

May 21, 2026

Call to order and welcome guests

Chairman Clemons called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Call of Roll to Establish Quorum

Tiffany Merriman, County Clerk, called roll; present were Chairman Clemons, Commissioner Watson, Commissioner Marchman, Commissioner Freeman, County Attorney Brad Wilson, County Administrator John Bullard, and County Engineer Philip Widner. Larry Duke gave the invocation and Attorney Brad Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approve the minutes of April 21, 2026, 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 April 21, 2026, appropriations, expenditures, personnel actions, payroll, and requisitions, and approve all journal entries to be posted. Commissioner Watson seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Public Comments/Updates

Chairman Clemons stated there are no Public Comments/Updates.

NEW BUSINESS

Recognition: Johnny Jarrett with Animal Control graduating from the Police Academy

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Recognition of Johnny Jarrett with Animal Control graduating from the Police Academy. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Recognition: Cooper Harris with Animal Control graduating from the Police Academy

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Recognition of Cooper Harris with Animal Control graduating from the Police Academy. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2026-19: Vacation of County Road 270

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-19: Vacation of County Road 270. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2026-26: Change speed limit to 35 mph on County Road 1656

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-26: Change speed limit to 35 mph on County Road 1656. Commissioner Freeman seconded. The motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Public Hearing-CARTS Operations for FY 2027

Commissioner Watson made a motion to open Public Hearing – CARTS Operations for FY 2027. Commissioner Marchman seconded the motion. Director of CARTS, Stephanie Childers, introduced herself and stated CARTS is applying to the Alabama Department of Transportation for Federal and State Transit funding through Section 5311-Rural Public Transportation Program. These funds help support the administrative, operations, and capital needs of CARTS, allowing us to continue providing public transportation services to the citizens of Cullman County. She then invited questions from the Commission or members of the public. None were made. Ms. Childers then respectively asked the Commissioners for permission to proceed with the grant application. Commissioner Watson made a motion to close the Public Hearing session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marchman. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2026-27: Authorize the filing of 5311 grant application and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-27: Authorize the filing of 5311 grant application and authorize the Chairman to sign all related paperwork. Commissioner Watson seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2026-28: Authorize local matching funds for CARTS FY 2027 and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-28: Authorize local matching funds for CARTS FY 2027 and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marchman. The vote passed on a unanimous vote.

Resolution 2026-29: Resurfacing and traffic stripe on County Road 222

County Engineer Philip Widner stated the funds will come from the million-dollar project we recently received for CR-222, work beginning at Big Bridge and continuing towards Livingston Chapel. This is the second resolution you all will be approving. The first resolution was the project funding agreement that is our commitment for the match. This will be the second resolution for the project initiation phase, allowing ALDOT to review the plan review process and add the project to their STIP Program.

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-29: Resurfacing and traffic stripes on County Road 222. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Ratify invoice from Strada Professional Services for ADA Compliance Phase 1 at Smith Lake Park Campground in the amount of \$40,000 (fund 515-57202-530)

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to ratify the invoice from Strada Professional Services for ADA Compliance Phase 1 at Smith Lake Park Campground in the amount of \$40,000 (fund 515-57202-530). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marchman. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Ratify Agreement with Adobe in the amount of \$11,379.81 (fund 001-51965-235)

Commissioner Watson made a motion to Ratify Agreement with Adobe in the amount of \$11,379.81 (fund 001-51965-235). Commissioner Freeman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

Authorize Chairman to sign Letter of Understanding from Alabama Tourism Department for the Smith Lake Park 4th July Festival in the amount of \$2,600

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Authorizing Chairman to sign Letter of Understanding from Alabama Tourism Department for the Smith Lake Park 4th July Festival in the amount of \$2,600. Motion seconded by Commissioner Freeman and upon unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

Authorize Chairman and County Attorney to sign the Federal FY 2026 Certifications and Assurances for FTA Assistance Programs for CARTS

Commissioner Watson made a motion to Authorize Chairman and County Attorney to sign the Federal FY 2026 Certifications and Assurances for FTA Assistance Programs for CARTS. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Consider Prayer Vigil for Deja Miller on Saturday, May 23, 2026, at 10:00 am- 5:00 pm on the Courthouse steps

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Prayer Vigil for Deja Miller on Saturday, May 23, 2026, at 10:00 am- 5:00 pm on the Courthouse steps. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion

passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Consider approval of FY 2025 Citizen's Report

County Administrator John Bullard provided copies of the updated report, with changes that were discussed at a previous meeting. Mr. Bullard said if approved this report follows the Association of Government Accountants guidelines. This is a simplified report to get just the basic information out to the public. A copy will be posted on our website, social media and available in print form if our commissioners need an extra copy to share with the public. Mr. Bullard also thanked Luke Wood, with Cullman County Economic Development for formatting the report shared. Commissioner Marchman made a motion to approve FY 2025 Citizen's Report. Commissioner Freeman seconded and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Consider approval of Insolvents, Errors, Litigations, and Unsold Tax Liens for 2025 and Uncollected Insolvents and Taxes for previous years.

Revenue Commissioner Barry Willingham addressed the Commission stating this is procedural for us to make final settlement with the State Controller's Office. At the beginning of the year, we start with a regional abstract. So, when our taxpayers make an error in homestead exemptions or appraisal errors, we make a credit of what is considered an error and supplement the taxes to then show the state what was done. Litigations, considered bankruptcies that we cannot sell the property. Maybe the businesses closed and taxes were not collectible. We did not have any unsold property in this tax sale. So everything is collected. Again, this is just procedural because we must have that to actually do our final set. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Revenue's report of Insolvent, Errors, Litigations, and Unsold Tax Liens for 2025 and Uncollected Insolvents and Taxes for previous years. Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

Consider approval of Brinks Agreement with Cullman County Water

County Administrator John Bullard stated this agreement would be for cash management for the water billing where the County Water Department is taking the monthly billing in house. We met with the Electric Cooperative this week and we will be delaying the process until tentatively August rather than June. We are having some issues getting the information from the software provider. We want to make sure we get things done right. This will be the cash management pickup and deposit services. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Brinks Agreement with Cullman County Water. Commissioner Marchman seconded and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Consider approval of AIP Grant Application for Cullman Regional Airport and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork

Airport Director Ben Harrison addressed the Commission and stated this is an AIP Grant. AIP stands for Airport Improvement Grant. This is the next phase of our capital improvement plan. And with your support, the last twelve years, we have met and achieved every project that was on our capital improvement plan. This is a seal coating of the taxiways. Total grant is \$279,000. This is a 95/5 Grant, which means 90% Federal 5% State, 5% local match. The local match is \$6,100. That'll split 50% between you all and 50% the City. \$3,076 is the estimate of what that grant will cost to seal coat all the taxiways. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve AIP Grant Application for Cullman Regional Airport and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork. Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

Consider Approval of grant match for \$350,000 Rebuild Alabama Grant for County Road 1659

County Engineer Philip Widner stated this will be around a \$450,000 project. They are requesting \$100,000 in matching funds to complete the project.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the grant match for \$100,000. To supplement the ALDOT \$350,000 grant. Commissioner Marchman seconded and upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion

carried.

Consider agreement with Cappy's Boat Rental at Smith Lake Park

County Attorney Brad Wilson requested verbiage be added to this agreement authorizing the Chairman to sign all related paperwork. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to add the verbiage to the agreement and approve the agreement with Cappy's Boat Rental at Smith Lake Park and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork. Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voiced vote, the motion carried.

Proposed plat resub divide of Lot 4 Indian Springs Subdivision. A minor subdivision containing 5 Lots in Commission District 1. Previously approved July 16, 2024. The subdivision is located on County Road 1367, one mile north of the Cullman Regional Airport

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Proposed plat resub divide of Lot 4 Indian Springs Subdivision. A minor subdivision containing 5 Lots in Commission District 1. Previously approved July 16, 2024. The subdivision is located on County Road 1367, one mile north of the Cullman Regional Airport. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Proposed plat Goldridge Meadows Subdivision. A minor subdivision containing 5 Lots in Commission District 1. The subdivision is located on County Roads 1489 and the corner of County Road 1525, a half mile West of Etha Missionary Baptist Church

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Proposed plat Goldridge Meadows Subdivision. A minor subdivision containing 5 Lots in Commission District 1. The subdivision is located on County Roads 1489 and the corner of County Road 1525, a half mile West of Etha Missionary Baptist Church. Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote the motion carried.

Consider extension of permit to develop for Bales Cove Subdivision. Planning of infrastructure is still in progress. The preliminary for this subdivision was approved on May 20, 2025. It is located 550 feet West of County Road 613 on County Road 599 in Commission District 3

County Engineer Philip Widner addressed the Commission and stated this is a permit good for one year. The developer is having problems getting the funds to construct roads and is a little behind where he would like to be, therefore he has requested a 12-month extension. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Consider extension of permit to develop for Bales Cove Subdivision. Planning of infrastructure is still in progress. The preliminary for this subdivision was approved on May 20, 2025. It is located 550 feet West of County Road 613 on County Road 599 in Commission District 3. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Proposed plat: Resubdivide Lots 1 & 2 of Forest Trace Subdivision. A minor subdivision containing 5 Lots previously approved June 18, 2024. It is located in Commission District 1, One mile South of Enon Missionary Church on County Road 1437 and the corner of County Road 1439.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Proposed plat: Resubdivide Lots 1 & 2 of Forest Trace Subdivision. A minor subdivision containing 5 Lots previously approved June 18, 2024. It is located in Commission District 1, One mile South of Enon Missionary Church on County Road 1437 and the corner of County Road 1439. Commissioner Marchman seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous voice vote.

Proposed plat Schoolhouse Acres Subdivision Phase 2. A minor subdivision containing 2 Lots in Commission District 1 located one mile South of Baileyton Fire Department on County Road 1719.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Proposed plat Schoolhouse Acres Subdivision Phase 2. A minor subdivision containing 2 Lots in Commission District 1 located one mile South of Baileyton Fire Department on County Road 1719. Commissioner Marchman seconded. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried.

Proposed plat The Enclave at Smith Lake Subdivision. A minor subdivision containing 10 Lots in Commission District 4. The subdivision is located 4 miles South Guthrie's Crossroads off County Road 310 on County Road 338.

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve Proposed plat The Enclave at Smith Lake Subdivision. A minor subdivision containing 10 Lots in Commission District 4. The subdivision is located 4 miles South Guthrie's Crossroads off County Road 310 on County Road 338. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The vote passed on a unanimous voice vote.

The next Commission Work Session will be on Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Room

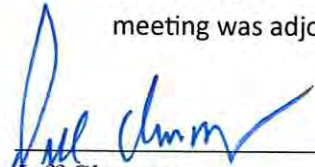
Chairman Clemons announced the next Commission Work Session will be on Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Room

The next Commission Meeting will be on Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Room

Chairman Clemons announced the next Commission Meeting will be on Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Room

Adjourn

Commissioner Watson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Marchman seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.



Jeff Clemons,
Chairman

Attest: County Clerk

Kerry Watson,
Commissioner

Kelly Duke,
Commissioner

Garry Marchman,
Commissioner

Corey Freeman,
Commissioner