

**CULLMAN COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**September 20, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME GUESTS**

Chairman Clemons called the Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

**CALL OF ROLL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM**

Miranda Hood, Receptionist, called the roll; present were Chairman Jeff Clemons, Commissioner Kerry Watson, Commissioner Garry Marchman, County Administrator John Bullard, County Attorney Emily Johnston, and County Engineer Bryan Cheatwood. Clarence Benefield gave the invocation. Facilities and Equipment Manager Shane Bailey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 16, 2022, MEETING, APPROPRIATIONS, EXPENDITURES, PERSONNEL ACTIONS, PAYROLL, AND REQUISITIONS, AND APPROVE ALL JOURNAL ENTRIES TO BE POSTED**

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2022, meeting, appropriations, expenditures, personnel actions, payroll, and requisitions, and approve all journal entries to be posted. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS/UPDATES**

No public comments.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Recognition: Ronald Park retiring after 26 years with the Road Department**

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Recognition: Ronald Park retiring after 26 years with the Road Department. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Resolution 2022-68: Change speed limit to 15 mph on County Road 1150**

County Engineer Bryan Cheatwood stated the conditions of this roadway warrant we move towards setting the speed limit to 15 mph. Mr. Cheatwood recommended approval of this resolution. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-68: Change speed limit to 15 mph on County Road 1150. Commissioner Watson seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Resolution 2022-69: Change speed limit to 20 mph on County Road 757**

County Engineer Bryan Cheatwood stated, per our staff, I recommend approving this resolution. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-69: Change speed limit to 20 mph on County Road 757. Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

**Resolution 2022-70: Change speed limit to 30 mph on County Road 76**

County Engineer Bryan Cheatwood stated our staff found conditions here that warrant that speed limit. I do recommend approval of this resolution. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-70: Change speed limit to 30 mph on County Road 76. Commissioner Watson seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Resolution 2022-71: CARTS Third Party Service Contracts-Fiscal Year 2023**

CARTS Director Joyce Echols stated this is just our annual contract that we do with various service agencies. This resolution allows the Chairman to sign the resolution and the contract. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-71: CARTS Third Party Service Contracts-Fiscal Year 2023. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Amend Item R from the August 16, 2022, Meeting to reflect the installation of GPS in County vehicles from One Step GPS in the amount of \$13.95 per vehicle per month**

County Administrator John Bullard addressed the Commission and stated this it was approved last month to put GPS in vehicles. After the meeting, Facilities and Equipment Manager Shane Bailey, talked with Coroner Jeremy Kilpatrick, and they found a better deal out there. This is a better price for the same service. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to Amend Item R from the August 16, 2022, Meeting to reflect the installation of GPS in County vehicles from One Step GPS in the amount of \$13.95 per vehicle per month. Commissioner Watson seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Approve County Commission Budget for FY 2023**

County Administrator John Bullard stated this would reflect an increase in the paving budget and put funds towards the priorities the Commission has set, which are recruiting and retaining good employees and maintaining and improving infrastructure across the county. It also reflects the public safety budget of around 54% of revenue. This is a small decrease and percentage from last year, but a significant increase in dollars because of the tax revenues. Commissioner Watson made a motion to Approve County Commission Budget for FY 2023. Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

**Authorize Workers Comp Renewal with County Risk Services for FY 2023 in the amount of \$553,375.31**

County Administrator John Bullard addressed the Commission and stated this is our annual worker's comp renewal. This is done through county risk services. It is about a 10% increase over last year, but we did receive a dividend of \$36,000 off that. That will decrease by being part of the insurance pool. We would recommend renewing this for our worker's comp this year. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve Workers Comp Renewal with County Risk Services for FY 2023 in the amount of \$553,375.31. Commissioner Watson seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Authorize EMA Director to apply for grant in the amount of \$30,000 with the Alabama Department of Public Health to purchase supplies/or equipment for the State Mortuary Operations Response Team and authorize EMA Director and Chairman to sign all related paperwork**

EMA Director Tim Sartin stated this is an annual grant from the Department of Public Health for the SMORT Team. It will not cost the county anything. It is a 100% grant. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve EMA Director to apply for grant in the amount of \$30,000 with the Alabama Department of Public Health to purchase supplies/or equipment for the State Mortuary Operations Response Team and authorize EMA Director and Chairman to sign all related paperwork. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Authorize Chairman and EMA Director to sign Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) in the amount of \$2,342**

EMA Director Tim Sartin addressed the Commission and stated this is the annual grant we get every year. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the Chairman and EMA Director to sign Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) in the amount of \$2,342. Commissioner Watson seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

**Authorize County Administrator to sign billing authorization form for Infintech Bridgepay for credit card processing at County Parks**

County Administrator John Bullard addressed the Commission and stated this would be a new credit card processor that would integrate with their current computer system. They just wanted me to sign the authorization, and to do that, I need the Commission's approval. Commissioner Watson made a motion to

approve County Administrator to sign billing authorization form for Infintech Bridgepay for credit card processing at County Parks. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Authorize the Link of Cullman County Trunk or Treat in the parking lot of the Extension Office/Board of Education Building on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, from 4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the Link of Cullman County Trunk or Treat in the parking lot of the Extension Office/Board of Education Building on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, from 4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Commissioner Watson seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Authorize Chairman Clemons to sign the Alabama Department of Youth Services Agency Grant Agreement for FY 2022-2023 in the amount of \$184,340 as the fiscal agent for Cullman County Juvenile Court (CCJC)**

Juvenile Director Kay Bell stated this is part of the grant that we have had for several years. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Chairman Clemons to sign the Alabama Department of Youth Services Agency Grant Agreement for FY 2022-2023 in the amount of \$184,340 as the fiscal agent for Cullman County Juvenile Court (CCJC). Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Authorize Chairman Clemons to sign the Alabama Department of Youth Services Agency Grant Agreement for FY 2022-2023 in the amount of \$73,776 as the fiscal agent for Blount County Juvenile Court (BCJC)**

Juvenile Director Kay Bell stated this is for the fiscal agent for part of the YAP grant. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve Chairman Clemons to sign the Alabama Department of Youth Services Agency Grant Agreement for FY 2022-2023 in the amount of \$73,776 as the fiscal agent for Blount County Juvenile Court (BCJC). Commissioner Watson seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Authorize Chairman Clemons to sign the Alabama Department of Youth Services Agency Grant Agreement for FY 2022-2023 in the amount of \$69,084 as the fiscal agent for Jackson County Juvenile Court (JCJC)**

Juvenile Director Kay Bell addressed the Commission and stated we appreciate this greatly. The benefit for our county is that if we run out of our money that is allotted, we can use theirs. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Chairman Clemons to sign the Alabama Department of Youth Services Agency Grant Agreement for FY 2022-2023 in the amount of \$69,084 as the fiscal agent for Jackson County Juvenile Court (JCJC). Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote the motion carried.

**Ratify Bid # 1405 for Rail Track Construction Project for Sportsman Lake to SDAC Rail Services in the amount of \$58,142.72 and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork**

County Administrator John Bullard stated, just to clarify, this was already approved, and the bid was awarded. This item would give the Chairman the authority to sign the agreement. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to Ratify Bid # 1405 for Rail Track Construction Project for Sportsman Lake to SDAC Rail Services in the amount of \$58,142.72 and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork. Commissioner Watson seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Authorize Chairman to sign Scheduled Service Agreement in the amount of \$41,784 and Building Automation Systems Agreement in the amount of \$3,813.25 with TRANE through Omnia Cooperative (Contract # 15-JLP-023) for the HVAC system in the Cullman County Detention Center**

County Administrator John Bullard addressed the Commission and stated this is for the annual service contract for the HVAC. It is through Omnia Cooperative. It is through their sealed bid process. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Chairman to sign Scheduled Service Agreement in the amount of \$41,784 and Building Automation Systems Agreement in the amount of \$3,813.25 with TRANE through Omnia Cooperative

(Contract # 15-JLP-023) for the HVAC system in the Cullman County Detention Center. Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

**Consider a one (1) year maintenance agreement with Johnston Technologies, Inc for battery back-up for the Cullman County Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$5,484 and authorize signature of all related documents**

County Administrator John Bullard stated this is something that has been on the agenda in prior years, and we went ahead and put it back on. It is below the amount that has to be approved. This is a yearly agreement. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the one (1) year maintenance agreement with Johnston Technologies, Inc for battery back-up for the Cullman County Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$5,484 and authorize signature of all related documents. Commissioner Watson seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Consider authorizing the Chairman to sign the North Alabama Highway Safety Grant for FY 2023**

Sergeant Cook with the Cullman County Sheriff's Office addressed the Commission and stated this is a grant that is 100 percent reimbursed for overtime in areas that have a lot of accidents, fatalities, etc. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve authorizing the Chairman to sign the North Alabama Highway Safety Grant for FY 2023. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Consider renewal of Southern Health Partners Health Services Agreement at 3% increase, base, price \$740,094.96 and authorize Chairman to sign all related documents**

County Administrator John Bullard stated we have spoken with Sheriff Gentry, and he recommends also renewing this. It is a three percent increase which is built into the contract. It is still 24-hour care. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the renewal of Southern Health Partners Health Services Agreement at 3% increase, base, price \$740,094.96 and authorize Chairman to sign all related documents. Commissioner Watson seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

**Consider adopting revisions to the Cullman County Commission Employee Handbook, effective October 1, 2022**

Human Resources Manager Judy Bradford addressed the Commission and stated this updates the annual reviews to the handbook to make sure we always keep it as current as possible. Over the last fiscal year, we had several changes to the handbook that was adopted at different Commission Meetings. This is gathering all those up and making sure that they get incorporated into the handbook. There is a total of eleven changes. There is one contact update for the drug and alcohol policy. There are a couple of updates that are required because the state has updated some of their information. These will be published online and distributed to all employees. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve adopting revisions to the Cullman County Commission Employee Handbook, effective October 1, 2022. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Consider the surplus of a 2005 Ford Crown Vic (Vin# 2FAFP71W45X156137) to be donated to State Probation-Cullman County Office**

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the surplus of a 2005 Ford Crown Vic (Vin# 2FAFP71W45X156137) to be donated to State Probation-Cullman County Office. Commissioner Watson seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

**Consider the surplus of a 2007 Ford Explorer from the Sheriff's Office fleet (Vin # 1FMEU63E87UB28358) to be donated to the Town of Colony**

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the surplus of a 2007 Ford Explorer from the Sheriff's Office fleet (Vin # 1FMEU63E87UB28358) to be donated to the Town of Colony. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Proposed plat Hidden Hills subdivision. A major subdivision containing 58 Lots located off County Road 2120**

County Engineer Bryan Cheatwood stated our staff has reviewed this preliminary plat, and it does meet our current subdivision regulations. I do recommend approval of this preliminary plat. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve the Proposed plat Hidden Hills subdivision. A major subdivision containing 58 Lots located off County Road 2120. Commissioner Watson seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Proposed plat Johnny's Junction subdivision. A minor subdivision containing 3 Lots located off County Road 1763**

County Engineer Bryan Cheatwood addressed the Commission and stated I do recommend approval of this preliminary plat based upon our staff's inspection and review. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Proposed plat Johnny's Junction subdivision. A minor subdivision containing 3 Lots located off County Road 1763. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Award Bid #1409: Cold Laid Plant Mix to Advanced Asphalt Products, LLC**

County Engineer Bryan Cheatwood stated I do recommend approval of this bid. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to Award Bid #1409: Cold Laid Plant Mix to Advanced Asphalt Products, LLC. Commissioner Watson seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Award Bid #1410: Fog & Scrub Seal to Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions**

County Engineer Bryan Cheatwood stated I do recommend approval of this bid. This is just for materials. Commissioner Watson made a motion to Award Bid #1410: Fog & Scrub Seal to Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**Award Bid #1411: Placement of Surface Treatments to Charlie E. Watts, Inc.**

County Engineer Bryan Cheatwood stated I do recommend approval of this bid. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to Award Bid #1411: Placement of Surface Treatments to Charlie E. Watts, Inc. Commissioner Watson seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

**Award Bid #1412: Micro Surfacing to Whitaker Contracting Corp.**

County Engineer Bryan Cheatwood addressed the Commission and stated I do recommend approval of this bid. Commissioner Watson made a motion to Award Bid #1412: Micro Surfacing to Whitaker Contracting Corp. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

**WORK SESSION**

Chairman Clemons announced the next Commission Work Session will be Tuesday, October 18, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Room.

**NEXT REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2022, AT 6:00 p.m. IN THE COMMISSION MEETING ROOM**

Chairman Clemons announced the next Commission Meeting will be Tuesday, October 18, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Room

**ADJOURN THE MEETING**

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to Adjourn. Commissioner Watson seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Attest:

  
Tiffany Merriman,  
County Clerk

  
Jeff Clemons,  
Chairman

  
Kerry Watson,  
Associate Commissioner

  
Garry Marchman,  
Associate Commissioner