

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION
ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA
August 2, 2022**

PUBLIC HEARING

Robert Nail, County Engineer, conducted a Public Hearing for comments concerning vacating a portion of Marie Drive off of the new Highway 411. There were no comments and this meeting was closed at 9:02 am.

Commissioner Johnny Grant called the meeting to order on the 2nd Day of August, 2022 at 9:03 am and Shane Ellison, CAO, asked the Prayer and led 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 COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS: Fred Couch with Alabama Scenic River Trail spoke to the Commissioners about his inspiration to start the Alabama Scenic River Trail and about the agreement they have in place with Alabama Power, allowing them to forage trails and make safe passages around the small dams. They have over 500 places for people to camp (on private property) and they have small grants available for groups that will help remove trees that dam the water or help to put up signs they have purchased to let people know where they are and where they can take out their boats or camp. Mr. Couch said there was debris under the bridge on Hwy 278 and the Railroad Bridge. Robert Nail was going to see if ALDOT will help with the debris under the highway and Commissioner Ramsey was going to check to see about the Railroad Bridge debris. Mr. Couch said the mile marker signs were important because they could let someone know where they were in case they needed help or had an emergency. Sometimes Rescue Squads or Volunteer Fire Departments help put out the signs.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS & OTHERS: None.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, OR ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Shane read the following notice about the open top containers that will be available on Saturday, August 6th, 2022:

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, August 6, 2022.** 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 Craig Inzer, seconded by Commissioner Tim 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 9:30 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 2nd DAY OF AUGUST, 2022.

Upon motion of Commissioner Jeffery Washington, seconded by Commissioner Joey 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 at 9:37 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 2nd DAY OF AUGUST, 2022.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Upon 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 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 July 12, 2022 of the Etowah County Commission be, and the same are hereby approved as written.
- B. The Proposed Agenda for August 2, 2022
- C. Reported Financial Transactions. A copy of the Credit Card Purchases for July, 2022, is filed in Attachment Book 12, Page 109.
- D. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to award Bid No. FY 2021-2022-17 Hot Plant Mix Paving Material – FOB Plant to Vulcan Materials, the lowest, responsible bidder.
- E. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to award Bid No. FY 2021-2022-14 Rebuild AL – Steele Station & Pleasant Valley Road to Wiregrass Construction, the lowest, responsible bidder.
- F. To approve the request of Becky Nordgren, Revenue Commissioner, to let bids for Full Service, Printing and Mailing.
- G. To Adopt the Gadsden-Etowah County Emergency Management Agency Executive By-Laws dated December 14, 2021 as amended and approved by the Executive Committee.
- H. To approve the request of Marion Dodd, Maintenance Director, to hire Zackery Taylor as a Maintenance Technician, effective August 1, 2022. This is a replacement to be paid from the Maintenance General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$14.62.
- I. To place the name of Shane McClellan in the Sheriff's Office job slot of Deputy Specialist, effective July 25, 2022. This is a promotion and a replacement to be paid from the Sheriff's Office, General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$17.82.
- J. To place the name of Jamie Rowan in the Sheriff's Office job slot of Deputy Specialist, effective July 25, 2022. This is a promotion and 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 Matthew Hyde in the Sheriff's Office job slot of Dispatcher, effective July 25, 2022. This is a replacement to be paid from the Sheriff's Office, General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$12.00.
- L. To place the name of Lucas Hallmark in the Sheriff's Office job slot of Deputy Specialist – FTO, effective July 25, 2022. This is a replacement to be paid from the Sheriff's Office, General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$19.66.
- M. To place the name of Chemicia Vinson in the Sheriff's Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective August 1, 2022. This is a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$14.98.
- N. To approve the request of Kevin Hassell, DEU Commander, to declare the following as surplus:

1 – 7 x 12 Cargo Trailer - Serial # 5YCBE1216CH005923

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 2nd DAY OF AUGUST, 2022.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upon motion of Commissioner Johnny Grant, 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:

The "Resolution of Assent to Vacate the Roadway" that is a portion of Marie Drive (Off of the new Highway 411), as recommended by the County Engineer, Robert Nail, certifying that all of the criteria have been met. A copy of this Agreement is filed in Attachment Book 12, Page 110.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 2nd DAY OF AUGUST, 2022.

Upon motion of Commissioner Ramsey, seconded by Commissioner Jamie 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 5-Year General Obligation Loan for up to \$1.2 Million for the Road Department through Riverbank & Trust at 3.2% interest; Also, to authorize the CAO to execute all documents. A copy of this Agreement has been filed in Attachment Book 12, Page 111.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 2nd DAY OF AUGUST, 2022.

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 following budget amendment for the EMA/Pole Barn Project:

EMA Budget:

Increase: Direct Support – Public Safety (001.52300-291) \$60,000

Decrease: Fund Balance (001.35900) \$60,000

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 2nd DAY OF AUGUST, 2022.

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 authorize an Executive Session, to discuss potential and threatened pending litigation, after a roll call vote with the majority approving the session. The County Attorney, Jim Turnbach, has certified the reason for the Session meets the criteria. Those present include: Shane Ellison, Jim Turnbach, Kevin Dollar, Robert Nail, and all Commissioners. District 1 – yes; District 2 – yes; District 3 – yes; District 4 – yes; District 5 – yes; and District 6; yes.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 2nd DAY OF AUGUST, 2022.

Upon motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, 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 reconvene from Executive Session.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 2nd DAY OF AUGUST, 2022.

REPORTS FROM THE STAFF:

Chief Administrative Officer: No Report.

County Engineer: No Report.

County Attorney: No Report.

Other: No Report.

DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Inzer said the Whorton Bend Fire Chief is in the hospital and having surgery (Hare) and he asked everyone to pray for him. He thanked the 2 year college Chancellor and talked about the ribbon cutting for the Advanced Manufacturing at GSCC and how great it will be to get the students graduated and ready to work. He talked about the EDAA Conference and meeting new people and some older ones. He said all are aware of the Megasite and it’s getting a lot of attention. They have things they are planning to work on.

Commissioner Washington thanked everyone for coming and said they just got back from the NACo Annual Convention. He also talked about the Family Success Center and what a great place it was. He said they do a lot for people and have a great impact on people’s lives. He used to work there.

Commissioner Ramsey thanked Traci for taking on the United Way Rallies. He said a lot of good things stem from that down to the handling of the grants that came from the state that the Commission asked the United Way to manage. They also are a big help with the cities. Everyone is speaking the same language and Attalla has a Heritage Day coming up. He thanked Mr. Couch for being here.

Commissioner Jamie Grant commended the Family Success Center for all they do and how they maintain their focus on what’s needed. He said he hated to hear that Harvey Martin’s wife had passed and expressed his condolences. He said the Advanced Workforce at GSCC is great for this area to get more workers and how much he appreciated the 759 expansion to help we the traffic issues.

Commissioner Status expressed condolences for Harvey’s wife and said he had talked with his son to let Harvey know. He thanked everyone that came out and thanked the owner of Tameron Honda for paying 1/3 toward an SRO at Glencoe Elementary for the next 5 years. He said that is a substantial commitment. He also thanked Mr. Couch and said he didn’t realize how big the Scenic River Trail was and he was glad to get more information on what they do.

ADJOURN: The Chair then entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Upon motion of Commissioner Inzer, seconded by Commissioner Ramsey, 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, Commissioner, District 4

Johnny Grant, President, Commissioner, District 2

Jeffery Washington, Commissioner, District 5

Jamie W. Grant, Commissioner, District 3

Craig Inzer, Jr., Commissioner, District 6