

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION  
ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA  
January 21st, 2020**

The Etowah County Commission met in a regular meeting on the 21st Day of January, 2020. Commissioner Washington called the meeting to order at 10:05 am and Commissioner Statum led in the Prayer and the Pledge to the Flag.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:** April Burlison complained about her property flooding for the last 4 years and she believes the county could have fixed the problem and prevented the flooding but they would not. She filed a claim with County Risk Services and she stated they would not even come and look at the property. It's not flooding now because the county fixed it but if claims management doesn't pay for her damages she will go legal. Commissioner Washington thanked her for her comment.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS AND OTHERS:**

Marilyn Lott, Economic Development Director, announced they have been awarded a \$2.7 million grant for site improvement called the Growing Alabama grant. This is a grant provided through the Department of Commerce and will make the site more competitive with a natural gas line and railroad access. This will allow the property to have Norfolk Prime Site Designation and Marilyn said everyone was very excited about the partnership of working with the legislative officials, Gadsden IDA and other investment partners.

Senator Jones then presented a letter from Governor Kay Ivey in support of the Mega-site, which will be sent to all site selectors, promoting the property and listing the strong points of the site and this area of the State. He read the letter to everyone which emphasized the size of the work force within a 60 minute drive, the utility options with plenty of excess water and natural gas options, and the reasonable 'cost of living' in this area.

Commissioner Washington thanked Marilyn Lott and also Senator Jones for their announcements and said they were looking forward to the future.

**CALL OF ROLL TO ESTABLISH A QUORUM:** The roll was called to establish a quorum. The following 6 out of 6 Commission members answered to their names and accordingly and quorum was present:

District 1 – Joey Statum	District 4 – Tim Ramsey
District 2 – Johnny Grant	District 5 – Jeffery Washington
District 3 – Larry V. Payne	District 6 – Craig Inzer

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Advanced 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, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020**. 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

**AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS: None.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Upon motion of Commissioner Statum, seconded by Commissioner Ramsey, 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 dated January 7th, 2020, of the Etowah County Commission be, and the same are hereby approved as written.
- B. The Proposed Agenda for January 21st, 2020.
- C. Reported Financial Transactions.
- D. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to award Bid No. FY 2019-2020-09 Janitorial Services – Fleet Maintenance Building to Alabama Rent-A-Maid at \$102 per week. They were the lowest responsible bidder.
- E. To approve the 'Post Construction Stormwater Management Plan Maintenance Agreement and Easement' between Etowah County and The City of Gadsden pertaining to the property at the Jail Annex, and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to execute the document. A copy of this Agreement has been filed in Attachment Book 10, Page 112.

- F. To approve the ‘Agreement Between the Etowah County Commission and Whorton Engineering, Inc.’, regarding the project ‘HVAC Improvements for Etowah County Jail’, and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to execute the document. A copy of this Agreement has been filed in Attachment Book 10, Page 113.
- G. To approve the ‘2021-2023 ACCA Liability Self-Insurance Fund, Inc. Participation Agreement’ which extends the participation of Etowah County Commission in the Liability Fund for an additional three- year period beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2023; and to authorize the County Commission President to execute the document. A copy of this Agreement has been filed in Attachment Book 10, Page 114.
- H. To place the name of Matthew Troiani in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Detention Deputy effective February 3<sup>th</sup>, 2020. This is a replacement to be paid from the ICE Fund, at an hourly rate of \$12.60.
- I. To place the name of Keith Shannon Thomas in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Certified Deputy effective February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. This is a replacement to be paid from the Sheriff’s Office, General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$13.92.
- J. To place the name of Blake Nichols in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Detention Deputy effective January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020. This is a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$12.60.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF JANUARY, 2020.**

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**REPORTS FROM THE STAFF:**

**Chief Administrative Officer:** Shane Ellison said they had approved the contract with Randy Whorton to continue the work at the Jail on the HVAC and saved quite a bit of money by doing that. They will bid out the actual work and hopefully be able to start in 60 to 75 days. He also congratulated the Commission and Marilyn Lott, Economic Development Director, on securing the \$2.7 million grant which will go a long way toward getting the site ready.

**County Engineer:** No Report.

**County Attorney:** No Report.

**Other:** No Report.

**SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

**DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Inzer thanked Marilyn and all of the team and also thanked the Representatives for being here and being part of it. He also thanked Whorton Engineering for getting right on the issue of the HVAC at the jail to give the Commissioners all of their options.

Commissioner Statum thanked Marilyn for all of her hard work and also thanked the delegates for their leadership and all they do. Representatives Nordgren, Lipscomb, and Isbell and Senator Jones were all present for the meeting today. He said when you get some bad news there’s always something good around the corner. He said he likes to look at the glass as half full – tries to be optimistic. The Growing Alabama Grant and the Governor’s Letter help put us that much closer to getting a major industry. This will help our area of the State. He thanked everyone and also Dustin Fox for staying around at all of the meetings when they were having to go into executive sessions.

Commissioner Ramsey said he really appreciated Ms. Lott and the job she is doing. He said she was the one that found the grant and started the work on it. He thanked the delegates for showing up and showing support. He talked about RSVP and their program at the Civic Center where they highlighted the community services available to adults. He said there was a meeting at 11 to try to get a 2<sup>nd</sup> team to help pick up litter in the county. He thanked Dustin (with Gadsden Times) and Katy (with the Gadsden Messenger).

Commissioner Payne said we had come a long way and he was fortunate to have been there in the beginning. It said there had been many ups and downs through the years and he was glad to see how excited the current Commissioners were for the future. He said he will be retiring after this term but the support of the people here today will make a difference going forward regarding the Mega-site. He said he would help anyway he could as a retiree.

Commissioner Grant agrees with all that has been said and he thanked the other Commissioners in the past that had the vision and foresight to develop the Mega-site and thanked the current members for their support. He said he hopes they are able to bring in a big industry.

Commissioner Washington thanked the previous Commissioners, Marilyn Lott, the State Senator, and State Representatives for all of their support and help. He thanked all for being at peace and moving forward. He also thanked the citizen for trusting them.

**ADJOURN:** The Chair then entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Upon motion of Commissioner Payne seconded by Commissioner Statum, with all other members voting “yes”, the motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

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Joey Statum, Commissioner, District 1

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Tim Ramsey, Commissioner, District 4

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Johnny Grant, Commissioner, District 2

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Jeffery Washington, President, Commissioner, District 5

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Larry V. Payne, Commissioner, District 3

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Craig Inzer, Jr., Commissioner, District 6

