

Special Called Commission Meeting Minutes

August 29, 2023

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME GUESTS

Chairman Clemons called the Meeting at 10:00 am

CALL OF ROLL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM

Tiffany Merriman, County Clerk, called roll; present were Chairman Jeff Clemons, Commissioner Kerry Watson, Commissioner Garry Marchman, Commissioner Kelly Duke, Commissioner Corey Freeman, County Administrator John Bullard, County Attorney Emily Johnston, and Assistant Engineer Jon Brunner.

New Business

Recognition: Chris King retiring after 25 years of service with the Sales Tax Department

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Recognition: Chris King retiring after 25 years of service with the Sales Tax Department. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Recognition: Sharon Townson retiring after 27 years of service with the Library

Commissioner Duke made a motion to approve Recognition: Sharon Townson retiring after 27 years of service with the Library. Commissioner Freeman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Recognition: Commissioner Duke for completing Alabama Local Government Training Institute

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Recognition: Commissioner Duke for completing Alabama Local Government Training Institute. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Recognition: Commissioner Freeman for completing Alabama Local Government Training Institute

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve Recognition: Commissioner Freeman for completing Alabama Local Government Training Institute. Commissioner Watson seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2023-37: FY 2024 FAA AIP Pre-Application for the Cullman Regional Airport

Airport Manager Ben Harrison addressed the Commission and stated this is the pre-app process in the FY 2024 grant cycle. We will put all the potential grants out there and let them tell us what can be funded.

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-37: FY 2024 FAA AIP Pre-Application for the Cullman Regional Airport. Commissioner Duke seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2023-38: Approving a warrant purchase agreement by Cullman County, Alabama, and Piper Sandler & Co.

County Administrator John Bullard stated that this is the agreement for them to proceed with the process of getting the bonds put in place and ready to go to market. There are some numbers in the agreement, but they are very high, and they will not be that much. They set up a maximum interest rate and a maximum amount. It has 15,500.00, but it will be 13,500.00, I think. This is just approving them to move forward.

Commissioner Duke made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-38: Approving a warrant purchase agreement by Cullman County, Alabama, and Piper Sandler & Co. Commissioner Freeman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Authorize Chairman to sign Alabama Department of Youth Services Long Term Detention Subsidy Contract for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024

Commissioner Watson made a motion to Authorize Chairman to sign Alabama Department of Youth Services Long Term Detention Subsidy Contract for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024. Commissioner Duke seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Authorize Chairman to sign the Inmate Communications System agreement with Combined Public Communications, LLC and CyberPath Services, LLC for the Cullman County Detention Center

Commissioner Watson made a motion to Authorize Chairman to sign the Inmate Communications System agreement with Combined Public Communications, LLC and CyberPath Services, LLC for the Cullman County Detention Center. Commissioner Freeman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Ratify commissary agreement with Legacy Commissary Services for the Cullman County Sheriff's Office

Commissioner Duke made a motion to Ratify commissary agreement with Legacy Commissary Services for the Cullman County Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider the renewal of employee/retiree health insurance enrollment agreement with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama. Renewal to be effective 10/1/2023. Cullman County maintains a self-insured policy that is administered by Blue Cross

H.R. Manager Judy Bradford addressed the Commission and stated this is the annual enrollment agreement with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama. You all know we are self-insured and pay them to administer the claims. I do want to bring to your attention, the chart that we keep up every year on what the claims are costing, and you can see that we are about a million and a half above where we were last year which is about a 20% increase. I would like to maybe put on the work session for September to discuss employee contributions. It has been several years since we have made any changes to employee contributions.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve renewal of employee/retiree health insurance enrollment agreement with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama. Renewal to be effective 10/1/2023. Cullman County maintains a self-insured policy that is administered by Blue Cross. Commissioner Freeman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider changing stop-loss insurance carrier to Lloyd's of London to be effective 10/1/2023. 2% reduction in annual costs for FY 2024 and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork

H. R. Manager Judy Bradford stated this is the stop-loss insurance carrier. We have been with Unite RE for several years. What the stop loss insurance does is covers us for catastrophic claims, otherwise we could be eligible for millions in claims. We want to change to Lloyd's of London, and they partner with Blue Cross and Blue Shield, so the administration will be a lot easier. It is a small reduction which is why we would like to change over effective October 1st.

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve changing stop-loss insurance carrier to Lloyd's of London to be effective 10/1/2023. 2% reduction in annual costs for FY 2024 and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork. Commissioner Duke seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider the renewal of Life, Short-Term Disability, Long-Term Disability, and Critical Illness insurance with Mutual of Omaha. Renewal effective 1/1/2024. No change in rates for FY 2024 and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork

H.R. Manager Judy Bradford addressed the Commission and stated that this is the renewal for the life, short-term, long-term and critical illness insurance that we have on all of our full-time employees, there is no change in rates for 2024.

Commissioner Duke made a motion to approve renewal of Life, Short-Term Disability, Long-Term Disability, and Critical Illness insurance with Mutual of Omaha. Renewal effective 1/1/2024. No change in rates for FY 2024

and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork. Commissioner Freeman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider the renewal of air ambulance service with AirMedCare and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork. Covers all active Cullman County employees eligible for employee benefits. Renewal effective 10/1/2023. No change in rates for FY 2024

H.R. Manager Judy Bradford stated this is the AirMedCare we put in place last October. This is the renewal and there is no change. This covers all Cullman County Employees that are eligible for employee benefits and it covers everyone in their household.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve renewal of air ambulance service with AirMedCare and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork. Covers all active Cullman County employees eligible for employee benefits. Renewal effective 10/1/2023. No change in rates for FY 2024. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider adding annual CPI increase to all sanitation rates

County Administrator John Bullard addressed the Commission and stated that last year we added CPI increase to most of the sanitation rates. This would add the CPI effective each year based on what the consumer price index is to all sanitation rates across the board. We left a few out last year and this would just make it across the board. It would only raise it a small amount each year, instead of having to go a few years and then go up a major amount.

Commissioner Freeman, can you give us an idea on what small amount?

County Administrator John Bullard stated it would be about 25 cents a month on average.

Sanitation Director James Rollo stated that he hasn't seen the exact CPI this year.

Commissioner Garry Marchman stated instead of making an automated increase, why don't we talk about this every year? Why don't we look at it instead of just adding something to give a steady increase from now on, because we do not know what the consumer price index is going to do.

Chairman Clemons asked when do we normally get the CPI rate increases in each year?

County Administrator John Bullard stated we get the CPI for the budget each year in June so that we have a number to base it on that's early enough to start planning.

Commissioner Garry Marchman, this is the international-based consumer pricing rate?

County Administrator John Bullard, yes sir, it is put out by the US Bureau Labor Statistics.

Commissioner Duke, if we pass this though, we could go ahead and look at it every year and not have to go up.

Commissioner Marchman, no if you pass this, that is what it's saying it's going to automatically increase based on the CPI.

County Administrator John Bullard, it will automatically increase. This is similar to what was done with water, it will automatically increase but you can go back and vote to not increase it. Which you all did with water last year.

Commissioner Duke made a motion to approve adding annual CPI increase to all sanitation rates with yearly review. Commissioner Watson seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider a one-time distribution in the amount of \$5,000 to Restoring Women's Outreach from the Opioid Settlement Fund

County Administrator John Bullard addressed the Commission and stated that we were approached by Restoring Women's Outreach, they had talked with the City to see if they would give a certain amount if we would match it. This was the request and the City said that they would match it. This is a drug rehabilitation outreach. They help women come out of jail, get off drugs, get jobs, and make a life for themselves. It is a non-profit. It would be a qualifying group to give some opioid funds to.

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve a one-time distribution in the amount of \$5,000 to Restoring Women's Outreach from the Opioid Settlement Fund. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider quote from Haley Company, LLC for Victim Services Flooring Installation in the amount of \$46,819
Facilities and Equipment Manager Shane Bailey addressed the Commission and stated that this is the last step of the renovations for the victim services building. We got two different quotes and this was the lowest of the two. Commission Marchman, this is coming out of the money that they received or is this out of our general fund? County Administrator John Bullard stated this will be out of general fund. It was money that they didn't use, they had \$150,000 that they didn't use, that we set aside. The Commission said that each project needed to come back to the Commission for approval.

Commissioner Marchman, how much do we have in the building roughly with the improvements?

Chairman Clemons, what conditions is the building in now?

Facilities and Equipment Manager Shane Bailey, this will finish it up and it is a lot better now.

Commissioner Marchman, are we keeping up with how much we are going over there? Like when Chris goes over there to fix something.

Facilities and Equipment Manager Shane Bailey, we had a meeting with her and let her know that this is one of the last things that we are going to do and from this point forward she is responsible for most of the maintenance and we will help her find people to do the work but she would have to be responsible for the cost because the lease agreement they signed stated that and she fully understood that and signed.

Commissioner Duke made a motion to approve quote from Haley Company, LLC for Victim Services Flooring Installation in the amount of \$46,819. Commissioner Freeman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider quote from Bryant Enterprises for the Board of Education building for window improvements in the amount of \$16,200

Facilities and Equipment Manager Shane Bailey stated that with the rain we have had this summer it has caused a lot of issues in the basement with the extension office. We have actually had water running down through the windows. The caulking around the windows is old and it has started cracking. We went with Bryan Enterprises, they do a lot of our painting.

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve quote from Bryant Enterprises for the Board of Education building for window improvements in the amount of \$16,200. Commissioner Freeman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider the purchase of a Takeuchi TB240, off state bid (contract # MA230000004123) for the Water Department in the amount of \$58,668.66 and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve purchase of a Takeuchi TB240, off state bid (contract # MA230000004123) for the Water Department in the amount of \$58,668.66 and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork. Commissioner Watson seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider the purchase of two Isuzu Tomcat 10-yard Curbtender Manual Side Loader, off Sourcewell bid (contract # 060920-NAF) for the Sanitation Department in the amount of \$339,742 and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve purchase of two Isuzu Tomcat 10-yard Curbtender Manual Side Loader, off Sourcewell bid (contract # 060920-NAF) for the Sanitation Department in the amount of \$339,742 and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork. Commissioner Freeman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider Chairman Clemon's nominee, Barry Slatton, for reappointment to the E-911 Board for a four (4) year term to expire 9/1/27

Commissioner Duke made a motion to approve Chairman Clemon's nominee, Barry Slatton, for reappointment to the E-911 Board for a four (4) year term to expire 9/1/27. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider Commissioner Marchman's nominee, Dewayne Goodwin, for reappointment to the E-911 Board for a four (4) year term to expire 9/1/27

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Commissioner Marchman's nominee, Dewayne Goodwin, for reappointment to the E-911 Board for a four (4) year term to expire 9/1/27. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider Chairman Clemon's nominee, Brittney Heron, for appointment to the Cullman County Tourism Bureau

Commissioner Duke made a motion to approve Chairman Clemon's nominee, Brittney Heron, for appointment to the Cullman County Tourism Bureau. Commissioner Freeman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider a request from New Ground Fellowship to hold a Prayer Event in the south parking lot on Saturday, October 21st, from 3:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve request from New Ground Fellowship to hold a Prayer Event in the south parking lot on Saturday, October 21st, from 3:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. Commissioner Freeman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider authorization for Cullman Caring for Kids to use the Board of Education parking lot to host a car show on November 11, 2023, from 7:00 am-3:00pm

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve Cullman Caring for Kids to use the Board of Education parking lot to host a car show on November 11, 2023, from 7:00 am-3:00pm. Commissioner Watson seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider authorization for Premier Volleyball Travel Team to use the south parking lot at the Courthouse to host Swamp John's on November 1, 2023, from 11:00am-3:00pm and on December 1, 2023, from 3:00pm-6:30pm

Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve Premier Volleyball Travel Team to use the south parking lot at the Courthouse to host Swamp John's on November 1, 2023, from 11:00am-3:00pm and on December 1, 2023, from 3:00pm-6:30pm. Commissioner Freeman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Proposed plat Serenity Pointe Cabins Phase 2 / Lots 3 through 9. A major subdivision containing 7 Lots located off County Road 338

Assistant Engineer Jon Brunner stated this was originally approved as one big subdivision. They came back and divided into A and B sections.

Commissioner Freeman, do we have anyone checking on the damage they are doing to the roadways?

Assistant Engineer Jon Brunner stated we do have people looking at it.

Commissioner Freeman, I am not as concerned about the load as I am about the ditching and the piping. I have crews out there 3 different times trying to unbury pipes that they have buried and can't locate them anymore and it is causing major flooding.

Assistant Engineer Jon Brunner, they are supposed to be getting some pipes to replace the other ones.

Commissioner Marchman, where is that located?

Commissioner Freeman, on top of Bailey Mountain.

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Proposed plat Serenity Pointe Cabins Phase 2 / Lots 3 through 9. A major subdivision containing 7 Lots located off County Road 338. Commissioner Watson seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Proposed Bond release for Pointe Sixteen subdivision. All Construction has been completed and passed final inspection

Commissioner Freeman, are they going to work on the road going into Pointe Sixteen Subdivision? Is that 204? Chairman Clemons, that road was going to be widened last year.

Commissioner Freeman, it is horrible.

Commissioner Freeman stated that he would like to deny this item.

County Attorney Emily Johnston, do you want to deny it or table it?

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to table Proposed Bond release for Pointe Sixteen subdivision. All Construction has been completed and passed final inspection. Commissioner Duke seconded, and the motion is tabled on a unanimous voice vote.

Award Bid # 1439: Thermal Imaging to W.S. Darley & Co.

County Administrator John Bullard addressed the Commission and stated these next two items were bids from the ARPA funds for the Volunteer Fire Association. These thermal imaging devices would be for each fire department. Commissioner Freeman helped get the specs together for that as well as the sector scan sonar for all the fire association to use. These two were the low bidders.

Commissioner Duke, each fire department will get one of these?

County Administrator John Bullard, each department will get two.

Commissioner Duke made a motion to Award Bid # 1439: Thermal Imaging to W.S. Darley & Co. Commissioner Watson seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Award Bid # 1440: Sector Scan Sonar to CA Richards & Associates, Inc.

County Administrator John Bullard stated that this is the same funding from the ARPA funds. This will be available for all fire associations to use primarily for lake use for body retrieval.

Commissioner Freeman, these units will be controlled by Crane Hill and Trimble, it will stay in-house there because they are the only two departments equipped and set up to run this system.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to Award Bid # 1440: Sector Scan Sonar to CA Richards & Associates, Inc. Commissioner Duke seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Award Bid # 1442: Spot repair to County Roads to Carcel & G Construction, LLC

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to Award Bid # 1442: Spot repair to County Roads to Carcel & G Construction, LLC. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous

Award Bid # 1443: for jail supplies and chemicals to North Alabama Chemical, Central Paper for the laundry and kitchen chemicals, and to Apeiro Solutions for the Fogging Machine Chemicals

Commissioner Duke made a motion to Award Bid # 1443: for jail supplies and chemicals to North Alabama Chemical, Central Paper for the laundry and kitchen chemicals, and to Apeiro Solutions for the Fogging Machine Chemicals. Commissioner Freeman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Award Bid # 1444: Service of the Sheriff's Office and other various County Vehicles to Berco Inc; DBA Havoline Express Lube

Commissioner Watson made a motion to Award Bid # 1444: Service of the Sheriff's Office and other various County Vehicles to Berco Inc; DBA Havoline Express Lube. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Award Bid # 1445: Pest Control to Cook's Pest Control

Commissioner Duke made a motion to Award Bid # 1445: Pest Control to Cook's Pest Control. Commissioner Freeman seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Request from Attorney for Executive Session Under Section 7 of Act No. 2005-40

Chairman Clemons stated, at this time we have a request that a motion is considered for an executive session from the County Attorney regarding pending or threatening legal matters.

Commissioner Duke made a motion to approve request from Attorney for Executive Session Under Section 7 of Act No. 2005-40. Commissioner Watson seconded and all commissioners agreed without any objection.

County Attorney Emily Johnston stated Chairman, I have drafted a letter advising that an executive session is necessary and proper to protect confidential information. The Code Section applicable is found in Alabama Code 36-25A-7(a)(3). I am an attorney licensed to practice law in Alabama, and the executive session will be to discuss pending or threatened litigation. I estimate it will be approximately 20 minutes and that we will reconvene around that time.

Chairman Reconvened the meeting and announced that no action was taken during the executive session and no further action would be taken as a result of the executive session.

WORK SESSION WILL BE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023, AT 4:00 P.M. IN THE COMMISSION MEETING ROOM

Chairman Clemons announced that the next Commission Work Session will be Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Room

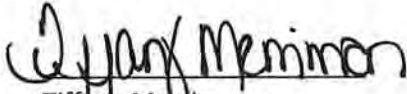
THE NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE COMMISSION MEETING ROOM

Chairman Clemons announced that the next Commission Meeting will be Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Room.

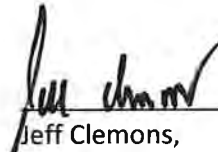
ADJOURN THE MEETING

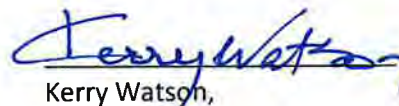
Commissioner Marchman made a motion to Adjourn. Commissioner Duke seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

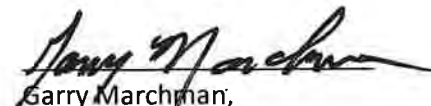
Attest:



Tiffany Meriman,
County Clerk



Jeff Clemons,
Chairman

Kerry Watson,
Commissioner

Garry Marchman,
Commissioner

Kelly Duke,
Commissioner



Corey Freeman,
Commissioner