

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION
ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA
August 8, 2023**

Commissioner Craig Inzer, Jr., called the meeting to order on the 8th Day of August, 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 6 out of 6 Commission members were at the meeting and accordingly a quorum was present:

District 1 – Joey Statum	District 4 – Tim Ramsey
District 2 – Johnny Grant	District 5 – Jeffery Washington
District 3 – Jamie Grant	District 6 – Craig Inzer

PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

A representative from Liberty Learning talked about upcoming events and their kick-off celebration. They teach kids in the schools about Civics and are asking the Commissioners to help sponsor their program.

John with the City of Gadsden thanked the Sheriff and the Road Department for their help after the recent storms. He also thanked Judge Hassell for bringing the mobile kitchen.

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 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2023.

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 call the Etowah County Commission Meeting back to order at 9:20 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2023.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Upon motion of Commissioner Ramsey, 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 Special Called Meeting dated June 28, 2023, of the Etowah County Commission be, and the same are hereby, approved as written. (The Minutes from the July 11, 2023 meeting will be approved on August 15th, 2023).
- B. The Proposed Agenda for August 8, 2023
- C. The Reported Financial Transactions for Cash Disbursements, Online Transfers, and Purchasing Credit Card Charges for July, 2023 are approved and filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 65.

- D. To place the name of Lureesa Hollis in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Sergeant Detention, effective July 20, 2023. This is a promotion and a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$15.74.
- E. To place the name of Brianna Jackson in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Detention Deputy effective July 17, 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 Brady Underwood in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective August 7, 2023. This is a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$14.98.
- G. To place the name of Robert Alexander in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective August 7, 2023. This is a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$14.98.
- H. To approve the request of Emily Helms, Chief Clerk-Personnel, to hire Kristi Bearden as Personnel Assistant, effective August 7, 2023. This is a replacement to be paid by the General Fund – Personnel at an hourly rate of \$13.24.
- I. To approve the request of Robert Nail, County Engineer, to hire Brian Rosenbalm as Assistant County Engineer, effective August 28, 2023. This is a replacement to be paid from the Gas Tax Fund, at an hourly rate of \$32.69.
- J. To approve the request of Becky Nordgren, Revenue Commissioner, to hire John Ambrose McGinnis as Chief Appraiser, effective August 8, 2023. This is a replacement to be paid from the Reappraisal Fund, at an hourly rate of \$33.65.
- K. To approve the request of Becky Nordgren, Revenue Commissioner, to hire Morgan Renfroe as Revenue Tag Title Clerk/Revenue Collection Clerk (Floater), effective August 14, 2023. This is a replacement to be paid from the Revenue-General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$12.00.
- L. To approve the request of Becky Nordgren, Revenue Commissioner, to hire Sara Stephens as Revenue Tag Title Clerk/Revenue Collection Clerk (Floater), effective August 17, 2023. This is a replacement to be paid from the Revenue-General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$12.00.
- M. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to renew Bid No FY 2021-2022-18 Plastic Roadway Pipe for an additional year with current vendor (ADCO Pipe & Supply) as provided for in the original bid.
- N. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to renew Bid No FY 2021-2022-20 Full-Service Printing & Mailing Revenue/Reappraisal with the current vendor (Penegrine Services) for an additional year, as provided for in the original bid.
- O. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to renew Bid No. FY 2021-2022-19 Garbage Service – County Buildings with the current vendor (Republic Services) for an additional year, as provided for in the original bid.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upon the 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:

- A. To approve the request of Kevin Dollar, Deputy Administrator/CFO, to make the following Budget Amendments:

Increase: Repairs & Maintenance, Bldg, Land & Improvements (001.57901-231)	\$23,430
Equipment below Threshold (001.57901-471)	\$2,073
 Increase: Other Revenue (001.40000.47900-000)	 \$25,503

Note: These budget amendments are for replacement of an HVAC unit at the Northeast Etowah Community Center and a shingle roof replacement at the Lookout Mountain Community Center.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2023.

Upon the 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:

- B. To approve the request of Kevin Dollar, Deputy Administrator/CFO, to make the following Budget Amendments:

Gasoline Tax Fund	
Increase:	
Expenditures - Construction Equipment (111.53100-561)	\$1,485,001

Revenue & Operating Transfer In -	
Sale of Capital Assets (111.61210-000)	\$1,051,240
Operating Transfer In - Severed Mineral Tax Fund (111.6100-119)	\$14,645
State Share -Highways/Roads (111.40000.44222-830)	\$134,261
Revenue from Municipalities (111.40000.44910-730)	\$16,056
Late Payment Penalty – Ad Valorem Taxes (111.40000.45295-710)	\$96,097
Charges for Services, Highways & Roads (111.40000.45680-730)	\$3,900

Fund Balance

Decrease:

Fund Balance (111.35900)	\$168,802
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Severed Mineral Tax Fund

Increase:

Revenue - Severed Mineral Tax (119.40000.44194-830)	\$14,645
Operating Transfer Out - Gas Tax Fund (119.62000-111)	\$14,645

Note: These budget amendments are for the purchase of the six Kenworth trucks for the Road Department, asphalt distributor, and associated fees.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 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 Kevin Dollar, Deputy Administrator, CFO, to make the following Budget Amendments:

Coroner’s Office

Increase:

Office Supplies (001.52400-211)	\$1,045
Miscellaneous Supplies (001.52400-219)	\$4,893
Equipment<Threshold (001.52400-471)	\$4,666
Health & Human Services Grant (001.40000.44780-710)	\$10,604

Increase:

Other Equipment (001.52400-549)	\$15,300
Other Revenue (001.40000.47900-000)	\$15,300

Note: This is to purchase an indoor cooler (10X10X8) for the Coroner’s Office with funds provided by the Etowah County Community Development Committees.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2023.

Upon the motion of Commissioner 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 approve the renewal of the ‘Tax Revenue Enhancement Agreement – Revenue Administration’ with Avenu Insights & Analytics, LLC, for up to three additional years and to authorize the CAO to execute the document. A copy of this Agreement is filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 66.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2023.

Upon the 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 approve a Change Order with Waites Construction Company, Inc., for an additional \$225,000 for mass rock excavation for the Little Canoe Creek Industrial Park (NEAR) – Phase II Contract and to authorize the CAO to execute the document. A copy of this Change Order is filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 67.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2023.

Upon the motion of Commissioner 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 approve the nomination of Ray St. John to be reappointed to the Etowah County Board of Equalization for the term beginning October 1, 2023.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2023.

Upon the 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 approve the request of Robert Nail, County Engineer, to order one International 2025 HV607 SBA in the amount of \$124,941.70. This will be included in the FY24 Budget.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2023.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Craig Inzer, Jr., 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 Preliminary Engineering and Construction Agreement between ALDOT and Etowah County for the ATRIP II Project for Intersection Improvements on Highway 411 and Whorton Bend Road and to authorize the Commission President to execute the document. A copy of this agreement is filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 68.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2023.

Upon the 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 School Resource Office Joint Agreement Resolution for 2023-2024 with the City of Hokes Bluff to extend the SRO Officer for Hokes Bluff Elementary School for 12 months and to authorize the CAO to execute the agreement. A copy of the agreement is filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 69.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 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 renew the Vital Records Control – Records Management and Box Storage Agreement and to authorize the CAO to execute the agreement. A copy of the agreement is filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 70.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2023.

Upon the 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 Alabama Department of Youth Services – Long Term Detention Subsidy Contract and to designate Coosa Valley to receive these funds. Also, to authorize the Commission President to execute the document.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2023.

Upon the 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 Contribution Agreement with The Alabama Great Southern Railroad Company for an additional \$3 Million Dollars. A copy of this agreement is filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 71.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2023.

Upon the motion of Commissioner 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 approve the Agreement with Rainbow City for the resurfacing of Township Road with the Commission President authorize to execute the document. A copy of this agreement is filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 72.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2023.

Upon the 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 Resolution to replace five additional Cross-Drain Pipes on various paved roads and to authorize the Commission President to execute the document. A copy of the document is filed in Attachment Book 13, Page 73.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2023.

REPORTS FROM THE STAFF

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

DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Washington thanked everyone for coming.

Commissioner Ramsey thanked Rainbow City for their work on Township Road and on other roads. He thanked Robert for finding money to fix the roads and is glad to have extra money for the water tank.

Commissioner Jamie Grant said he appreciated the first responders for all they do when we have storm damage and the road department. He said the Road Dept doesn’t get the thanks they deserve. He added that we are paying millions for the roads to be fixed and then they are falling apart in less than 2 years. He asked everyone to keep the people on the mountain in their thoughts and prayers because some lost their houses and people were hurt (in the recent storms).

Commissioner Johnny Grant thanked everyone involved for helping with the cleanup. He said he was proud of the coroner and what a good job he has done. He does a great job and is qualified to be the coroner. He said he was proud of the work that was being done on the Megasite.

Commissioner Statum said the Road Dept recently used some new equipment they had purchased to widen Green Valley Road and it does a great job. They are still working on the road now but he said it looks great.

Commissioner Inzer named some of the people he had a chance to talk with at the recent Economic Development Conference (IDA, Dept of Commerce) and several from Etowah County also attended. They talked about the County getting the recent grant from Norfolk Southern while some counties don’t even have land for new industry. He believes we have turned the page on what these people think of us by working together and having positive press concerning our project. He said recently, the Secretary of Commerce discussed the Etowah County project first in an Economic Development Meeting and it was the largest on his list.

Jamie Grant said the narrative has changed for Etowah County and reminded everyone of the ground breaking on part of the Megasite project after the meeting today.

ADJOURN: The Chair then entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Upon motion of Commissioner Joey Statum, seconded by Commissioner Johnny Grant, with all other members voting “yes”, the motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 am.

Joey Statum, Commissioner, District 1

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