MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION
ETOWAH COUNTY
OCTOBER 20, 2026

Robert Nail, County Engineer, conducted a Public Hearing at 9am, regarding Higgenbotham Road, located in District 2. There were no objections or comments.

Commissioner Johnny Grant called the meeting to order on the 20th day of October, 2026 at 9:00 am and Judge Hassell 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 – Mike Powell
District 2 – Johnny Grant
District 3 – Jamie Grant
District 4 – Tim Ramsey

Absent: Jeffery Washington, District 5
Craig Inzer Jr., District 6

PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

Several members from The Challenger Center Board of Directors attended the meeting today. The Challenger Center has served over 2,600 students across its 12-county service area. They have in place agreements with all three public school systems in the county, including a partnership with Etowah County Schools to provide a teacher in residence. This collaboration allows the center to directly align its programming with current classroom curriculum to enhance student learning.

Richard Rybka gave an update on Coosa Riverkeepers and recap of water sampling and swim guides from this past summer.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, OR ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Meridian Waste will have open top containers at four locations between 7:00am and 12:00 pm for residential cleanup of household trash on **Saturday, November 7, 2026**. 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 and Hwy 132
Whorton Bend Volunteer Fire Department
Gaston High School at Hwy 411 North

Upon a motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, seconded by Commissioner Ramsey, with all other members present 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 20TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2026.

Upon a motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, seconded by Commissioner Powell, with all other members present 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 9:38 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 20TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2026.

OLD BUSINESS: None

Upon a motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, seconded by Commissioner Ramsey, with all other members present voting “yes”, the following resolution was adopted:

CONSENT AGENDA:

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 October 6, 2026 of the Etowah County Commission be, and the same are hereby, approved as written.

B. The proposed Agenda for October 20, 2026.

C. To approve the request of Robert Nail, County Engineer, to promote Darin Long to Heavy Equipment Operator II, effective October 26, 2026. This is a promotion and replacement to be paid from the Gas Tax Fund, at an hourly rate of $21.18.

D. To approve the request of Robert Nail, County Engineer, to promote Darin Long to Heavy Equipment Operator II, effective October 26, 2026. This is a promotion and replacement to be paid from the Gas Tax Fund, at an hourly rate of $21.18.

E. To place the name of Joshua Makey in the Sheriff's Office job slot of Deputy Sheriff (Trainee), effective November 2, 2026. This is a new position to be paid from the General Fund – Sheriff's Office, at an hourly rate of $15.36.

F. To place the following names in the Sheriff's Office job slots of Detention Deputy, effective October 19, 2026. These are replacements to be paid from the General Fund – Jail, at an hourly rate of $15.36:

- Natalie Stewart
- Jeremy Oliveira
- Amber Hampleman
- Daniel Brown
- Ashton Mostella

G. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to award Bid No. FY 2026-15 Full Service, Printing and Mailing – Revenue, on the recommendation of Becky Nordgren, Revenue Commissioner, to Lineage Mailing Service, LLC, dba Lineage Connect, the lowest, responsible bidder.

H. To approve the preliminary plat for Lawson Gap Estates, a minor subdivision adjacent to Lawson Gap Road, District 3. A copy of this document is in attachment book 16, page 16-081.

I. To approve the preliminary plat and drawings for Bent River Phase 2, a proposed major subdivision, in Whorton Bend, District 6, adjacent to Bent River, Hunter's Crossing, and Creekside Unit 4 subdivisions. A copy of this document is in attachment book 16, page 16-082.

J. To vacate the unpaved portion of Higgenbotham Road, located in District 2, that extends southwest from Antioch Road a distance of +/- 1,500 feet. A copy of this document is in attachment book 16, page 16-088.

K. To approve School Resource Officer Memorandum of Understanding between the Etowah County Commission, Etowah County Sheriff's Office, and Etowah County Board of Education, and to authorize the CAO to execute the document. A copy of this document is in attachment book 16, page 16-083.

L. To approve the Master Agreement between Etowah County and Ingenuity, Inc., for a three-year term, and to authorize the CAO to execute the document. A copy of this document is in attachment book 16, page 16-084.

M. To approve the Interlocal Agreement between City of Gadsden, Etowah County Commission, Etowah County Sheriff for the 2026 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Award and to authorize the Commission President and CAO to execute the document. A copy of this document is in attachment book 16, page 16-085.

N. To approve a Cable Television Franchise Agreement for Etowah County, Alabama between the Etowah County Commission and Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC, for a term of ten years, and to authorize the CAO to execute the document. A copy of this document is in attachment book 16, page 16-086.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 20TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2026.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upon a motion of Commissioner Ramsey, seconded by Commissioner Powell, with all other members present voting "yes", the following resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To have the final reading and approval to reappoint Kenny Coffman to the Alabama Mountain Lakes Tourist Association Board of Directors. This will be a two-year term.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 20TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2026.

Upon a motion of Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Jamie Grant, with all other members present voting "yes", the following resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To approve the Nonexclusive Lease, Chert Removal and Purchase Agreement between Etowah County Commission and Ralph Golightly, for a one-year term, and to authorize the CAO to execute the document. A copy of this document is in attachment book 16, page 16-087.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 20TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2026.

Upon a motion of Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Jamie Grant, with all other members present voting "yes", the following resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To request an Attorney General's opinion regarding whether any portion of a retirement benefit that had been payable to a retired elected official is due to be paid to the beneficiary of the retired elected official. The portion of the benefit in question is the portion derived from a local legislative supplement.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 20TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2026.

Chief Administrative Officer
County Engineer
County Attorney
Other

DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONERS:

ADJOURN: The Chair then entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Upon a motion from Commissioner Jamie Grant, seconded by Commissioner Ramsey, with all other members present voting "yes", the motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:44 am.

Mike Powell, Commissioner, District 1	Tim Ramsey, Commissioner, District 4
Johnny Grant, Commissioner, District 2	**Absent** Jeffery Washington, President, Commissioner, District 5
Jamie Grant, Commissioner, District 3	**Absent** Craig Inzer, Jr., Commissioner, District 6