

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION
ETOWAH COUNTY
December 3, 2024**

Commissioner Joey Statum, Acting President, called the Commission Meeting to order on the 3rd Day of December, 2024 at 9:00 am and Scott Hassell, Judge of Probate, 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 2 – Johnny Grant

District 5 – Jeffery Washington
District 6 – Craig Inzer

Absent: Jamie Grant – District 3
Tim Ramsey – District 4

PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS: None.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, OR ANNOUNCEMENTS: Eric Schavey with the Etowah County Extension Office updated the Commission on the projects they were working on. He said they have 750 kids participating from 9 schools and 2 homeschool groups. They are planning to bring back archery and he asked the Commissioners to let him know of any needs they have in their area. He also said they are trying to get an additional drug take back box and talked about upcoming events.

Upon motion of Commissioner Joey Statum, seconded by Commissioner Johnny Grant, 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 9:12 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 3rd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024.

Upon motion of Commissioner Craig Inzer, seconded by Commissioner Jeffery Washington, 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 9:25 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 3rd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Upon motion of Commissioner Inzer, seconded by Commissioner Jeffery Washington, 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 November 19, 2024, of the Etowah County Commission be, and the same are hereby, approved as written.
- B. The Proposed Agenda for December 3, 2024.
- C. A Copy of the Financial Transactions for November 2024, including the Credit Card Purchases, Cash Disbursements, Online Transfers, and Wire Transfers is filed in Attachment Book 14, Page 107.
- D. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to let a new bid for a New Entrance Canopy for the Jail.
- E. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to let a new bid for I-59 Utility Crossings.

F. To place the name of Dakota Strickland in the Sheriff's Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective December 2, 2024. This is replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$15.36.

G. To place the following four names in the Sheriff's Office job slots of Detention Deputy, effective December 10, 2024. These are replacements to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$15.36.

1. McKenzie McCarver
2. Hannah Gladden
3. Edward Teague
4. Brandon Paulk

H. To approve the request of Becky Nordgren, Revenue Commissioner, to hire Kodi Davis as a Tag & Title Clerk, effective December 9, 2024. This is a replacement to be paid from the Revenue Commissioner, General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$13.24.

I. To approve the request of Becky Nordgren, Revenue Commissioner, to hire Robyn Hale as a Tag & Title Clerk, effective December 9, 2024. This is a replacement to be paid from the Revenue Commissioner, General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$13.24.

J. To approve the request of Becky Nordgren, Revenue Commissioner, to hire Holly Williams, Tag / Collections Full-time Floater, effective December 9, 2024. This is a replacement to be paid from the Revenue Commissioner, General Fund, at an hourly rate \$13.24.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 3rd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upon the motion of Commissioner Jeffery Washington, 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 item was approved:

To have the Final Reading and Approval to appoint Mr. Gene Paul Proctor to the West Etowah County Water Authority to fill a newly created position. This appointment will be effective on March 1, 2025, and the term will expire on March 31, 2031.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 3rd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Washington, 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 item was approved:

To have the Final Reading and Approval to appoint Mr. Jacob Gaul to the West Etowah County Water Authority to fill a newly created position. This appointment will be effective March 1, 2025, and the term will expire March 31, 2031.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 3rd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Inzer, seconded by Commissioner Washington, 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 by the majority present at the meeting:

To have the Final Reading and Approval to appoint Mr. Pat Yancy to the West Etowah County Water Authority to replace Mr. James Golden. This will be effective March 1, 2025, and the term will expire February 28, 2031.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 3rd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Statum, 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 accept the award from the 2025 Local Road Safety Initiative (LRSI) Program – General Safety Improvements Grant for a total of \$98,148.74 (which includes a 10% county match of \$9,814.87) for Guardrail and Guardrail End Anchors on Matt Smith Road over Greens Creek, and to authorize the Commission President to execute all documents. A copy of this Agreement is filed in Attachment Book 14, Page 108.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 3rd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Washington, 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 budget amendments for the architect fees on the Baker Tire Building, effective September 30, 2024:

General Fund: S.O./CC Warehouse	
Increase Professional Services (001.51991-182)	\$52,544
Decrease Operating Transfers Out – Rural Transportation Fund (001.62000-271)	\$52,544
Rural Transportation Fund	
Decrease Operating Transfer In	\$52,544
Decrease Fund Balance (271.35900)	\$52,544

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 3rd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Washington, 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 item was approved:

To approve a budget amendment for sewer pump repairs at the Animal Shelter:

General Fund: Animal Control / Animal Shelter	
Increase: Repairs & Maintenance – Bldgs, Land & Improvements (001.55400-231)	\$9,000
Decrease: Fund Balance (001.35900)	\$9,000

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 3rd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Washington, 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 item was approved:

. To approve budget amendments for the FY 2025 Buyback of time:

General Fund	
Increase:	
Operating Transfers Out – RSVP Fund (001.62000-176)	\$1502
County Commission	
Salaries & Wages (001.51100-113)	\$5696
Social Security/Medicare Taxes (001.51100-124)	\$436
Courthouse Security	
Salaries & Wages (001.51110-113)	\$768
Social Security/Medicare Taxes (001.51110-124)	\$59
Probate Judge’s Office	
Salaries & Wages (001.51300-113)	\$7,583
Social Security/Medicare Taxes (001.51300-124)	\$580
Revenue Commissioner’s Office	
Salaries & Wages (001.51600-113)	\$4,796
Social Security/Medicare Taxes (001.51600-124)	\$367
Personnel	
Salaries & Wages (001.51962-113)	\$3,826
Social Security/Medicare Taxes (001.51962-124)	\$293
License Inspector	
Salaries & Wages (001.51980-113)	\$961
Social Security / Medicare Taxes (001.51980-124)	\$74
Maintenance	
Salaries & Wages (001.51995-113)	\$6,783
Social Security/Medicare Taxes (001.51995-124)	\$519
Sheriff’s Office	
Salaries & Wages (001.52100-113)	\$28,678
Social Security/Medicare Taxes (001.52100-124)	\$2,194
Jail	
Salaries & Wages (001.52200-113)	\$21,392
Social Security/Medicare Taxes (001.52200-124)	\$1,637
Decrease:	
Fund Balance (001.35900)	\$88,144
Gas Tax Fund	
Increase:	
Salaries & Wages (111.53100-113)	\$19,499
Social Security/Medicare Taxes (111.53100-124)	\$1,492
Decrease:	
Fund Balance (111.35900)	\$20,991

RSVP Fund		
Increase:		
Salaries & Wages (176.56230-113)		\$1,395
Social Security/Medicare Taxes (176.56230-124)		\$107
Operating Transfer In – General Fund (176.61000-001)		\$1,502
Rural Transportation Fund		
Increase:		
Salaries & Wages (271.56211-123)		\$796
Social Security/Medicare Taxes (271.56211-124)		\$61
Decrease:		
Fund Balance (271.35900)		\$857
DEU Fund		
Increase:		
Salaries & Wages (288.52970-113)		\$4,989
Social Security/Medicare Taxes (288.52970-124)		\$382
Decrease:		
Fund Balance (288.35900)		\$5,371

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 3rd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024.

REPORTS FROM THE STAFF

Chief Administrative Officer
County Engineer
County Attorney
Other

DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Johnny Grant said he hopes everyone has a great holiday and thanked everyone for all they do and are going to do.

Commissioner Washington reminded everyone of the Unity Tree Lighting and said they will have a food truck and some of the school bands playing. He said the New Year’s Eve Ball Drop will be in the Buffalo Wings parking lot beginning at 10:30 pm on December 31st. He also encouraged everyone to work with the municipalities.

Commissioner Inzer thanked everyone for coming. He discussed the Near Megasite and the upcoming bids regarding the I59 crossing on sewer / water. He said they are working on renewing the SEEDS grant and they recently had a site visit. He also said they are working hard to keep the momentum going and hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Joey Statum thanked Darlene Harcrow for their program to provide a free Thanksgiving Meal to the Community. He said he washed dishes for a while. He said the Southside Christmas Parade was last night and went well and he thanked everyone for participating. He reminded everyone the Gadsden parade is today.

ADJOURN: The Chair then entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Upon motion of Commissioner Washington, seconded by Commissioner Johnny Grant, with all other members voting “yes”, the motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 am.

 Joey Statum, Commissioner, District 1

ABSENT

 Tim Ramsey, President, Commissioner, District 4

 Johnny Grant, Commissioner, District 2

 Jeffery Washington, Commissioner, District 5

ABSENT

 Jamie Grant, Commissioner, District 3

 Craig Inzer, Jr., Commissioner, District 6