

STATE OF ALABAMA)
COLBERT COUNTY)

Minutes of a Regular Meeting
of the
Colbert County Commission
4/7/2026

The Colbert County Commission met today in regular session at the Colbert County Courthouse. Chairman Isom called the work session to order at 5:04 p.m. with the regular meeting following at 6:19 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, with the exception of Commissioner Barnes who was absent. Commissioner Mansell offered the prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Isom declared that a quorum was present for the purpose of the transaction of business.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Wendy Snitzer-King addressed the Commission and admonished the Commissioners for not supporting CU360; the veteran’s homeless shelter located in the Allsboro community.

Commissioner Bailey informed Ms. Snitzer-King that requests for appropriations should be made in writing during the annual budget hearing period and any request so submitted would be considered with all other requests.

BOARD APPOINTEE REPORTS

None

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

None

PUBLIC HEARING

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Isom 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 Isom 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 March 17, 2026, meeting minutes and waived reading of same.
2. Approved April 7, 2026, bills as presented by County C F O.
3. Adopted the following resolution to amend Section 5.6.8 of the County Personnel Policy addressing the transference of annual leave as follows:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-0025

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE COLBERT COUNTY PERSONNEL POLICY

WHEREAS, the Colbert County Commission has deemed it advisable to amend Section 5.6.8 of the Colbert County Personnel Policy addressing the transference of annual leave; and

WHEREAS, the Commission finds that the amendments set forth below will expand the current policy under which employees may elect to donate annual leave to another employee and improve employee morale at no cost to the County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Colbert County Commission that Section 5.6.8 of the County Personnel Policy is hereby amended to read as follows:

5.6.8 Transfer of Annual Leave

5.6.8.1 Employees in the Same Department. The supervisor of said department shall approve any transfer of annual leave from one employee to another to be used as Sick Leave.

5.6.8.2 Employees in Different Departments. Annual leave shall be allowed to be transferred as Sick Leave between employees in different departments provided that BOTH department heads agree and there is no additional cost incurred or approval needed by the County Commission.

5.6.8.3 Amount of Leave Transferred. An employee may not receive more than two hundred forty (240 hours) of transferred leave in a twelve-month period.

5.6.8.4 Value Calculation of Annual Leave Transferred. When Annual Leave is transferred as Sick Leave from a higher paid employee to a lower paid employee, the higher paid employee shall determine the amount of monetary value of their own Annual Leave (based on their current pay rate) that they wish to transfer to the lower paid employee. This monetary value shall be converted to a quantity of Sick Leave hours for the receiving employee to use white out of work (based on the receiving employee's current pay rate).

5.6.8.5 Return of Donated Time. If an employee has had time donated to them but does not return back to work from the illness or injury, any remaining time that they have shall be given back to the donating employee/s based on the percentage amount that was given by the donating employee.

Example:

Employee A makes \$15/hour and has to be off work due to illness or injury but does not have the time to cover the illness or injury. Employee B who makes \$20/hour would like to donate time to Employee A that totals \$300. Employee B's Annual Leave would be reduced by 15 hours and Employee A's Sick Leave would be increased by 20 hours.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this amendment shall be effective beginning on April 8, 2026.

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4. Approved payment request from Probate Judge Daniel Rosser for certification of the registered voters list in the amount of \$2,264.10.
 5. Approved three year renewal of solid waste collection contract with Waste Connections, per existing contract terms, beginning October 1, 2026, and ending September 30, 2029, with no changes to existing contract.
 6. Approved 1 year renewal of lawn maintenance contract with Greenboy Lawn Service, per existing contract terms, beginning March 1, 2026, and ending February 28, 2027, with no changes to existing contract.
 7. Adopted the following Resolution regarding countywide sales taxes at the request of the Muscle Shoals Board of Education:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-0022

A RESOLUTION AND ORDER CONFIRMING AND RATIFYING THE LEVY OF THE COUNTYWIDE SCHOOL SALES TAX

BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED by the Colbert County Commission (the "Commission"), the governing body of Colbert County (the "County"), as follows:

Section 1. Findings.

The Commission hereby finds and declares that there is levied in the County, pursuant to Section 40-12-4 of the Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, and a resolution of the Commission adopted on March 15, 1993, as heretofore supplemented and amended (the "**Sales Tax Resolution**"), a special privilege license or excise tax at the basic rate of ½ of 1% (the "**Sales Tax**"), the proceeds of which are allocated and apportioned among the various boards of education in the County; and that the Muscle Shoals City Board of Education (the "**Board**") proposes (a) to issue its Special Tax School Warrants, Series 2026, in the approximate principal amount of \$60,000,000 (the "**Warrants**"), for the purpose of financing the costs of various public school facilities, which facilities are expected to include, without limitation, a new Muscle Shoals Intermediate School, and (b) to pledge, for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Warrants, that portion of the proceeds of the Sales Tax presently being allocated, apportioned and paid to the Board.

Section 2. Pledge.

The County hereby pledges, to the Board and to the registered owners of the Warrants, the Board's allocated or apportioned share of the Sales Tax and agrees that it shall continue to levy and provide for the collection of the Sales Tax at rates not less than those provided for in the Sales Tax Resolution and to pay the said share over to the Board until the final retirement of the Warrants, now expected to occur on or before June 1, 2056.

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8. Approved request from Colbert Animal Services to remove the use earmark on the annual supplemental appropriation of \$11,200.00 earmarked for repayment of USDA Loan. CAS may now use these funds for maintenance of facility and operational purposes. The Commission adopted the following Resolution in furtherance of the request:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-0023

A RESOLUTION REGARDING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO COLBERT ANIMAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Colbert County Commission (the "**Commission**") has previously approved a yearly supplemental appropriation to Colbert Animal Services ("**CAS**") in the amount of Eleven Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$11,200.00); and

WHEREAS, such supplemental appropriation was previously designated for the specific purpose of assisting CAS in the repayment of a loan obligation owed to the United States Department of Agriculture ("**USDA**"); and

WHEREAS, CAS has represented to the Commission that the USDA loan has been fully satisfied and is no longer outstanding; and

WHEREAS, CAS has requested that the Commission continue the yearly supplemental appropriation in the same amount, but without restriction or earmark as to its use; and

WHEREAS, the Commission finds that it is in the best interest of the citizens of Colbert County to continue providing financial support to CAS and to remove the prior restriction on the use of such funds.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Colbert County Commission as follows:

1. The prior designation and restriction requiring that the annual supplemental appropriation to Colbert Animal Services in the amount of Eleven Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$11,200.00) be used for repayment of a USDA loan is hereby removed.
2. Beginning with the current fiscal year and continuing thereafter unless modified by further action of the Commission, such supplemental appropriation shall be paid to Colbert Animal Services without restriction as to its use, to be applied for lawful operational purposes of CAS.
3. All prior resolutions or portions thereof in conflict with this Resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

4. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.
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9. Approved award of annual fuel bid to Tatum Oil Company.

10. Approved award of annual liquid asphalt bid to Hunt Refining.

11. Approved Special Funding allocation for R.S.V.P. in the amount of \$11,000.00 and adopted the following Resolution in furtherance thereof:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-0024

**A RESOLUTION REGARDING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO
AMERICORPS SENIORS RSVP PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Colbert County Commission (the “**Commission**”) recognizes the value of the AmeriCorps Seniors Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (“**RSVP**”) in providing meaningful volunteer opportunities and community services within Colbert County; and

WHEREAS, RSVP is presently awaiting determination of grant funding necessary for its continued operation; and

WHEREAS, in order to allow RSVP to continue operations pending such determination, RSVP has requested temporary financial assistance from the Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Commission finds that providing a limited supplemental appropriation to support interim operations serves a valid public purpose and benefits the citizens of Colbert County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Colbert County Commission as follows:

1. The Commission hereby approves a supplemental appropriation to RSVP in the amount of Eleven Thousand Dollars (\$11,000.00) to support operational expenses of the program through June 1, 2026.
 2. The purpose of this appropriation is to provide interim funding until RSVP receives notice regarding grant funding for the current year.
 3. In the event RSVP is awarded grant funding, RSVP agrees to reimburse the Commission for those expenditures paid from this appropriation that are eligible for reimbursement under the grant; provided, however, that reimbursement shall be limited to those expenses eligible for reimbursement under the terms of the grant, including any limitation that only up to thirty (30) days of such expenses may be reimbursable.
 4. Nothing herein shall obligate the Commission to provide additional funding beyond the amount stated above.
 5. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.
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12. Proclaimed the month of April 2026 to be Child Abuse Prevention Month as presented by Commissioner Mansell.

**A PROCLAMATION OF THE COLBERT
COUNTY COMMISSION FOR CHILD ABUSE
PREVENTION MONTH**

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect are serious issues affecting children and families across our nation, state, and community, crossing all racial, ethnic, and socio-economic boundaries; and

WHEREAS, in Alabama, more than 27,000 reports of child abuse and neglect are made each year, reflecting the ongoing need for awareness, prevention, and intervention; and

WHEREAS, Colbert has historically experienced high rates of child abuse and neglect, underscoring the urgent need for continued community awareness and prevention efforts; and

WHEREAS, all children deserve to grow up in safe and nurturing environments, and child abuse undermines a child's sense of security, dignity, and well-being; and

WHEREAS, preventing child abuse is a shared responsibility requiring the commitment of individuals, families, community organizations, communities of faith and government agencies working together to support and strengthen families; and

WHEREAS, Colbert DHR and the Cramer Center supports children impacted by abuse through forensic interviews, advocacy, and trauma-informed services in a safe and supportive environment, playing a vital role in restoring childhoods and helping children move from trauma toward healing and

WHEREAS, strong partnerships with The Children's Policy Council, the Children's trust fund among with schools, law enforcement, social services, faith communities, civic organizations, and local businesses are essential to preventing abuse and ensuring the well-being of our children;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it proclaimed that the month of April 2026 is **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH** in Colbert County, Alabama, and we the Colbert County Commission call upon all citizens to work together to support families, protect children, and help build a safer, stronger community for future generations.

13. Adopted the following Resolution authorizing the application to the Appalachian Regional Commission and Economic Development Administration for various grant funding associated with the Hadrian Project and requesting the Shoals Economic Development Authority to provide matching funds:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-0021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR VARIOUS GRANT FUNDING ASSOCIATED WITH THE HADRIAN PROJECT AND REQUESTING SEDA TO PROVIDE MATCHING FUNDS

WHEREAS the Colbert County Commission proposes to apply for an Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and an Economic Development Administration Grant (USEDA), and other funding sources as they come available, to make substantial infrastructure improvements to support the Hadrian Facility as well as U.S. National Security including: Renovation and Upgrades to the existing Water and Wastewater Plants to meet expected demands inside the industrial park; Resurfacing, Rehabilitation and Lighting of Haley Dr. and Garner Ln; Construction of new Port Facility along with associated needed infrastructure; and any other key infrastructure and utility needs that may arise to be located near the Barton Riverfront Industrial Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Colbert County Commission as follows: **THAT, THE CHAIRMAN** is hereby authorized to execute and submit an application to the Shoals Economic Development Authority (SEDA) to request matching funds for grants for the above stated project.

THAT, the Colbert County Commission agrees and hereby requests a cash match in support of this project, to be provided by the Shoals Industrial Development Committee in the amount of ten-million dollars (\$10,000,000.00).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Chairman Isom 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:

County Administrator Creekmore made the following reports: From the Road Department, Luther Brown resigned effective March 31, and has been hired by Sheriff's Department. Dyllan Smith was hired as an HMT I effective April 1 with a starting annual pay of \$30,721.60. From the Household Garbage Department, Jonathan McLaughlin was terminated effective March 25. Mason Charuhas was hired as HG Helper, full-time with a starting pay of \$14.74 / hr. effective April 1. From the Sheriff's Department, Luther Brown was hired as a full-time Corrections Deputy effective April 1, with a beginning salary of \$33,974.83. Mr. Creekmore also asked that a resolution be added to the agenda authorizing the Chairman to sign for the participation in various grants associated with the Hadrian Project and request that SEDA provide match up to \$10 million. Commissioners concurred.

County CFO:

CFO Eaton provided the Commissioners with a report on budget compliance by department for year to date ending 03/31/26. Overall, the budget is in good shape.

County Attorney:

No Report

E-911/EMA Director:

No Report

County Engineer:

Engineer Robison informed the Commission that he needs each Commissioners map for installation of highway reflectors.

Robison also informed the Commissioners that he would be out of town next week attending training.

NEW BUSINESS

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

None

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Mansell made motion to adjourn, which was duly seconded by Commissioner Gardiner. After a voice vote, Chairman Isom announced that the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:21 P.M.

COMMISSIONER BARNES, DIST. 1

COMMISSIONER MANSELL, DIST. 2

COMMISSIONER GARDINER, DIST. 3

COMMISSIONER BAILEY, DIST. 4

COMMISSIONER BENDALL, DIST. 5

CHAIRMAN ISOM, DIST. 6