

ST. CLAIR COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING FEBRUARY 23, 2016

The St. Clair County Commission met in regular session on February 23, 2016 in the County Commission Chambers of the St. Clair County Courthouse in Pell City, Alabama.

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

Members Absent: Ken Crowe, Commissioner District Two

Others Present: Kellie L Graff, Administrator
Donna Wood, CFO
Dan Dahlke, Engineer
James E. Hill, County Attorney
Gary Hanner, Daily Home/St. Clair Times
Lee Ann Clark, Extension Office
Adrienne Bourland, Extension Office
Wayne Johnson, Veterans' Outreach
Harold Hoyle, Property Manager
Don Smith, Economic Development Council
Charles Isbell, Visitor
Stan Batemon, Visitor

CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman declared a quorum present at 9:04 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 Roberts, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the regular meeting on February 9, 2016 be approved.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

The first item of the Engineer's report was to provide an update on current projects. Engineer Dan Dahlke stated the Rivercrest bridge project is underway and he expects the wing walls will be ready next week. He also added that a lot of material has been moved out of the Canoe Creek marina property and the marina is going to be closed for a short time while they work. Commissioner Jeff Brown asked the Engineer to only close the marina for as short a time as possible.

The next item was to discuss participating in the annual People Against a Littered State (PALS) program wherein the trash bags are delivered to the road department and people can pick up as many as they need. On a motion by Commissioner Bowers, seconded by Commissioner Brown, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that the County will participate in the annual People Against a Littered State (PALS) program wherein the trash bags are delivered to the road department and people can pick them up there.

The next item to discuss was the purchase of a roller for road paving. The Engineer stated there were no like rollers listed on the State Bid List and therefore the roller can be purchased through the National Intergovernmental Purchasing Alliance (NIPA) for \$68,107.00. He added the purchase of the roller is a budgeted item. On a motion by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Roberts, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that the purchase of a used roller from the National Intergovernmental Purchasing Alliance (NIPA) in the amount of \$68,107.00 is approved.

The next item was to discuss a petition from landowners to vacate a portion of Hill Street. The Engineer stated Hill Street is in the Moody area and was originally platted as a subdivision but was never built out. There are two (2) property owners and both would like the County to vacate the Right of Way. He added that he does not see any reason the County would need it in the future. Attorney James Hill added the request would not deny access to any property. A public hearing on the matter should be set for April 12, 2016 at 9 a.m. On a motion by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Roberts, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that the petition from landowners on Hill Street that the Right of Way be vacated by the County is accepted and set for public hearing April 12, 2016 at 9 a.m. (Petition to be made a part of these minutes as Attachment #1)

The last item on the Engineer's Report was to discuss an agreement with Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) for preliminary engineering for intersection improvements on US 411 at Washington Valley, Kerr Road, Verbena Drive, and Park Avenue.

RESOLVED, that the agreement with Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) for preliminary engineering for intersection improvements on US 411 at Washington Valley, Kerr Road, Verbena Drive, and Park Avenue is approved. (Agreement to be made a part of these minutes as Attachment #2)

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The first item on the Administrator's report was to discuss extending Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) until April 1, 2016 for Misty Bice. On a motion by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) for Misty Bice is extended until April 1, 2016.

The next item was to discuss rescheduling the Commission meeting of May 10 to May 5, 2016 due to a conflict with the Engineer's and Administrator's Conferences. The meeting will immediately follow the regular work session which

ST. CLAIR COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING FEBRUARY 23, 2016

begins at 1 p.m. in Ashville. On a motion by Commissioner Bowers, seconded by Commissioner Brown with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that the Commission meeting of May 10 is rescheduled to May 5, 2016 due to a conflict with the Engineer's and Administrator's Conferences. The meeting will begin immediately after the work session which begins at 1 p.m. in Ashville.

The next item is to discuss the recommendation that Tina Morgan be named to fill the Sales Tax Coordinator position left vacant with the retirement of Sandra Rankin. On a motion by Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that Tina Morgan be named to fill the Sales Tax Coordinator position left vacant with the retirement of Sandra Rankin.

The next item was to discuss posting in-house the Administrative Assistant position left vacant with the promotion of Tina Morgan. On a motion by Commissioner Bowers, seconded by Commissioner Roberts, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that the Administrative Assistant position left vacant with the promotion of Tina Morgan be posted in-house.

The last item on the Administrator's Report was to discuss the travel requests as presented in the work session of Feb. 18, 2016. On a motion by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Roberts, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that the travel requests as presented in the work session of Feb. 18, 2016 are approved.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

County Attorney James Hill stated the sales tax collection question the County Commission submitted for an Attorney General's opinion is under review by the Attorney General's office and an answer should be forthcoming. He also provided information on the Constitutional Amendment set to appear on the March 1 ballot that would allow local legislation through Montgomery to change court costs. There is also another Bill pending if this amendment passes. The pending Bill would establish a \$30 court cost earmarked for the construction of a jail.

VETERANS' OUTREACH REPORT

Veterans' Outreach officer Wayne Johnson proved a 6-month impact update of the program's activities between July 2015 and January 2016. Mr. Johnson reported 43 veterans were directly assisted with claims and benefits they were unaware they were eligible for including G.I. Education, homelessness, employment, behavioral mental health support, Veterans Treatment Court and other programs to increase their well-being. A Veteran's Quarterly Roundtable Luncheon was also established to help generate ideas on reaching out to veterans that need assistance. The program also established a partnership with Habitat for Humanity and is instrumental in making recommendations for veterans to be candidates of homes as well as establishing a program with a local business called "Boots on the Ground" to provide 100 pairs of boots to veterans. Through the

ST. CLAIR COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING FEBRUARY 23, 2016

outreach program 15 veterans were connected with over 15 hours of case work with the federal VA. Lakeside Hospice also provided guidance on caregivers' responsibilities. Johnson added a Veteran's Symposium was held for over 40 veterans to discuss benefits and eligibility. There were also numerous trips to the senior centers in the County as well as the VA Hospital in Birmingham to carry veterans to appointments and/or submitting paperwork for medical eligibility. Mr. Johnson closed the report stating there are several upcoming outreach events scheduled for March, April and May including a countywide job fair for veterans and high school seniors scheduled for May 20th at the St. Clair Arena in Odenville.

Chairman Manning stated he is very pleased with the outreach work so far and thanked Mr. Johnson for his dedication to the veterans.

Commissioner Roberts echoed the sentiment adding Mr. Johnson is by far the best Veterans' Outreach Officer the County has had so far, and he is pleased to see so much activity from the outreach program and to see so many veterans receiving the assistance they need and deserve.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items of Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

The first item of New Business was to discuss acceptance of one (1) Ford Econoline Van 1FTDS3EL3ADA10998 donated to St. Clair County by Bermuda Baptist Church in Repton, AL. Their wishes are that the van be used by the Veterans' Outreach program to transport veterans to and from needed appointments. County Attorney James Hill will work with the Administrator on the proper procedure needed to allow the Veterans' Outreach program use of the van. The van was originally a Public Transportation van and the church purchased it off of GovDeals.com before donating it back to the County. On a motion by Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, with all voting aye, it was

RESOLVED, that one (1) Ford Econoline van 1FTDS3EL3ADA10998 donated to the County by Bermuda Baptist Church is accepted and the County Attorney and County Administrator will develop the proper procedure so that the van may be used for the Veterans' Outreach program.

There were no appointments.

The next item for discussion was to approve payment of the regular bills. On a motion by Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, 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.

