

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION
ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA
July 30, 2024**

Commissioner Tim Ramsey, called the Commission Meeting to order on the 30th Day of July, 2024 at 9:00 am and Shane Ellison, CAO, asked the Prayer and led the Pledge to the Flag.

CALL OF ROLL TO ESTABLISH A QUORUM: The following 4 out of 6 Commission members were at the meeting and accordingly a quorum was present:

District 1- Joey Statum
District 3 – Jamie Grant

District 4 – Tim Ramsey
District 6 – Craig Inzer

Absent: Johnny Grant – District 2
Jeffery Washington – District 5

PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

Chiho Sullivan discussed her organization, Agape Nation, which will provide a day school for intellectually disable adults. This program will help the students retain what they have learned after they get out of high school and also to provide volunteer opportunities for them. She is asking for donations or sponsors for her fundraiser.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, OR ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

Arrow Disposal will have open top containers at four locations between 7:00 am and 12:00 pm for residential cleanup of household trash on **Saturday, August 3, 2024.** They do not accept tires, batteries, appliances or hazardous waste.

Locations of containers:

Leeth Gap and Sardis Road – across from old County Shop
Intersection of Hwy 278 & Hwy 132
Whorton Bend Volunteer Fire Department
Gaston High School at Hwy 411 North

Upon motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, seconded by Commissioner Statum, with all other members voting “yes”, the following resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To recess in order to have a Work Session at 9:30 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 30th DAY OF JULY, 2024.

Upon motion of Commissioner Statum, seconded by Commissioner Inzer, with all other members voting “yes”, the following resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To call the Etowah County Commission Meeting back to order at 10:10 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 30th DAY OF JULY, 2024.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Upon motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, seconded by Commissioner Johnny Grant, with all other members present voting “yes”, the following resolution was passed and adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following items on the Consent Agenda were approved as presented:

CONSENT AGENDA: All items designated as “Consent” are considered to be routine and non-controversial and will be approved by one motion. No separate discussion of these items will be permitted unless a commissioner so requests. If so, such item(s) will revert to New Business.

- A. That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting(s) dated June 18, 2024 and July 9, 2024, of the Etowah County Commission be, and the same are hereby, approved as written.
- B. The Proposed Agenda for July 30, 2024.

- C. Any Reported Financial Transactions.
- C. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to award Bid No FY 2024-12 Metal & Side Drain Pipe to Fallin Farms, the only bidder.
- D. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to let a new bid for Full-Service Printing and Mailing for the Revenue Commissioner.
- E. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to renew Bid No FY 2021-2022-18 Plastic Roadway Pipe with the current vendor, ADCO Pipe & Supply, for a third and final year, as provided for in the original bid.
- F. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to award Bid No FY 2024-13 Ambulance Service – Detention Center to Advantage EMS, the lowest, responsible bidder.
- G. To place the name of Caleb Long in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective July 9, 2024. This is a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$15.36.
- H. To place the name of Joshua Carroll in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective July 9, 2024. This is a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$15.36.
- I. To place the name of Gabriella Thoennes in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective July 22, 2024. This is a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$15.36.
- J. To place the name of Montana Dickinson in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective July 22, 2024. This is a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$15.36.
- K. To place the name of Caleb Barrett in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective July 22, 2024. This is a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$15.36.
- L. To place the name of Cameron Gage Burgess in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective July 22, 2024. This is a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$15.36.
- M. To place the name of Chandler Nelson in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Deputy Trainee, effective July 29, 2024. This is a replacement to be paid from the Sheriff’s Office, General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$15.36.
- N. To approve the request of Becky Nordgren, Revenue Commissioner, to hire Halie Taylor as a Revenue Tag & Title Clerk, effective July 30, 2024. This is a replacement to be paid from the General Fund, Revenue, at an hourly rate of \$13.24.
- O. To approve the request of Becky Nordgren, Revenue Commissioner, to hire Leah Grace Thompson as a Revenue Tag & Title Clerk, effective July 30, 2024. This is a replacement to be paid from the General Fund, Revenue, at an hourly rate of \$13.24.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 30th DAY OF JULY, 2024.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upon the motion of Commissioner Ramsey, seconded by Commissioner Statum, with all other members present voting ‘yes’, the following resolution was passed and adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To reappoint Jamie Grant to serve as the ACCA Legislative Committee Representative for Etowah County for the 2024-2025 year.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 30th DAY OF JULY, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, seconded by Commissioner Statum, with all other members present voting ‘yes’, the following resolution was passed and adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To approve the ‘Cooperative Agreement Regarding Permitting, Operation, and Monitoring of the Hokes Bluff – Etowah County Chert Pit’ and to authorize the CAO to execute the document. A copy of the Agreement is filed in Attachment Book 14, Page 54.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 30th DAY OF JULY, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Inzer, seconded by Commissioner Jamie Grant, with all other members present voting ‘yes’, the following resolution was passed and adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To authorize creation of the position of 'Heavy Equipment Operator 2' in the Road Department, which was approved by the Personnel Board on July 24, 2024.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 30th DAY OF JULY, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Statum, seconded by Commissioner Jamie Grant, with all other members present voting 'yes', the following resolution was passed and adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To approve the request of Kevin Dollar, Deputy Administrator/CFO, to make the following Budget Amendments for final expenses associated with the resurfacing & striping of the courthouse parking lot:

Public Building, Road & Bridge Fund		
Expenditure		
Increase: Improvements other than Buildings (112.51996-531)		\$56,658
Decrease: Fund Balance (112.35900)		\$56,658

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 30th DAY OF JULY, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Statum, seconded by Commissioner Jamie Grant, with all other members present voting 'yes', the following resolution was passed and adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To approve the request of Kevin Dollar, Deputy Administrator/CFO, to make the following Budget Amendments to account for the projected revenue from housing the U. S. Marshal Service inmates and to increase the budget on jail overtime & FICA:

Revenue		
Increase: Housing Federal Inmates (001.40000.45821-720)		\$270,000
Expenditures		
Increase: Jail Overtime Pay (001.52200.116)		\$251,000
Social Security / Medicare Taxes (001.52200.124)		<u>\$19,000</u>
		\$270,000

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 30th DAY OF JULY, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Inzer, seconded by Commissioner Jamie Grant, with all other members present voting 'yes', the following resolution was passed and adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To approve the updated 'Uniform Policy and Procedure', which was approved by the Personnel Board on July 24, 2024. A copy of this policy update is filed in Attachment Book 14, Page 55.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 30th DAY OF JULY, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, seconded by Commissioner Inzer, with all other members present voting 'yes', the following resolution was passed and adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To approve the request of Scott Hassell, Judge of Probate, to declare the following as surplus:

2020 Freedom Enclosed Cargo Trailer 5WKBE1226L2000568 Model 7X12TA2

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 30th DAY OF JULY, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Statum, seconded by Commissioner Jamie Grant, with all other members present voting 'yes', the following resolution was passed and adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To approve the request of Kevin Dollar, Deputy Administrator/CFO, to declare the following computer from the maintenance department as surplus:

(1) Dell Latitude 3450 Laptop Computer, Asset # 10053.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 30th DAY OF JULY, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Inzer, seconded by Commissioner Statum, with all other members present voting 'yes', the following resolution was passed and adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To approve the request of London Pearce, Coroner, to declare the following as surplus:

Asset # 10198 - 4-body mortuary refrigerator

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 30th DAY OF JULY, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Ramsey, seconded by Commissioner Jamie Grant, with all other members present voting 'yes', the following resolution was passed and adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To declare the following as serving a public purpose and eligible to receive public funds:

a. Agape Nation

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 30th DAY OF JULY, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Inzer, seconded by Commissioner Jamie Grant, with Commissioner Statum requesting a roll call vote: Commissioner Statum – No; Commissioner Jamie Grant – Yes; Commissioner Ramey – Yes; and Commissioner Inzer – Yes; the following resolution was passed and adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To convey a section of Riverview Drive and Tillison Road, as described below, to the City of Gadsden at the request of Mayor Craig Ford:

To describe the right-of-way lying in Fraction B, Section 1, Township 12 South, Range 6 East and Section 12, Township 12 South, Range 6 East. Said right of way being a portion of River View Drive as shown on the plat map of River View Estates as shown in Plat Map C, Page 402 and 403, in the Judge of Probate Office, Etowah County and recognized locally as Riverview Drive and Tillison Road.

Said right-of-way being 50' in width, lying 25' left and right of a centerline being further described as follows:

Begin at a point, being the intersection of the centerline of Tillison Road and a projection of the western property line of Lot Number 1 in Block Number 2 of J. M. Hood's Redivision of Lots 1 thru 7, Parcel 1, Riverview Estates as shown in Plat Book E, Page 103, in the Judge of Probate Office, Etowah County. From said Point of Beginning, run west along said centerline to a point of tangency of with a curve to the left between Tillison Road and Riverview Drive; thence run along the centerline of said curve and continue to run southerly along the centerline of Riverview Drive to a point, being the of intersection with a projection of the southern property line of Lot 11 in Helen's Rearrangement of Lots 30 and 31 in Parcel One in Riverview Estates Bk. C Pgs. 402 & 403, as shown in Plat Book H, Page 74, in the Judge of Probate Office, Etowah County, said point being the end of said right-of-way.

A copy of this agreement is filed in Attachment Book 14, Page 56.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 30th DAY OF JULY, 2024.

REPORTS FROM THE STAFF

**Chief Administrative Officer
County Engineer
County Attorney
Other**

DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Inzer thanked Alabama Power for all they do and said everything was slowing down a little, waiting on November. The EDAA meeting was good and he thanked everyone for listening to his concerns on the Challenger Center. He also thanked Ms. Sullivan for all she does and the Sheriff's Office as well as several others in the meeting.

Commissioner Jamie Grant said he was glad they approved the Tillison Road annex to Gadsden. He said he spent a couple of days riding the roads in his District, along with Robert Nail, and all-in-all, they were in good shape. He said you can't expect all of the roads to look like 278 without making everyone pay a lot more taxes. He thanked Chiho for coming to tell them about Agape Nation.

Commissioner Statum thanked everyone for hearing what he had to say about Tillison Road. He asked everyone to put it on their calendars for September 11th from 11:00 to 1:00, they will have free hot dogs & hamburgers for the First Responders at Sam Boswell Honda. He said he would have a flyer to hand out later.

Commissioner Ramsey thanked Spencer Williams (with Alabama Power) for coming to the meeting. He also thanked Eric Wright for being here and said he hoped they could work with him on getting grant money for projects. He said we are responsible for the county roads and we are falling further behind. 'We are not getting it done!' He said 3 of the Commissioners have the most of their roads in the city limits and so it is not their problem but the budget is underfunded. He said the recent rains are not helping the road conditions and we need to do something as a commission. It's something they need to look at and see what they can do better. He talked about the recent passing of the wife of Billy Ray Williams (former Commissioner) and former Commissioner Butch White.

ADJOURN: The Chair then entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Upon motion of Commissioner Inzer, seconded by Commissioner Jamie Grant, with all other members voting "yes", the motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

Joey Statum, Commissioner, District 1

Tim Ramsey, President, Commissioner, District 4

ABSENT

Johnny Grant, Commissioner, District 2

ABSENT

Jeffery Washington, Commissioner, District 5

Jamie Grant, Commissioner, District 3

Craig Inzer, Jr., Commissioner, District 6