

CULLMAN COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING
February 28, 2012

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Chairman James Graves called the Commission Meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and welcomed the visitors.

CALL OF ROLL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The County Clerk called the roll; present were Chairman James Graves, Commissioner Darrell Hicks, Commissioner Stanley Yarbrough and County Attorney Tim Culpepper. The invocation was given by Buchanan Jackson. Bob Burns led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 14, 2012 MEETING, APPROVE APPROPRIATIONS, EXPENDITURES, REQUISITIONS, TRAVEL EXPENSES; AND APPROVE ALL JOURNAL ENTRIES TO BE POSTED.

Commissioner Yarbrough made the motion to approve the minutes from the February 14, 2012 Commission Meeting, approve appropriations, expenditures, requisitions, travel expenses and approve all journal entries to be posted. Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion which passed on a unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

James Rhodes addressed two concerns. He first asked how much the County has paid toward the construction of the Duck River reservoir project. Gary Teichmiller, County Administrator, explained the project is financed by a utility board bond issue. The bond repayment will be made through water revenue. The County does have a thirty year contract to purchase water from the City; however tax dollars are not used in the construction.

Secondly, Mr. Rhodes expressed concern about the annexation of the Burrow property, located on County Road 222, into the City of Cullman. Residents are concerned that once the City is allowed to annex the property, which does not touch any current city boundary, this will put them in a position to annex Topre into the City. This would result in a loss of approximately \$130,000 in tax revenue to the county school system.

Chairman Graves stated since the Burrow property is not contiguous to the City of Cullman, the annexation must take place through an act of the state legislature. The City has already purchased the property, so there is currently no ad valorem tax being collected by the County. He stated he had spoken with Representative Mac Buttram yesterday and the legislative delegation is looking at the feasibility of the annexation and any impact it might have on the tax base for county schools. No determination has been made at this time. The County has stated they are not opposed to the annexation; however, any action will come through the legislature.

Fulton Mauter expressed support for the half cent sales tax for education which will be on the March 13th primary ballot. Mr. Mauter also inquired about the use of trustees from the jail by private citizens. Chief Deputy Bartlett told him trustees were available. The charge is \$7.50 per hour for week days and \$8.00 per hour on weekends. It is the individual's responsibility to pick up and return the trustees to the jail. Necessary paper work can be obtained at the sheriff's department.

Gary Olson expressed his opposition to the annexation of the Burrow property.

Chairman Graves informed the meeting that at last week's Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting, the Lucile Galin Public Award went to the employees of the Cullman Electric Coop and the Cullman Power Board for their extraordinary work following the April 27, 2011 tornadoes. The Commission wants to express their thanks for the efforts of all the employees.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider a donation of \$3,000 to the Festhalle Market Committee

Commissioner Hicks stated he would abstain on the consideration since he is on the board of the Festhalle Market Committee. Commissioner Yarbrough made a motion to donate \$3,000 to the committee for the operation of the farmer's market. Chairman Graves seconded the motion. Chairman Graves and Commissioner Yarbrough voted "aye". Commissioner Hicks abstained. The motion carried.

Consider a donation of \$1,000 to the Bethesadia Fire Department, a polling place

Commissioner Yarbrough made a motion to donate \$1,000 to the Bethesadia Fire Department, a polling place. Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion which passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Authorize the EMA Director to sign the Public Health Grant for SMORT in the amount of \$54,500

Phyllis Little, EMA Director, stated the grant of \$54,500 is a 100% grant for a 26 body refrigerated trailer to be used during disasters. The smaller unit the EMA Office currently has will be moved to western Alabama. Commissioner Hicks made a motion to authorize the EMA Director to sign the SMORT grant. Commissioner Yarbrough seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Authorize the Chairman and EMA Director to sign the Cooperative Agreement with the State EMA

Ms. Little stated this is the performance grant the County receives annually from the State. The amount is \$2,858.00. Commissioner Yarbrough made a motion to authorize the Chairman and EMA Director to sign the necessary agreement documentation. Commissioner Hicks second. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

Resolution 2012-16 – Location of Sales for Delinquent Property Tax

The Revenue Commissioner has requested the location of the sale of delinquent property tax land be moved to the commission meeting room. With the current repair and construction taking place on the exterior of the courthouse,

there is no safe place available outside. Commissioner Yarbrough made a motion to approve the relocation of the sale. Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion which passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2012-17 – Authorize signing of agreement with ALDOT for Bridge Replacement on SR 91 over Brindley Creek

Commissioner Hicks made a motion to authorize the signing of the agreement with ALDOT for the bridge replacement on SR 91 at Brindley Creek. Commissioner Yarbrough seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2012-18 – Elected Officials Eligible for Supernumerary Status Option of Participating in the State of Alabama Retirement System Instead of Receiving Supernumerary Benefits

Chairman Graves stated there are two positions, the Sheriff and the Revenue Commissioner, who are under the supernumerary system. The County is requesting the legislature to allow these officials to participate in the State's retirement system, RSA, instead of the County having the obligation of the supernumerary payments when the officials retire. Commissioner Yarbrough made a motion to approve the resolution concerning supernumerary status and retirement options. Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion which passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Bid No. 1097 – Grader Blades

Roy Jackson, Road Superintendent, stated only one bid was received. However, it did not include a bid price for grader blades for John Deere equipment. Blades for this equipment will need to be bought directly from John Deere. Commissioner Yarbrough made a motion to award the bid to Batey and Sanders, Inc. Commissioner Hicks seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Bid No. 1098 – Front Loading Refuse Truck

James Rollo, Manager of the Sanitation Department, stated seven (7) bids were received for the sanitation truck. The low bid which met the specification was for \$214,235 from Nextran. Commissioner Yarbrough made a motion to award the bid. Commissioner Hicks seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion passed.

Ratify the following personnel actions:

New Hire	Richard T. Hammock	Sheriff's Department – full time
	Mark Logan	Water Department – part time temporary
Promotion	Craig Betts	Sheriff's Department – full time
Transfer Within Department	Gary D. Campbell	CARTS- full time temporary

Commissioner Hicks made a motion to ratify the personnel actions. Commissioner Yarbrough seconded the motion which passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Paving of County Roads 1595, 438, 222 and 1669

Chairman Graves informed the public of scheduled paving projects in the County. County Road 1595 which runs beside Parkside School will be paved. The County has secured \$125,000 from ALDOT for repairs and paving on County Road 438. This is approximately half the cost of the project. The County will pay the additional cost. County Road 222 from the 4-way-stop toward Bremen will be paved by the county road department once the weather moderates. County Road 1669 from Fairview to Holly Pond is the "federal aid" road project for this year. ALDOT will let the contract for this project by mid April to the first of May.

The Chairman announced the County is making arrangements to have generators located at the road departments on the east and west side, fire departments, community centers and senior center throughout the County. This will enable citizens to have access to electricity for the recharging of phones and other electronics during times of power outages. We are also looking into the feasibility of having oxygen tanks located at volunteer fire departments where those who use oxygen can come to refill their individual tanks during disasters.

The next NARCOG meeting will be March 8, 2012 at the City Hall in Cullman at 10:00 a.m.

NEXT REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2012

Chairman Graves announced the next commission meeting will be Monday, March 12, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission Meeting Room. The date is changed due to the election on Tuesday, March 13th, at which time the Commission Meeting Room will be used for voting.

ADJOURN THE MEETING

Commissioner Hicks made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Yarbrough seconded the motion. Chairman Graves adjourned the meeting at 10:42 a.m.

/s/
James D. Graves, Chairman

/s/
Darrell Hicks,
Associate Commissioner

/s/
Stanley Yarbrough,
Associate Commissioner