

**CULLMAN COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING  
OCTOBER 29, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**

Chairman Walker called the Commission Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**CALL OF ROLL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM**

Meleigh Hitt, Administrative Assistant, called the roll; present were Chairman Kenneth Walker, Commissioner Kerry Watson, Commissioner Garry Marchman, County Administrator Gary Teichmiller, County Engineer Bryan Cheatwood, and County Attorney Emily Johnston. The invocation was given by County Revenue Commissioner Barry Willingham. EMA Director, Phyllis Little, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 14, 2020 MEETING; APPROVE APPROPRIATIONS, EXPENDITURES, REQUISITIONS, AND ALL JOURNAL ENTRIES TO BE POSTED**

Commissioner Watson made the motion to approve the minutes from October 14, 2020, Commission Meeting, approve appropriations, expenditures, personnel actions, payroll, requisitions, and all journal entries to be posted. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**PUBLIC /UPDATES**

Commissioner Kerry Watson stated, "I would like to tell the Chairman, I have enjoyed working with you the past few years. I am thankful for the accomplishments we have been able to make, and I hope you have a great future."

Chairman Walker stated, "Thank you, I appreciate that. It has been a good ride. I have enjoyed it; it's been good working with you."

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Ratify City of Cullman Abatement for Project York/Reliance Worldwide in the amount of \$24,250,000**

Stanley Kennedy from Cullman Economic Development addressed the Commission and stated the City is requesting the County ratify the abatement. Project York is the Reliance Project announced with Governor Ivey on the York property across from Wal-Mart Distribution Center. Mr. Kennedy stated this abatement is worth 1.6 million. That is the amount that the County will be abating over a 10-year period. From this project, the County will get a 24 million total investment, 130 jobs with average pay at \$18 per hour. It will create 1.3 million in educational tax revenues over the 10-year period, which will go to Cullman area schools. Mr. Kennedy stated, we also estimate from the payroll every year a total of 4.9 million from these jobs. That will create an additional \$145,000 of tax revenue and an additional 1.5 million a year for local businesses. Commissioner Watson made a motion to ratify the City of Cullman Abatement for Project York/Reliance Worldwide in the amount of \$24,250,000. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion then passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Resolution 2020-44: To hire outside counsel to represent the Cullman County Board of Equalization**

Revenue Commissioner Barry Willingham addressed the Commission and stated, "this is an ongoing lawsuit we have with section 42 Housing Project here in Cullman. The Alabama Department of Revenue has Webb & Eley representing all the Counties but recommend us having local counsel representing the Board of Equalization." Commissioner Marchman made a motion approving Resolution 2020-44: To hire outside counsel to represent the Cullman County Board of Equalization. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Authorize Revenue Commissioner Barry Willingham to hire a real estate appraiser**

Revenue Commissioner Barry Willingham addressed the Commission and explained this goes along with the Board of Equalization lawsuit. It is best to have outside appraisers to come in. Webb & Eley have an expert witness out of Tennessee. Mr. Willingham stated, they have their expert witness, so we must have someone also. Commissioner Watson made a motion to authorize Revenue Commissioner Barry Willingham to hire a real estate appraiser. Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

**Authorize Chairman and Revenue Commissioner Barry Willingham to sign an Agreement for Eagleview Imaging**

Revenue Commissioner Barry Willingham explained to the Commission this is an agreement with the County and 911 to contract with Eagleview to do out ariel photography. It is three projects over the next six years that will be completed by Eagleview. Mr. Willingham also stated, if we ever have a natural disaster, they will have a plane in the air within 24 hours. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to authorize Chairman and Revenue Commissioner Barry Willingham to sign an Agreement for Eagleview Imaging. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Authorize Chairman to sign a "Termination Agreement" to terminate a hanger lease agreement at the Cullman Regional Airport**

Emily Johnston, County Attorney, addressed the Commission and stated this was previously approved in a meeting to buy out the remaining time left on the hanger. The FAA is requiring that it can not be used as a storage unit. The Termination Agreement is just finalizing the buyout and to move forward to have it cleaned out and ready for the use of an airplane. Commissioner Watson made a motion to authorize Chairman to sign a "Termination Agreement" to terminate a hanger lease agreement at the Cullman Regional Airport. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion then passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Consider authorizing payment to the City of Hanceville for Mud Creek Cleanup in the amount of \$15,000**

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to authorize payment to the City of Hanceville for Mud Creek Cleanup in the amount of \$15,000. Commissioner Watson seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

**Ratify the payment to Comfort Systems USA for boiler repairs at the jail- cost \$10,243**

Gary Teichmiller, County Administrator, stated the boiler at the jail went out and had to be repaired. This is just to ratify the payment. Commissioner Watson made a motion to ratify the payment to Comfort Systems USA for boiler repairs at the jail- cost \$10,243. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Consider the purchase of a IMC3500 Copier under the State of Alabama Bid Contract in the amount of \$6,006 from Office Equipment Company for the Road Department**

Bryan Cheatwood, County Engineer, stated the current copier at the Road Department needs to be replaced. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the purchase of a IMC3500 Copier under the State of Alabama Bid Contract in the amount of \$6,006 from Office Equipment Company for the Road Department. Commissioner Watson seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

**Consider the payoff of the Economic Development building- Pay off amount \$136,424.03**

Gary Teichmiller, County Administrator, addressed the Commission and stated the current payoff time for the Economic Development building is 2027. If it is paid off now, the County will save roughly \$16,000 in interest. Commissioner Watson made a motion to pay off the Economic Development building with the payoff amount of \$136,424.03. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Consider hiring outside counsel for filing CARES Act Reimbursements**

Emily Johnston, County Attorney, addressed the Commission and stated, "I requested consideration of hiring outside counsel for this. This firm deals specifically with the ever changing laws with filing for CARES act reimbursements and will help us with audits. They bill by the hour, so it is not a huge contract fee. We only pay for the work they do". Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve hiring outside counsel for filing CARES Act Reimbursements. Commissioner Watson seconded. The motion then passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Consider letting bid for the replacement of the roof at the Cullman County Garage**

Commissioner Watson made a motion approving, letting bid to replace the roof at the Cullman County Garage. Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

**Consider the approval of hiring Aggreko to install Chiller Electrical- cost \$6,500**

Emily Johnston, County Attorney, explained to the Commission three quotes were received, and the lowest quote was Aggreko for \$6,500. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve hiring Aggreko to install Chiller Electrical- cost \$6,500. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Authorize Director of Safety to request and receive Loss Data History Records from the County's insurance carriers**

Commissioner Watson made a motion authorizing the Director of Safety to request and receive Loss Data History Records from the County's insurance carriers. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion then passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Consider the purchase of a portable air compressor for the Water Department from Cowin Equipment Company, Inc- cost \$19,975.88**

Randall Waldrop, Manager of the Cullman County Water Department, addressed the Commission and stated the water department has been renting an air compressor. It is a piece of equipment that is used almost daily. Mr. Waldrop stated Cowin Equipment Company said they would take the total amount the water department had paid in rent for the equipment and put it toward the purchase. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the purchase of a portable air compressor for the Water Department from Cowin Equipment Company, Inc- cost \$19,975.88. Commissioner Watson seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

**Authorize Park Director to submit a grant for playground equipment**

Commissioner Watson made a motion to authorize Park Director to submit a grant for playground equipment. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Consider the purchase of a Motor Grader from ADECA for the Road Department- cost \$10,000**

Bryan Cheatwood, County Engineer, addressed the Commission and stated the motor grader would supplement the road department's winter emergency operations and the repaving. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the purchase of a Motor Grader from ADECA for the Road Department in the amount of \$10,000. Commissioner Watson seconded. The motion then passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Consider request of an appropriation of \$8,978.71 to Cullman EMS and Cullman County Fire Communications Center for upgrades of radio consoles**

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the request of an appropriation of \$8,978.71 to Cullman EMS and Cullman County Fire Communications Center for upgrades of radio consoles. Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion then carried.

**Consider the surplus of a 1990 Altec Aerial Device from Engineering and transfer to Sportsman's Lake Park**

County Engineer Bryan Cheatwood addressed the Commission and stated the parks use the aerial device to change lightbulbs, and the equipment is no longer used by the Road Department. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the surplus of a 1990 Altec Aerial Device from Engineering and transfer to Sportsman's Lake Park. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Consider the surplus of a 1991 Hummer from Engineering and transfer to Stony Lonesome**

Bryan Cheatwood, County Engineer, addressed the Commission and stated the equipment is no longer used by the Road Department and recommended the surplus. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the surplus of a 1991 Hummer from Engineering and transfer to Stony Lonesome OHV Park. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion then passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Chairman Walker to reappoint Burma Graves to the CCCDD Board for a 6-year term expiring 04/01/2026**

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve Chairman Walker to reappoint Burma Graves to the CCCDD Board for a 6-year term expiring 04/01/2026. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Chairman Walker to appoint Blake West to the Department of Human Resources Board, replacing Terry McGill, for a 6-year term expiring 05/15/2026**

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Chairman Walker to appoint Blake West to the Department of Human Resources Board, replacing Terry McGill, for a 6-year term expiring 05/15/2026. Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

**Chairman Walker to reappoint Jimmy Knight to the Duck River Reservoir Oversight Board for a 3-year term expiring 09/11/2023**

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve Chairman Walker to reappoint Jimmy Knight to the Duck River Reservoir Oversight Board for a 3-year term expiring 09/11/2023. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Chairman Walker to appoint Phillip Hicks to the Walter Water Authority Board, replacing Max Doty, for a 6-year term expiring 03/01/2026**

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Chairman Walker to appoint Phillip Hicks to the Walter Water Authority Board, replacing Max Doty, for a 6-year term expiring 03/01/2026. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Commissioner Watson to reappoint T.J Franey to the Department of Human Resources Board for a 6-year term expiring 05/15/2026**

Commissioner Watson made a motion to reappoint T.J Franey to the Department of Human Resources Board for a 6-year term expiring 05/15/2026. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Commission to reappoint Doug Davenport to the North Alabama Tourism Association for a 2-year term expiring 03/30/2022**

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the Commission to reappoint Doug Davenport to the North Alabama Tourism Association for a 2-year term expiring on 03/30/2022. Commissioner Watson seconded. The motion then passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Approve personal office furnishings paid for by Commissioner Watson for his office**

- 5 Photography Canvas
- Portrait and frame for map
- Oak Office Desk

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve personal office furnishing paid for by Commissioner Watson for his office. Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

**Proposed plat Clear Creek Cove Subdivision Phase 2. A major subdivision consisting of 45 lots located in District 1 on County Road 813**

Bryan Cheatwood, County Engineer, addressed the Commission and explained this is a major subdivision that meets all requirements and regulations. Mr. Cheatwood recommended the plat for approval. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the plat Clear Creek Cove Subdivision Phase 2. A major subdivision consisting of 45 lots located in District 1 on County Road 813. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Proposed Plat Lenard Circle Subdivision Phase 1. A major subdivision consisting of 12 lots located in District 1 at the intersection of Swafford Road SW and Logan Ave SW**

County Engineer Bryan Cheatwood addressed the Commission and stated the proposed plat meets all requirements and regulations and recommended it for approval. Commissioner Watson made a motion approving the plat Lenard Circle Subdivision Phase 1. A major subdivision consisting of 12 lots located in District 1 at the intersection of Swafford Road SW and Logan Ave SW. Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

**NEXT REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2020**

Chairman Walker announced the next commission meeting would be Wednesday, November 11, 2020, at 8:00 a.m. in the commission meeting room.

**ADJOURN THE MEETING**

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Clemons,  
Chairman

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Kerry Watson,  
Associate Commissioner

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Garry Marchman,  
Associate Commissioner