

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION
ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA
August 17, 2021**

Commissioner Jamie Grant called the meeting to order on the 17th Day of August, 2021 at 9:00 am with Commissioner Joey Statum asking the Prayer and leading the Pledge to the Flag.

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

District 1 – Joey Statum	District 4 – Tim Ramsey
District 2 – Johnny Grant	District 5 – Jeffery Washington
District 3 – Jamie Grant	District 6 – Craig Inzer

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS: John Bertram complained to the Commissioners about his trash pickup on Duck Springs Road being late. He had requested a copy of the Contract and reviewed the items he didn't think they were doing as they should. His trash pickup had been a day late for a few weeks.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS AND OTHERS: None.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, OR ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Commission will not meet on August 24th, 2021 due to ACCA Conference.

Upon motion of Commissioner Statum, seconded by Commissioner Ramsey, 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 9:25 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 2021.

Upon motion of Commissioner Inzer, seconded by Commissioner Ramsey, 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 after the recess at 9:50 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 2021.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

Consent Agenda:

Upon motion of Commissioner Inzer, 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 Meetings dated August 3, 2021, of the Etowah County Commission be, and the same are hereby approved as written.
- B. The Proposed Agenda for August 17, 2021.
- C. Reported Financial Transactions.
- D. To place the name of Megan Tadlock in the Sheriff's Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective August 17, 2021. This is a replacement to be paid from the ICE Fund, at an hourly rate of \$14.98.
- E. To place the name of Nathan Stover in the Sheriff's Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective August 23, 2021. This is a replacement to be paid from the ICE Fund, at an hourly rate of \$14.98.
- F. To place the name of Jeremy Simmons in the Sheriff's Office job slot of School Resource Officer, effective August 9, 2021. This is a new position to be paid from the Sheriff's Office, General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$14.98. (This position is based on an agreement between Etowah County and the City of Hokes Bluff which

ends on July 31, 2023. Hokes Bluff reimburses full cost of compensation & benefits and Sheriff's Office will provide vehicle, equipment, and supplies).

- G. To place the name of Mike Garigues in the Sheriff's Office job slot of Part-time Deputy Sheriff, effective August 20, 2021. This is a replacement to be paid from the Sheriff's Office, General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$13.92.
- H. To place the name of Daniel Jordan in the Sheriff's Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective August 30, 2021. This is a replacement to be paid from the ICE Fund, at an hourly rate of \$14.98.
- I. To place the name of Brandon Griffin in the Sheriff's Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective August 17, 2021. This is a replacement to be paid from the ICE Fund, at an hourly rate of \$14.98.
- J. To place the name of Jamie Dakota Grant in the Sheriff's Office job slot of Field Training Officer (FTO), effective August 9, 2021. This is a replacement to be paid from the Sheriff's Office, General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$16.54.
- K. To place the name of William Bates in the Sheriff's Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective September 9, 2021. This is a replacement to be paid from the ICE Fund, at an hourly rate of \$14.98.
- L. To approve the request of Lori Howell, Animal Control/Shelter Director, to transfer Destiny Westmoreland to Animal Control Officer, effective August 20, 2021. This is a promotion and a replacement to be paid from the Animal Control/Shelter Fund, at an hourly rate of \$12.92.
- M. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to award **Bid No FY 2020-2021-19 (A) & (B) Lawn Maintenance – County Buildings** to **Addison Lawn Care**, the only bidder.
- N. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to award **Bid No FY 2020-2021-21 Plastic Roadway Pipe** to **ADCO Pipe & Supply**, the lowest bidder.
- O. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to award **Bid No FY 2020-2021-18 Garbage Service – County Buildings** to **Republic Services**, the lowest bidder.
- P. To approve the request of Kevin Dollar, Deputy Administrator/CFO, to make the following Budget Amendments:

This Budget Amendment is to reflect the reimbursement from ALDOT on the Burgess Road Project.

Increase: Expenditure

Contract Services (111.53100-185) \$565,646

Increase: Revenue

State Share-Highway/Roads (111.40000.44222-830) \$565,646

This Budget Amendment is to reflect the FEMA Grant reimbursement received on the March 2020 tornado.

Increase: Revenue

FEMA Grant (111.40000.44712-830) \$623,439

Increase: Fund Balance (111.35900) \$623,439

This Budget Amendment is to reflect the purchase of the building at 401 Broad Street, the loan for the purchase & renovation of the building, the potential renovation costs, the building loan payments for the current fiscal year and the state simplified sellers use tax revenue used to make the loan payments.

Increase: Expenditures

Buildings (001.51990-521) \$803,646

Building Additions & Renovations (001.51990-524) \$950,000

Long Term Debt Principal Payment (001.59100-601) \$114,415

Interest on GLTD (001.59100-632) \$34,004

Revenue

Issuance of Long-Term Debt (001.61340) \$1,750,000

State Simplified Sellers Use Tax (001.40000.44145-023) \$152,065

- Q. To approve the designation that the following organization serves a public purpose and is eligible to receive public funds:

a. CommUnity Thanksgiving of Etowah County

- R. To approve the request of the Etowah County Engineer and declare the following as surplus:
2011 Dodge Ram 3500 VIN# 3D6WF4CTXBG595194 Asset# 10690

- S. To approve the "Contract and Agreement Concerning the Incarceration of City of Gadsden Prisoners in the Etowah County Detention Center". A copy of the Agreement has been filed in Attachment Book 12, Page 007.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 2021.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upon motion of Commissioner Statum, seconded by Commissioner Ramsey, 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 approve the contract with Robert Nail for the Etowah County Engineer position.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 2021.

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 approve the Revised FY 2021 County Transportation Plan and also to Adopt the FY 2022 County Transportation Plan. A copy of these Plans has been filed in Attachment Book 12, Page 006.

There was discussion between Commissioner Ramsey and Commissioner Inzer about more needing to be done to get the roads repaired and they needed to find a source of income to get the roads repaired. The other Commissioners agreed they needed more money for road improvements.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 2021.

Upon motion of Commissioner Ramsey, 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 have the First Reading to reappoint Jaurus Rawls to the Etowah County Communications District Board for a four year term.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 2021.

Upon motion of Commissioner Ramsey, 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 have the First Reading to reappoint Tim Crow to the Etowah County Communications District Board for a four year term.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 2021.

Upon motion of Commissioner Statum, seconded by Commissioner Ramsey, 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 have the First Reading to appoint Scott Reeves to the Etowah County Communications District Board for a four year term (to replace Michael Barton).

Michael Barton’s term ends on August 18, 2021 and the Commission appreciates his service and thanks him for his leadership and for serving as chairman for four of the five years of his time as a Board Member.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 2021.

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 authorize an Executive Sessions to discuss ‘Safety & Security’ after a roll call vote with the majority approving the sessions. This was certified by the County Attorney, Jim Turnbach, as meeting the criteria to allow an executive session and includes Sheriff Horton, Keith Peek, Kevin Dollar, Shane Ellison, Jim Turnbach, and all Commissioners. D1 – yes; D2 – yes; D3 – yes; D4 – yes; D5 – yes; and D6 – yes. The Commission recessed at 10:10 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 2021.

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 reconvene from the Executive Session.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 2021.

REPORTS FROM THE STAFF:

- Chief Administrative Officer:** No Report.
- County Engineer:** No Report.
- County Attorney:** No Report.
- Other:** No Report.

DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Ramsey discussed the state of the roads in the county, particularly in his District. He said whatever we are currently doing is not working and the roads are in disrepair. He said he understands that we have a set amount of money and our budget keeps us from being able to do all the work to get the roads in better shape but he wants to have an additional plan with more funding from somewhere. He wants the other Commissioners to work with him and altogether to propose an idea to find other sources of income. He wanted to know what other counties were doing to get their roads in better shape. The new tax didn’t help as much as it should have due to the increased prices of materials to repair the roads.

Commissioner Inzer thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and agrees with Mr. Bertram on there being issues with the garbage pickup. He said he will do what he can to get better pickup for this area. He also agrees with and supports the Etowah County Board of Education and was glad they were able to get a better building. Regarding the Thanksgiving meal, he said he had talked with someone about the turkeys being priced so high and the price was cheaper than the original quote. He said they planned to feed 7,000 people and he plans to help with the money and the serving. He thanked Sheriff Horton and was glad no one was injured during the jail disruption. He was hopeful that Serve Pro could get everything cleaned up and the ones responsible would have to pay for repairs.

Commissioner Washington thanked the Sheriff for doing and great job and thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Commissioner Ramsey thanked the Sheriff and Staff for no injuries during the jail incident. He also expressed what a big deal it was to be able to move the BOE to downtown in a nice vacant building. It helps everyone and the downtown area as well. He thanked Spencer for what he does on the safety project. He wants to do something for the employees, like offer an incentive for the best safety tip, etc. Just do something to make employees more safety aware and to award their efforts.

Commissioner Statum agrees with the other Commissioners. He congratulated Robert Nail on being hired as County Engineer and thanked him for what he does. He said they would have to figure out a way to do better on the roads – to get more for their money. He also thanked the Sheriff and said he appreciated the maintenance employees coming in to help clean up. He said he knew there were issues with Advanced Disposal in Whorton Bend and District 3 and other areas but he had no big issues in District 1. He said he knew it was hard to hire people to do jobs that are less attractive and hard for them to have enough and keep drivers. He said he also knew the next time they have to bid the trash, there will be an increase. He thanked the citizens for coming and sharing their issues.

Commissioner Johnny Grant did not have anything to add.

Commissioner Jamie Grant said he appreciated everyone and thanked the Sheriff for doing a great job. He also thanked Mr. Bertram and Mr. Taylor for sharing their concerns with the trash issues.

ADJOURN: The Chair then entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Upon motion of Commissioner Statum, seconded by Commissioner Ramsey, with all other members voting “yes”, the motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.

<hr/> Joey Statum, Commissioner, District 1	<hr/> Tim Ramsey, Commissioner, District 4
<hr/> Johnny Grant, Commissioner, District 2	<hr/> Jeffery Washington, Commissioner, District 5
<hr/> Jamie W. Grant, President, Commissioner, District 3	<hr/> Craig Inzer, Jr., Commissioner, District 6