

ST. CLAIR COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING JANUARY 12, 2016

The St. Clair County Commission met in regular session on January 12, 2016 in the County Commission Chambers of the St. Clair County Courthouse Annex #1 (Administrative Center) in Ashville, Alabama.

Members Present: Paul Manning, Chairman
Jeff Brown, Commissioner District One
Ken Crowe, Commissioner District Two
Tommy Bowers, Commissioner District Three
Jimmy Roberts, Commissioner District Four

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Kellie L. Graff, Administrator
Dan Dahlke, Engineer
Gary Hanner, St. Clair Times
Don Smith, Economic Development Council
Donna Wood, CFO
Laura Lawley, Deputy Administrator
James E. Hill, County Attorney
Lyman Lovejoy, visitor
Elizabeth Mealer, Revenue Commissioner

CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman declared a quorum present at 9:17 a.m. and called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Commissioner Bowers, seconded by Commissioner Roberts, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that the Agenda be approved as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Commissioner Crowe, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the regular meeting on December 22, 2015 be approved with the exception of those that are questioned by any Commissioner before the close of business today.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

The first item of the Engineer's report was an update on current projects. Engineer Dan Dahlke stated the final three ATRIP (Alabama Transportation Rehabilitation and Improvement Program) projects would be let to bid by the State between April and May. These three projects would account for approximately \$18 million in road work.

Dahlke also stated the contractor was onsite at the Rivercrest Bridge project site and work would begin this week. Commissioner Roberts added he was very pleased to see the project moving forward.

The next item was to discuss the Engineer's recommendation for Robert McClung to fill the Operator I position left vacant by the retirement of Raymond Thompson. This would be effective Jan. 17, 2016. On a motion by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, with all voting aye, it was

ST. CLAIR COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING JANUARY 12, 2016

RESOLVED, that Robert McClung fill the Operator I position left vacant by the retirement of Raymond Thompson effective Jan. 17, 2016.

The next item was an update on the Christmas Day rain event damage. Dahlke stated he and others had met with FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) representatives and toured the damaged areas of St. Clair County. He added the County would meet its required threshold for damage amounts and would receive assistance if a federal disaster declaration is made. He said there was about \$35,000 in County road damage that could be claimed. Commissioner Brown commented he was pleased how smoothly all of the emergency work went and thanked the Road Department for their work. Commissioner Bowers seconded the statement adding the City of Springville was very appreciative for the County's work on their road they thought would be closed for some time but now has at least one lane open.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The first item of the Administrator's report was to discuss decreasing the mileage rate from 56.5 cents to .54 cents per mile for County use of a personal vehicle effective Jan. 1, 2016 in accordance with St. Clair County Policy No. 2 (amended 1999), which bases the County mileage rate on the rate paid by the State of Alabama. On a motion by Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Commissioner Brown, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that the mileage rate paid for County use of a personal vehicle be reduced from 56.5 cents to .54 cents per mile effective Jan. 1, 2016 in accordance with St. Clair County Policy No. 2 (amended 1999), which bases the County mileage rate on the rate paid by the State of Alabama.

The next item was to discuss the travel requests as submitted in the work session. On a motion by Commissioner Crowe, seconded by Commissioner Brown, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that the travel requests as submitted in the work session are approved.

The next item was to discuss the request to surplus one (1) 2010 Ford Econoline Bus Inv. #8000 and one (1) 2004 Ford Explorer Inv. #7533 and also to post both vehicles for sale on GovDeals.com. On a motion by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Roberts, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that one (1) 2010 Ford Econoline Bus Inv. #8000 and one (1) 2004 Ford Explorer Inv. #7533 be declared surplus and posted for sale on GovDeals.com

The next item was to discuss the request to surplus one (1) John Deere Tractor currently located at the St. Clair County Arena and gift it to the Public Park and Recreation Board of St. Clair County. On a motion by Commissioner Crowe, seconded by Commissioner Brown, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that one (1) John Deere Tractor currently located at the St. Clair County Arena be declared surplus and gifted to the Public Park and Recreation Board of St. Clair County.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

County Attorney James Hill reported advertisement of the local act addressing amendment of court costs by action of the County Commission will begin at the end of January through early February. The proposed Act will appear on the March 1, 2016 ballot.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL REPORT

Don Smith, Executive Director of the St. Clair County Economic Development Council, addressed the Commission with a status report on the growth of St. Clair County. Smith stated St. Clair County has been a fast-growing county but current growth rates are at 32 percent compared to the statewide growth rate of 9 percent. He added the County's unemployment rate continues to drop with November's unemployment rate at 4.8 percent. The unemployment rate for the State of Alabama is at 5.2 percent. Smith said this is a great thing for residents of St. Clair County, but it can make it more difficult for employers to find employees locally. To help make sure available jobs are filled with no strain on existing employers - to ensure those still looking for jobs can be matched with those looking for employees - the Economic Development Council has partnered with cities, chambers, and the Commission to host job fairs in the county. A job fair will be held Friday, Jan. 15 at the Ashville City Hall from 9-2 p.m.

Smith added the housing market in St. Clair is also beginning to thaw. He said home construction has picked up on the western side of the county now that folks in the urban areas are able to sell their homes and move into St. Clair.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items of Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

The first item of New Business was to discuss Change Order #1 for the installation of new VOIP telephone system in the amount of \$1,804.70 due to an increase in installation charges; and also a General Fund Budget Amendment in this amount. On a motion by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Crowe, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that Change Order #1 for the installation of new VOIP telephone system in the amount of \$1,804.70 and a General Fund Budget Amendment in this amount are approved. (Change Order #1 to be made a part of these minutes as Attachment #1)

The next item was to discuss approval of amended job descriptions for Jail Administrator, Jail Captain, Advanced Clerk – Jail, and Litter Control Worker. On a motion by Commissioner Crowe, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that the amended job descriptions for Jail Administrator, Jail Captain, Advanced Clerk – Jail, and Litter Control Worker are approved. (Job descriptions to be made a part of these minutes as Attachments 2A, 2B, 2C, and 2D)

The next item was to discuss appointing Commissioner Tommy Bowers to the M4A (Middle Alabama Area on Aging) Board and also Commissioner Ken Crowe as an alternate member; and to appoint Roy T. Roe, Sr. to the New London Water,

ST. CLAIR COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING JANUARY 12, 2016

Sewer & Fire Authority to replace Lorenzo Wheeler. On a motion by Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Commissioner Brown, with all voting aye except Commissioner Bowers who abstained, it was

RESOLVED, that Commissioner Tommy Bowers be appointed to the M4A Board and Commissioner Ken Crowe be appointed as an alternate board member; and also that Roy T. Roe, Sr., be appointed to the New London Water, Sewer & Fire Authority. (His term will expire on March 1, 2021.)

The next item for discussion was to approve payment of the regular bills. On a motion by Commissioner Crowe, seconded by Commissioner Brown, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that the regular bills be approved for payment with the exception of those that are questioned by the Commission before the close of business today.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned, subject to call, at approximately 9:45 a.m. on a motion by Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, with all voting aye.

Paul Manning, Chairman

Jeff Brown, Commissioner

Ken Crowe, Commissioner

Tommy Bowers, Commissioner

Jimmy Roberts, Commissioner