

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION
ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA
September 21, 2021**

Commissioner Jamie Grant called the meeting to order on the 21st Day of September, 2021 at 9:00 am with Probate Judge Scott Hassell asking the Prayer and Commissioner Jamie Grant 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 2 – Johnny Grant
District 3 – Jamie Grant

District 4 – Tim Ramsey
District 5 – Jeffery Washington
District 6 – Craig Inzer

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS AND OTHERS: There were several elected officials at the meeting because it was the last meeting before Linda Barrett-Vaughan, Revenue Commissioner, will be retiring.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, OR ANNOUNCEMENTS: Shane Ellison, CAO, presented a Proclamation to recognize a group of responders from Etowah County, Hokes Bluff, Altoona, and Gadsden that went to Ground Zero in September of 2001 to help during the terrorist attack in New York on 9/11. Those recognized include: Brantley Bishop, Scott Cardwell, Chris Chrisler, Glenn Cline, Time Dail, Jimmie Entrekin, Todd Entrekin, Connie Grant, Kevin Grant, Jamie Grant, Johnny Grant, Robin Grant, Kevin Hassell, Stephen Hooks, Larry Howard, Woody Johnson, Michael Jones, Fred Lasseter, Donyale Richard, Jason Rogers, Danny Tilley, Jeremy Walker, and Tommy Wiggonton. These responders were thanked for their service and assistance after this traumatic event.

Shane Ellison, CAO, presented Linda Barrett-Vaughan with a Proclamation from the Commission to thank her for her years of service as the Revenue Commissioner. She served for 12 years and was now looking forward to her retirement. Linda said it had been an honor to serve and that ‘it takes a team’. She said she couldn’t have done it without the help of her employees and they did not get the recognition they deserved.

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 9:22 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

Upon motion of Commissioner Johnny 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 call the Etowah County Commission Meeting back to order after the recess at 9:45 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

Consent Agenda:

Upon motion of Commissioner Statum, 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 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 September 7, 2021, and the Special Called Meeting dated September 14, 2021, of the Etowah County Commission will be included for approval at the meeting on October 5th, 2021.
- B. The Proposed Agenda for September 21, 2021.
- C. Reported Financial Transactions.
- D. To place the name of Trinton O’Dell in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective September 20, 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 Tonya Brown in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective September 20, 2021. This is a replacement to be paid from the ICE Fund, at an hourly rate of \$14.98.
- F. To approve the request of Linda Barrett-Vaughan, Revenue Commissioner, to hire Briana Bradford as a Part-time (29 hour) Revenue Collections Clerk, effective October 4, 2021. This is a replacement to be paid from the General-Revenue Fund, at an hourly rate of \$12.00.
- G. To approve the contract extension for Shane Ellison, Chief Administrative Officer.
- H. To approve the award of the bid for Renovations to the Etowah County Board of Education Building to Hudak Construction, the lowest bidder with a base bid of \$783,000 and Alternate #1 in the amount of \$61,500, as requested by Craig Lipscomb, Architect for the project.
- I. To approve the request of Robert Nail, County Engineer, to declare the following as surplus:
2003 Chevy Pickup VIN# 1GCEK14V33Z145576 Asset# 8257
- J. To approve the ‘Resolution to adopt the provisions of Section 40-6-3 of the Code of Alabama as they apply to Supernumerary Revenue Commissioner Linda Barrett-Vaughan’, and to authorize the Commission President to execute the document. (This Resolution sets Linda Barrett-Vaughan’s compensation at 60% of the average compensation during her last four years of service.) A copy of the Resolution has been filed in Attachment Book 12, Page 012.
- K. To approve the ‘2020 MEMORANDUM OF PARTICIPATION FOR INTERIM GASB 75 REPORT OF THE OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS’ (OPEB) Agreement with Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC and to authorize the CAO to execute the document. A copy of the Agreement has been filed in Attachment Book 12, page 013.
- L. To approve the ‘Digital Information Cooperative Resolution’ regarding the mapping project and the federal grant application which will cover 80% of the cost up to \$10,000. Also, to authorize the Commission President to execute the documents. A copy of the Agreement has been filed in Attachment Book 12, Page 014.
- M. To approve the ‘MOU between Etowah County Commission and the Alabama State University Center for Leadership and Public Policy’, for re-districting services, with the total cost not to exceed \$5,000; and to authorize the CAO to execute the document. A copy of the Agreement has been filed in Attachment Book 12, Page 015.
- N. To approve the Agreement between the CED Mental Health Center and Etowah County Commission concerning the pay and benefits of the Probate Liaison employee, and to authorize the CAO to execute the document. A copy of the Agreement has been filed in Attachment Book 12, Page 016.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upon motion of Commissioner 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 approve the following budget amendments:

General Fund

Increase: Operating Transfer Out (001.62000-116)	\$881,279
Decrease: Building Additions & Improvements (001.51990-524)	\$881,279

Capital Improvement Fund

Increase: Building Additions & Improvements (116.58100-524)	\$881,279
Increase: Operating Transfers In (116.62000-001)	\$881,279

This is the remaining balance of the funds borrowed for the building renovations to be done at the 401 Broad Street building which will be completed in FY 2021-2022.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

Upon motion of Commissioner Washington, 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 approve the following budget amendments for elevator improvements:

Capital Improvement Fund

Increase: Repairs & Maintenance – Building Land & Improvements \$59,044
(116.51999-231)
Increase: Operating Transfer In – General Fund (116.61000-001) \$59,044

General Fund

Increase: Operating Transfer Out – Capital Improvement Fund \$59,044
(001.62000-116)
Decrease: Repairs & Maintenance – Building, Land & Improvements \$59,044
(001.51995-231)

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

Upon motion of Commissioner 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 approve the request of Shane Ellison, Chief Administrative Officer, to adopt the FY 2021-2022 Budgets. A copy of the FY 2021-2022 Budgets has been filed in Attachment Book 12, Page 017.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

Upon motion of Commissioner Ramsey, seconded by Commissioner 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 renew the ‘Tax Revenue Enhancement Agreement Beer/Wine Tax Revenue Administration’ with AVENU for three years and to authorize the CAO to execute the document. A copy of the Agreement has been filed in Attachment Book 12, Page 018.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

Upon motion of Commissioner Washington, 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 renewal of the ‘East Central Alabama Highway Safety Office – Traffic Enforcement Agreement’ to allow Etowah County to participate in the ECAHSO Grant Program, and to authorize the Commission President to execute the document. A copy of the Agreement has been filed in Attachment Book 12, Page 019.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

Upon motion of Commissioner Ramsey, 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 have the First Reading for ABC License Application Type 260-**WINE FESTIVAL PARTICIPANT**, for applicant **ROBYNS GARDEN INC (Roland, Jerome Carter)** under the trade name, **ALABAMA WINE FESTIVAL ROBYNS GARDEN**, located at **10522 Duck Springs Road, Attalla, AL 35954**.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

Upon motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, 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 for ABC License Application Type 260-**WINE FESTIVAL PARTICIPANT**, for applicant **HIGH COUNTRY CELLARS LLC (Roberts, Barry Keith)** under the trade name, **ALABAMA WINE FESTIVAL HIGH COUNTRY CELLARS**, located at **10522 Duck Springs Road, Attalla, AL 35954**.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

Upon motion of Commissioner Inzer, 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 authorize an Executive Session to discuss Business and Commerce, after a roll call vote with the majority approving the session. The County Attorney, Jim Turnbach, certified the reason for the meeting was permissible under the State Law and those included in the meeting are Robert Nail, Kevin Dollar, Shane Ellison, Jim Turnbach and all Commissioners. District 1- yes; District 2 – yes; District 3 – yes; District 4 – yes; District 5 – yes; and District 6 – yes. The Commission dismissed into the Executive Session at 10:05 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

Upon motion of Commissioner Inzer, 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 reconvene from Executive Session.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

REPORTS FROM THE STAFF:

- Chief Administrative Officer:** No Report.
- County Engineer:** No Report.
- County Attorney:** Jim Turnbach said it had been a pleasure to help Revenue Commissioner Linda Barrett- Vaughan and her office and wished her an enjoyable retirement.
- Other:** No Report.

DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Inzer thanked Linda for her service and thanked her for helping him over the years. He wished her a happy retirement. He also expressed his appreciation to all of the 9/11 responders and thanked them for what they did. He thanked Kevin for his hard work on getting the budget ready.

Commissioner Washington thanked the Officers and First Responders for what they do and said he was thankful they have the passion for what all they have to do. He thanked Linda for her years of service.

Commissioner Ramsey thanked Linda for always being positive and having a good attitude of being here to serve and to explain to people, in a way they can understand, why they have to pay what they are required to pay. Regarding the 9/11 Responders, he said he still sees how the people have been effected by the trip to help at Ground Zero and thanked them for all they do.

Commissioner Johnny Grant thanked Linda for being a good friend and helping him all these years. He also talked about his appreciation that Sheriff Hayes let all of the responders go to Ground Zero on 9/11 and took the responsibility for any controversy over them going.

Commissioner Statum thanked Linda and says he knows they have disagreed through the years over a few things but he appreciated her and she always answered when he called and helped anyway she could. He said he appreciated her passion and that it doesn’t go unnoticed. She did what she was elected to do at the highest service. Regarding the 9/11 Responders, he said he couldn’t say enough for all they did and We Will Never Forget!

Shane said he worked with Linda during the Covid Pandemic and after the shut-down, when the buildings first reopened and noticed that she and her Assistant, Ginger Lindsey, were going person –to-person down the line to check the paperwork and make sure it was everything needed to prevent customers from standing in line and getting to the desk only to find out they didn’t have all of the items that were required to get their tags. He was appreciative of all she did to help out her employees and the customers. The FOP and Sheriff’s Office have requested to have a Trick or Treat in the Parking Lot of the Courthouse on October 30th at 6:00 pm and the Commissioners were all fine with the request.

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