

COMMISSION MEETING - JANUARY 25, 2005

A regular meeting of the Cullman County Commission was held on Tuesday, January 25, 2005, at 10:00 a.m., in the Commission Office conference room. Present were Chairman Wiley Kitchens, Commissioner Doug Williams, and Commissioner Stanley Yarbrough. Chairman Kitchens called the meeting to order and welcomed the visitors. Attorney Dan Willingham gave the invocation and Chairman Kitchens led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVE MINUTES OF JANUARY 14, 2005 MEETING

Commissioner Yarbrough made the motion to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2005 meeting as recorded. Commissioner Williams seconded, and upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE APPROPRIATIONS, EXPENDITURES, REQUISITIONS, TRAVEL EXPENSE, ETC.

Commissioner Yarbrough made the motion to approve appropriations, expenditures, requisitions, travel expense, etc. Commissioner Williams seconded, and upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE ALL JOURNAL ENTRIES TO BE POSTED

Commissioner Yarbrough made the motion to approve all journal entries to be posted. Commissioner Williams seconded, and upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

REVISION OF RE-APPRAISAL BUDGET

Revenue Commissioner Kay Smith said the Re-Appraisal Dept. computers that were bought in 1996; keep shutting down and constantly being patched to keep them operational. These are not your standard computers; they are especially designed with a NT chips that makes them operate. These computers will no longer operate properly with the software that is currently being used. The Re-Appraisal Dept. has spoke with Alan Elrod with the State and has a verbally approved to get the equipment needed. Revenue Commissioner Smith stated that the estimated cost is \$65,000.00 for new computers for this department and ask the Commission to revise the Re-Appraisal Budget for the purchase of these computers.

Commissioner Williams made the motion to revise the Re-Appraisal Budget. Commissioner Yarbrough seconded, and upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER PRELIMINARY PLAT FOR LITTLE DAM SUBDIVISION

County Engineer Philip Widner explained that Alabama Land Partner, the Developer and St. John and Associates, the Consulting Engineers have submitted a Preliminary Plat for Little Dam Subdivision located off County Road 159. The County granted a design speed various in November of 2004 for this subdivision. The Engineering Office has reviewed the Preliminary Plat and recommends approval.

Commissioner Yarbrough made the motion to accept the Preliminary Plat. Commissioner Williams seconded, and upon a voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AWARDING BID NO. 787 - ELEVATOR SERVICE

County Administrator Gay Teichmiller said three bids were received on this item with Otis Elevator Company being the lowest bidder.

Commissioner Williams made the motion to accept Otis Elevator Company as low bidder. Commissioner Yarbrough seconded, and upon a voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER DROP PROGRAM

Commissioner Williams said he had several employees to ask the Commission to consider this program. David Sandlin from the Sheriffs Dept. explained he felt this program would benefit the County by allowing employees reaching retirement age that has experience in their job to be retained for 3, 4 or 5 years and at the same time it would allow them to build their DROP account. Mr. Sandlin explained that an account is build from retirement funds going into the DROP account (retirement check, retirement withheld from check and county's match). At the end of 3, 4, or 5 years (how long you participate) all this money plus any interest is turned over to the employee. The employee can roll this money over into a Retirement Account, IRA or take in one Lump Sum.

Commissioner Williams said he had read about this program and it's similar to the teachers. It's a fantastic benefit for the employees and gives the county an opportunity to retain qualified employees past their retirement.

Commissioner Williams made the motion to accept the DROP Program. Commissioner Yarbrough seconded, and upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

County Attorney Dan Willingham explain they would need to amend the motion and adopt Resolution No. 2005-21 for the Chairman to sign establishing the Deferred Retirement Option Plan ("DROP").

DROP Program will take effective the first of March.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 14, 2005, 10:00 A.M. COMMISSION OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM.

Chairman Kitchens announced that the next regular commission meeting will be held on Monday, February 14, 2005, at 10:00 a.m., in the Commission Office conference room.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jimmy Arrington with the Sheriff's Dept. said on behalf of the Employees who have reached retirement age, he would like to thank the Commission for establishing the DROP Program.

Commissioner Williams announced Chief Deputy, Tony Quick and his unit will be returning home this weekend from Iraq. Permission has been ask to place a banner in front of the courthouse welcoming the troop's home. Commissioner Williams said he would like to make a motion to place a sign in front of the courthouse.

Chairman Kitchens said he appreciates and commends all service men and women for their service to the nation and very grateful to them.

Commissioner Yarbrough seconded the motion.

ADJOURN

Upon a duly made and carried, the meeting was adjourned.