

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION  
ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA  
March 7, 2023**

Commissioner Craig Inzer, Jr., called the meeting to order on the 7th Day of March, 2023 at 9:00 am and Commissioner Washington asked the Prayer and led the Pledge to the Flag.

**CALL OF ROLL TO ESTABLISH A QUORUM:** The following 5 out of 6 Commission members were at the meeting and accordingly a quorum was present:

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

Absent: Joey Statum – District 1

**PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS & OTHERS:** None.

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

Upon motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, 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 9:10 am.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7th DAY OF MARCH, 2023.**

Upon motion of Commissioner Tim 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 call the Etowah County Commission Meeting back to order at 9:30 am.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7th DAY OF MARCH, 2023.**

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Upon motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, seconded by Commissioner Tim 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(s) on February 21, 2023, of the Etowah County Commission be, and the same are hereby, approved as written.
- B. The Proposed Agenda for March 7, 2023.
- C. Reported Financial Transactions. A copy of the Cash Disbursements, Online Transfers, and Purchasing Charges for February, 2023, has been filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 019.
- D. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to let a new bid for the NEAR Mega-site 500,000-gallon Elevated Water Tank No. 1 (closest to the 100-acre pad). Tank No. 2 (closest to Interstate 59) bid on February 28, 2023. The Commission will seek bids in order to compare the cost of the two tanks prior to bid award.

- E. To place the name of Courtney Halvorson in the Sheriff's Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective March 6, 2023. This is a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$14.98.
- F. To place the name of William Smith in the Sheriff's Office job slot of Deputy Sheriff (certified), effective March 20, 2023. This is a replacement to be paid from the Sheriff's Office, General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$15.36.
- G. To approve the 'Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program Landowner Agreement' between Etowah County Commission, Cawaco RC&D, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to replace a culvert/pipe on Jones Chapel Road and to authorize the Commission President to execute the document. A copy of this agreement has been filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 020.
- H. To approve the request of Robert Nail, County Engineer, to declare the following as surplus and to purchase the following equipment items in March of 2023:

Surplus:

2021 Mack Dump Truck GR64 F	VIN# 1M2GR4GC2MM023737
2021 Mack Dump Truck GR64 F	VIN# 1M2GR4GC6MM023739
2021 Mack Dump Truck GR64 F	VIN# 1M2GR4GC1MM023793
2021 Mack Dump Truck GR64 F	VIN# 1M2GR4GC3MM023794
2021 Mack Dump Truck GR64 F	VIN# 1M2GR4GCXMM023825
2021 Mack Dump Truck GR64 F	VIN# 1M2GR4GC1MM023826

Request to purchase:

6- Truck Worx Heavy Duty Dump Chassis and 6 – 16” Steel Dump Body

- I. To approve the County Levies for Alcohol Licensing for 2023-2024 with no changes recommended. A copy of the Levies has been filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 021.
- J. To approve the Access Agreement with Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC for the property at the Northeast Alabama Regional (NEAR) Megasite, and to authorize the CAO to execute the document. A copy of the Agreement has been filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 022.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7th DAY OF MARCH, 2023.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Upon the motion of Commissioner Tim 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 Final Reading and Approval to reappoint Kenny Goss to the West Etowah County Water Authority for a six-year term.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7th DAY OF MARCH, 2023.**

Upon the motion of Commissioner Johnny Grant, 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 have the First Reading to reappoint Phyllis Minshew to the Tillison Bend Water Authority for a six-year term.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7th DAY OF MARCH, 2023.**

Upon the motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, 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 have the First Reading to reappoint Gary Williamson to the Northeast Alabama Water, Sewer, And Fire Protection District for a four-year term.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7th DAY OF MARCH, 2023.**

Upon the motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, 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 to reappoint Gary Pruitt to the Highland Water Authority for a six-year term.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7th DAY OF MARCH, 2023.**

Upon the motion of Commissioner Johnny Grant, 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 have the First Reading to appoint Steve Blackwell to the Highland Water Authority for a six-year term, to replace Brian Freeman. Brian did not want to renew his appointment.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2023.**

Upon the motion of Commissioner Craig Inzer, 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 have the First Reading to reappoint James Kilgore to the Whorton Bend Water Authority for a six-year term.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2023.**

Upon the motion of Commissioner Johnny Grant, 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 designate the Chief Administrative Officer to be a duly authorized representative for the purpose of overseeing compliance with all environmental requirements, including the ADEM Administrative Code of Regulations, and to authorize the Commission President to sign the Delegation of Signatory Authority. This will allow the CAO to make application for ADEM permits needed to undertake water and sewer construction to serve the NEAR Megasite.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2023.**

Upon the motion of Commissioner Johnny Grant, 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 approve the request of Kevin Dollar, Deputy Administrator/CFO, to make the following:

Increase: Direct Support – Public Safety (001.52100-291)      \$120,000

Decrease: Sheriff’s Office – Motor Vehicles (001.52100-551)      \$120,000

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2023.**

Upon the motion of Commissioner Tim 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 authorize an Executive Session to discuss Safety and Security and one to discuss potential Economic Development, after a roll call vote with the majority approving the sessions. The first meeting will include Sheriff Horton, Marion Dodd, Kevin Dollar, some members of the Sheriff’s Staff, Shane Ellison, Jim Turnbach, and all Commissioners. The second meeting will include Kevin Dollar, Shane Ellison, Jim Turnbach, and all Commissioners. Both meetings have been certified by County Attorney Jim Turnbach as meeting the criteria for an Executive Session. District 2 – Yes; District 3 – Yes; District 4 – Yes; District 5 – Yes; and District 6 – Yes.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2023.**

Upon the motion of Commissioner Tim 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 reconvene from the Executive Sessions.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2023.**

**REPORTS FROM THE STAFF**

- Chief Administrative Officer**
- County Engineer**
- County Attorney**
- Other**

**DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Johnny Grant thanked everyone for coming.

Commissioner Jamie Grant thanked Robert for his help recently. They had a lot of trees down in his district. He also thanked the law enforcement for their work.

Commissioner Ramsey thanked the Sheriff for saving money on his recent vehicle purchases and for all they do.

Commissioner Washington thanked everyone for coming.

Commissioner Inzer thanked everyone for coming and thanked the two representatives from the City of Gadsden. He said he didn't recall it happening before – where representatives from the City of Gadsden came to a Commission meeting. He said we were on the radar more than we have been on bringing money back to Etowah County and Gadsden. He also said he appreciated the other Mayors in the County on working together.

**ADJOURN:** The Chair then entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Upon motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, seconded by Commissioner Tim Ramsey, with all other members voting “yes”, the motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am

**ABSENT**

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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, Commissioner, District 5

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Jamie W. Grant, Commissioner, District 3

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Craig Inzer, Jr., President, Commissioner, District 6