

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION
ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA
February 20, 2024**

Commissioner Tim Ramsey, called the Commission Meeting to order on the 20th Day of February, 2024 at 9:00 am and Shane Ellison, CAO, 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 4 – Tim Ramsey
District 5 – Jeffery Washington
District 6 – Craig Inzer, Jr.

Absent: Jamie Grant – District 3

PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS: James Collins signed in and addressed the Commission. He said the road department destroyed his road and he had done all he could do to fix it. He has called the utilities – all of this has caused flooding at his house and the neighbor’s pasture. He talked to Commissioner Ramsey and they said they would come back and look at it when it was raining. He said he has been patient but he just wants it fixed. The flooding has destroyed his neighbor’s pasture.

Commissioner Ramsey said they have put in pipes before and they haven’t seen water coming into his yard from the pipe’s not working correctly. Tim said he would come out and look at it when it was raining and see if there’s anything they can do.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, OR ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

Upon motion of Commissioner Washington, 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:

To recess in order to have a Work Session at 9:12 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 20th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2024.

Upon motion of Commissioner Washington, seconded by Commissioner Inzer, 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 20th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2024.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Upon motion of Commissioner Washington, seconded by Commissioner Johnny 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 January 16, 2024 and February 6, 2024, of the Etowah County Commission be, and the same are hereby, approved as written.
- B. The Proposed Agenda for February 20, 2024.
- C. Any Reported Financial Transactions.
- D. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to renew Bid No FY 2023-13 Printing – Letterhead, Envelopes, Forms with the current vendor (Patterson Printing) for a second year, as provided for in the original bid.

- E. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to renew Bid No FY 2021-2022-06 Unfinished Traffic Signs and Posts with the current vendor (G&C Supply Company, Inc.) for a third and final year, as provided for in the original bid.
- F. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to renew Bid No FY 2021-2022-07 Office Supplies with the current vendor (Observer Supply) for a third and final year, as provided for in the original bid.
- G. To place the name of James Miller in the Sheriff's Office job slot of Process Server, effective February 12, 2024. This is a replacement to be paid from the Sheriff's Office, General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$15.36.
- H. To approve the request of Becky Nordgren, Revenue Commissioner, to promote Dianna Greco to Personal Property Appraiser I, effective February 20, 2024. This is a promotion and will be paid from the Reappraisal Fund at an hourly rate of \$17.37.
- I. To approve the County Levies for Alcohol Licensing for 2024-2025 with no changes recommended. A copy of the County Levies is filed in Attachment Book 14, Page 19.
- J. To approve the renewal of the ESRI Agreement (Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc.) for the Maintenance on the ArcGIS software which is used in the Revenue Department for a budgeted annual cost of \$13,310 and to authorize the CAO to execute the document. A copy of this Agreement has been filed in Attachment Book 14, Page 20.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 20th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2024.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upon the motion of Commissioner Statum, seconded by Commissioner Washington, with all other member 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 supporting Amendment 1 and to encourage all Alabamians to vote yes to this Amendment on March 5, 2024. Approval of this Resolution will allow local bills and local constitutional amendments to be considered by the Legislature without the adoption of a Budget Isolation Resolution (BIR), removing a procedural step from the legislative process. A copy is filed in Attachment Book 14, Page 21.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 20th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Inzer, seconded by Commissioner Statum, with all other member 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 Shane Ellison, CAO, to grant approval for an employee, Titavis Jackson, Building Service Worker – Floor Technician in the Maintenance Department, to receive PTO leave donations. He has met the eligibility requirements under the program guidelines.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 20th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Washington, seconded by Commissioner Johnny Grant, with all other member voting 'yes', the following resolution was adopted:

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

To adopt the Floodplain Development Ordinance and the Resolution for 'Application for Admission to the National Flood Insurance Program'; Also, to authorize the Commission President to execute the Resolution. A copy of the Floodplain Ordinance and Resolution are filed in Attachment Book 14, Page 22.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 20th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Statum, seconded by Commissioner Inzer, with all other member 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 business and commerce after a roll call vote with the majority approving the session. Jim Turnbach, County Attorney, certified it meets the requirements under the Open Meetings Law. Those present for the meeting will be the Commissioners, Kevin Dollar, Shane Ellison, and Jim Turnbach. District 1 – yes, District 2 – yes, District 4 – yes, District 5 – yes, and District 6 – yes. The Commission dismissed for the Executive Session at 9:32 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 20th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Johnny Grant, seconded by Commissioner Inzer, with all other member 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 20th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2024.

REPORTS FROM THE STAFF

Chief Administrative Officer
County Engineer
County Attorney
Other

DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Statum thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Commissioner Johnny Grant said he was waiting on the election and encouraged everyone to vote. He said there has not been a big turnout on absentee voting.

Commissioner Washington thanked everyone for being here. He thanked Barry Smith for keeping the turnover down in the Jail. He said people that work for him say he treats them like they are somebody.

Commissioner Inzer talked about the Growth in the area and said a lot of communities are involved. GMC presenting the Gadsden Master Plan.

Congressman Rogers was overly receptive to us moving into his district and Craig thinks he will work with us on the Megasite plans.

There will be a reception at Gadsden Airport (through Gadsden Etowah Chamber) on Thursday. There will be other groups there to discuss future of the airport (Open house at 5:00). A lot more people use it than they did in the past. Everyone is supportive of airport updates and know this may be the first impression people have of this area (as far as companies trying to open companies here). He said he also heard good things about the jail management and the workers feel they are appreciated.

Representative Lipscomb and Butler are trying to help replace the lost revenue due to county losing so much pistol permit funds. They are pushing the legislators to replace them in another way.

The Grow Plan involves the airport as well – a lot of aviation advocates are in the area.

Commissioner Ramsey talked about pistol permits and said he talked to Senator Jones and told him since they moved money then they said they will replace it. He expects them to do what they say they would do and asked that they work on doing that.

He also talked about the Mental Health Group and on CED Mental Health. (This includes the Sheriff, staff and Ms. Hurley). They are trying to put in a similar program that Probate Judge has on the Civil Side and have it on the criminal side as well. They are making progress.

He also talked with Dr. Cosby and he discussed a program for Mentally and Developmentally challenged adults. It has about 150 people (or were there, this past week.). (Maranatha Alabama).

ADJOURN: The Chair then entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Upon motion of Commissioner Statum, seconded by Commissioner Johnny Grant, with all other members voting “yes”, the motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

Joey Statum, Commissioner, District 1

Tim Ramsey, President, Commissioner, District 4

Johnny Grant, Commissioner, District 2

Jeffery Washington, Commissioner, District 5

ABSENT

Jamie W. Grant, Commissioner, District 3

Craig Inzer, Jr., Commissioner, District 6