Report

E-911/EMA Director:

No Report

County Engineer:

County Engineer Jeremy Robison made the following reports: Robison provided the annual Rebuild Alabama report to the Commission. He reported that they have spent at least 50% of the funds available. Robison gave an update on the pump station, stating that a test was performed today and it looks good. They are about 98% finished with the station and water tank and plan to fill it by the end of this week with a goal of the facility being operational by the end of January.

NEW BUSINESS

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Bendall recognized Corey Speegle who thanked the Commission for its continued support with the canine search and rescue team. Speegle updated the Commission on recent search efforts in Walker County. He reported that to date, the search and rescue team has saved 8 lives and sadly has made 9 cadaver recoveries. Speegle also expressed his gratitude to the Sheriff and stated that he wouldn't be able to do what he does without the Sheriff's help. He went on to say thank you to the Commission for its continued support of the Animal Shelter.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, upon motion made by Commissioner Mansell and duly seconded by Commissioner Gardiner, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Bendall declared the meeting to be adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 1

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 2

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 3

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 4

CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 6