

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION
ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA
July 11, 2023**

Commissioner Craig Inzer, Jr., called the meeting to order on the 11th Day of July, 2023 at 9:00 am and Commissioner Statum 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 1 – Joey Statum	
District 2 – Johnny Grant	District 5 – Jeffery Washington
District 3 – Jamie Grant	District 6 – Craig Inzer

Absent: Tim Ramsey – District 4

PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

John Cook discussed an issue with drainage on his property that he feels was caused by the county. He came to a meeting about 3 months ago and turn in a bill to the county due to their hydro-trespassing and he was asking for a status update on his claim.

D. J. Nation came to the meeting to get an update on their complaints concerning Mine Road. The road appears to be a private road but they think the county worked on the road in the last 20 years. A small portion of the road is in Reece City- City Limits. He claims the county removed the asphalt, had mowed the side of the road, and dug out the ditches a couple of years ago. He said he got his information from the previous County Engineer but Robert has not been able to find any records showing the County worked on the road. He said he would check the records with Reece City to make sure the county wasn't doing work on their behalf.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS & OTHERS: None.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, OR ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

Upon motion of Commissioner Joey Statum, 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 recess in order to have a Work Session at 9:25 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF JULY, 2023.

Upon motion of Commissioner Craig Inzer, 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 9:42 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF JULY, 2023.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Upon motion of Commissioner Joey 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 Meeting(s) dated June 6, 2023 and June 20, 2023, of the Etowah County Commission be, and the same are hereby, approved as written.
- B. The Proposed Agenda for July 11, 2023
- C. To approve the Cash Disbursements, Online Transfers, and Purchasing Charges for June 2023. A copy is filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 55.
- D. To place the name of Blake Ragsdale in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Deputy Sheriff, effective July 10, 2023. This is a replacement to be paid from the Sheriff’s Office, General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$15.36.
- E. To place the name of Bradley Saylor in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Lieutenant Detention, effective June 26, 2023. This is a replacement and a promotion to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$21.70.
- F. To place the name of Barry Heath Yates in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Assistant Chief - Detention, effective June 26, 2023. This is a promotion and a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$25.16.
- G. To place the name of Tiffany Dailey in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Lieutenant Detention, effective July 2, 2023. This is a promotion and a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$17.81.
- H. To place the name of Blake Henderson in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective July 10, 2023. This is a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$14.98.
- I. To place the name of Greg Harwood in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Deputy Sheriff (non-certified), effective June 26, 2023. This is a demotion and a replacement to be paid from the Sheriff’s Office, General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$22.80.
- J. To place the name of Linda Turner in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective July 10, 2023. This is a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$14.98.
- K. To place the name of Johnny Grant in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Part-time Deputy Sheriff, effective July 3, 2023. This is a part-time replacement to be paid from the Sheriff’s Office, General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$15.36. (Commissioner Johnny Grant abstained on Item K since it pertained to him)
- L. To approve the request of Brittany Coheley, Animal Control/Shelter Director, to hire Lillian Ford as a Kennel Technician, effective July 10, 2023. This is a replacement to be paid from the Animal Control/Shelter Fund, at an hourly rate of \$12.00.
- M. To approve the request of Keith Peek, Chief of Administration – Sheriff’s Office, to make the following line-item transfers:

Increase: Direct Support – Public Safety (001.52100-291) \$44,779

Decrease: Supernumerary Official’s Salaries (001.52100-119) \$23,016
Motor Vehicles (001.52100-551) \$21,763

- N. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to award Bid No FY 2023-17 2023 Chevy Silverado 1500 4WD Crew Cab 147” LTZ to Donohoo Chevrolet, the lowest, responsible bidder.
- O. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to let a new bid for Rodent, Pest, Bird, & Termite Service County Buildings – 3-year Contract.
- P. To approve the request of Kevin Dollar, Deputy Administrator/CFO, to make the following budget amendments:

Increase:
License Inspector Department (001.51980-215) Tires & Tubes \$574

Decrease:
County Commission Department (001.51100-215) Tires & Tubes \$574

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF JULY, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upon the motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, 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 confirm Mayor Craig Ford's Appointment of Derek Mummert as the Emergency Management Director of the Gadsden-Etowah County Emergency Management Agency.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF JULY, 2023.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Johnny Grant, 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 approve the following agreement with Nitorco for Software installation and subscriptions for the Probate Office and to authorize the CAO to execute the documents:

- a. Assurance Land Recording/Business License Software Suite at a total cost of \$50,000 with a monthly maintenance fee of \$2,250 after the program goes live. A copy of this Agreement is filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 56.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF JULY, 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 approve the 'Resolution to Participate in the Joint Application for the Bridge Investment Program Grant Funding Opportunity' and to authorize the Commission President to execute the Resolution. A copy of this Resolution is filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 57.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF JULY, 2023.

Upon the 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 approve the Contract and Agreement with the City of Hokes Bluff with Etowah County being responsible for resurfacing and traffic stripe on a portion of Main Street, which falls within the corporate limit of Hokes Bluff, with the City of Hokes Bluff assuming all future obligations that previously have been the responsibility of Etowah County. Also, to authorize the Commission President to execute the document. A copy of this Agreement is filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 58.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF JULY, 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 approve the Lease Agreement with the Etowah County Extension Office for a period of five years, through October 1, 2027, and to authorize the CAO to execute the document. A copy of this Agreement is filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 59.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF JULY, 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 approve the request of Jonathon Horton, Sheriff, to grant approval for Summer Doran, Deputy in the Etowah County Sheriff's Office, to receive PTO leave donations. She has met the eligibility requirements under the program guidelines.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF JULY, 2023.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Craig Inzer, 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 approve the Etowah County Growing Alabama Funding Agreement in the amount of \$3 Million and to authorize the CAO to execute all documents. A copy of this Agreement is filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 60.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF JULY, 2023.

Upon the 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 approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to award Bid No. FY 2023-14 NEAR Mega-Site 500,000 Gallon Elevated Water Tank I to Phoenix Fabricators & Erectors, LLC., as recommended by Goodwyn, Mills, and Cawood with this being the lowest responsible bidder.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF JULY, 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 approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to reject Bid No. FY 2023-08 NEAR Mega-Site 500,000 Gallon Elevated Water Tank II, since the bid price for Tank II was higher than that of Tank I. Only one tank is needed at this time.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF JULY, 2023.

REPORTS FROM THE STAFF

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

DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Washington congratulated Derek on being hired as the EMA Director. He thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Commissioner Jamie Grant also congratulated Derek and he thanked Mayor Taylor for his leadership in Rainbow City and also thanked them for all the hard work of their staff.

Commissioner Johnny Grant agrees with all of the comments and said he is going back to work for the Sheriff part-time. He started working 48 years ago this past Friday in law enforcement and realized how much he missed it but he really enjoys being on the Commission and that will remain his top priority. He plans to serve on the Commission as long as the people of his District let him.

Commissioner Statum congratulated Derek and also Johnny. He said he was very excited about the Megasite and glad everyone has jumped on board and seeing it through. It has been his priority since he was first elected in 2010 and he has enjoyed watching things come to fruition. The \$8.7 Million from Growing Alabama is a blessing and has really opened the door to allow Etowah County to be more than they are now. He greatly appreciates Rainbow City stepping up and everyone working together.

Commissioner Inzer thanked Norfolk Southern for reinvesting back into the State and said the Growing Alabama group reviews the applications and decides which projects to fund. He thanked Norfolk Southern and the State of Alabama for funding our Megasite project and he also thanked GMC and their long-term commitment to this project. He congratulated Derek on being hired as the EMA Director.

ADJOURN: The Chair then entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Upon motion of Commissioner Joey Statum, seconded by Commissioner Jamie Grant, with all other members voting “yes”, the motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 am.

Joey Statum, Commissioner, District 1

ABSENT

Tim Ramsey, Commissioner, District 4

Johnny Grant, Commissioner, District 2

Jeffery Washington, Commissioner, District 5

Jamie W. Grant, Commissioner, District 3

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