

**January 5, 2026**

At a scheduled meeting of the Walker County Commission held in their offices in the Walker County Courthouse Annex, Jasper, Alabama, at 9:30 a.m. on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026, Chairman Miller gave the welcome and called the meeting to order.

Chairman Miller read the following statement:

“The Walker County Commission was saddened to learn of the passing of four-year-old Johnathan Boley of Jasper. News of this tragic event has truly shaken our county to its core, and the Commission would like to thank the Walker County Sheriff’s Office and other law enforcement officials, the Walker County EMA, firefighters and first responders, and the many volunteers and local citizens who selflessly gave of their time during this search for Johnathan. We send our condolences to Johnathan’s family and pray for comfort during this difficult time.”

After Chairman Miller gave the invitation for comment from citizens and other elected officials, the meeting continued as follows:

**AWARDS AND PRESENTATION:**

The following informative presentations were given:

1. Senator Matt Woods & Representative Greg Barne on Proposed Local Ad Valorem Tax Legislation;
2. 3D Revolution Opioid Funding Request, Executive Director Amber Sellers;
3. Walker County Child Advocacy Center Opioid Funding Request, Executive Director Johnny Sudberry;
4. NEUMO (formerly AVENU) Director of Client Relations Connie Taylor and Assistant Christy Cato;
5. Recovery Den Opioid Funding Request, Executive Director Paige Britton.

Upon the request of Commissioner Burrough, Chairman Miller announced that a work session will be scheduled to discuss all of these requests for opioid funding.

Chairman Miller asked the County Administrator Amy Frederickson to call the roll and Commissioners present were John Dunagan, Jeff Burrough, Jim Borden, and Steven Aderholt.

Commissioner Burrough gave the invocation and Commissioner Aderholt led the pledge of allegiance.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Dunagan to Approve the Agenda; to Approve the Meeting Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 15, 2025; and to Approve the New Vendor List.

With no discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One; Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

**REPORTS FROM STAFF:**

County Administrator Amy Frederickson stated, "Good morning, everyone, Happy New Year. I just briefly wanted to note that – this Wednesday – January the 7<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 a.m., we will have the first safety committee meeting for 2026. We ask all safety sensitive departments to send someone to attend. Breakfast will be served and I look forward to seeing everyone there."

County Engineer Glenn Peek announced that what he has will be covered during the meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- (1) Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to Accept \$345,920.00 SS4A Grant Award.

After explanation by Janet Adams-Clayton and County Engineer Glenn Peek, input from Chairman Miller and Commissioners Burrough and Borden, Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Dunagan to Accept \$345,920.00 SS4A Grant Award.

Without further discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

Without opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

- (2) Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of 2026 Annual Bid, Bid #865, for Emulsified Asphalt – RS2 and CRS2.

After explanation and recommendation by County Engineer Glenn Peek, Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to award Bid #865, for Emulsified Asphalt – RS2 and CRS2 to Vulcan Asphalt Refining Company.

Without discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

- (3) Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Resolution Approving the Passage of Proposed Legislative Act by State Legislature to Be Voted on By Walker County Voters as a Local Amendment to the State Constitution that Would Set the Maximum Age at which a Person May Qualify as Judge of Probate of the County to the Age of 75 Years at the Time of Qualifying for Election or Appointment.

After explanation by Probate Judge Lee Tucker, Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to Approve Resolution Approving the Passage of Proposed Legislative Act by State Legislature to Be Voted on By Walker County Voters as a Local Amendment to the State Constitution that Would Set the Maximum Age at which a Person May Qualify as Judge of Probate of the County to the Age of 75 Years at the Time of Qualifying for Election or Appointment.

Without discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

Without opposition, the Chairman declared the motion unanimously carried.

- (4) Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Resolution Approving the Passage of Proposed Legislative Act by State Legislature as a



Local Act for the Purposes of Providing the Walker County Probate Judge the Ability to Appoint and Compensate Temporary Judge(s) of Probate in Certain Circumstances.

After explanation by Probate Judge Lee Tucker, Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to Approve Resolution Approving the Passage of Proposed Legislative Act by State Legislature as a Local Act for the Purposes of Providing the Walker County Probate Judge the Ability to Appoint and Compensate Temporary Judge(s) of Probate in Certain Circumstances.

Without discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

Without opposition, the Chairman declared the motion unanimously carried.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

None.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS:**

District One Commissioner John Dunagan began by stating, “I would like to add Item Number 5 to the Agenda – Resolution [for a] proposed local bill to be enacted by the 2026 regular session of the Alabama Legislature and then voted on by the voters of Walker County as a local amendment to the Constitution of The State of Alabama. Said proposed Local Bill is attached to this Resolution.” (This Resolution on the proposed legislation concerning ad valorem tax exemption for Walker County Seniors was jointly presented by Senator Woods and Representative Barnes during the Awards and Presentations portion of the meeting.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to add Number 5, “Resolution” – supporting proposed local legislation and constitutional amendment – to the agenda.

Without discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye; Chairman Miller: Aye.

Without opposition, the Chairman declared the motion unanimously carried.

(5) Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to open for discussion, Discussion and Approval of Resolution (A proposed local bill to be enacted by the 2026 regular session of the Alabama Legislature, and then voted on by the voters of Walker County as a local amendment to the Constitution of The State of Alabama. Said proposed Local Bill is attached to this Resolution).”

Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to Approve the Resolution (A proposed local bill to be enacted by the 2026 regular session of the Alabama Legislature, and then voted on by the voters of Walker County as a local amendment to the Constitution of The State of Alabama. Said proposed Local Bill is attached to this Resolution).”

Without further discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

Without opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Commissioner Dunagan continued: “I hope everybody had a safe and happy holidays. Appreciate everybody for the work they did, EMA, Sheriff’s Department, all the agencies. There was a lot of people that dropped their time to come and help. And Regina can tell you there were a lot of hours put in and I appreciate everything that they’ve done. All of our fire departments, everybody, it was just a lot of people put in a lot of time and I appreciate it. Thank y’all Greg and Matt for the work y’all do and Jerry Davis for helping to put this tax and resolution together.”

District Two Commissioner Jeff Burrough, stated, “Thank each of y’all for attending. I look forward to having that meeting. Is it okay to maybe set that work session right now?”

Chairman Miller responded affirmatively, stating “It is if you would like to add it to the agenda.”

Commissioner Burrough continued, “I think the Chairman had a free day on January 15<sup>th</sup>, is that right? Is that on a Thursday at 9:30?”

Chairman Miller stated, “It is.”

Commissioner Burrough stated, “Is everybody else okay with that?” For the



ones still in attendance, Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:30.”

Chairman Miller responded, “All right. We’ll set that date, January the 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.”

Commissioner Burrough continued, “And also, Matt and Greg, thank you for what you do for us. I will throw a jab at you; we need road money.” He said they do have one road project that is coming up soon in District Two. He stated, “Also, like I said, I witnessed Regina in action this week and I sincerely thank you from the bottom of my heart all the hard work that you put in. They had a lot of people show up. This county is resilient and it has a lot of people that is willing to help and continued prayers for the family.”

District Three Commissioner Jim Borden stated, “Just thank everyone for being here. Again, thanks to Regina. She puts a lot of time into her position. All the people, our medical services, fire, citizens, everybody involved in this past week in that whole situation, thank you to all of our county employees, our work families. I’ll say to our Legislatures and Jeff jokes with a jab, I want to knock you out with a boxing glove. We understand, in my position, I won’t speak for the other three, in my position, though, I hear it daily from the citizens of this county. What’s going on? We need to fix the roads. I tell them the same tale everyday that I get up. It comes down to funding. I look forward, I appreciate what y’all do. I appreciate what we’re going to be able to work together in the future to help the citizens of this county. I really do look forward. I believe we’re turning a new page. But, yes, we do need to look at some funding sources, hash some of this stuff out and let’s come up with a viable plan that is going to help push this county forward in some of our infrastructure. There’s money there, monies are obligated, but there’s always ways to tweak things. I look at government as similar to a home budget. If I want to go out and buy me a new bicycle and I don’t have the money and maybe I can adjust here, cut a little here, that’s the same difference. When the monies are there the people want the money spent wisely. And again, like I said, tie this into the studies, that is the process, but when we get the studies done that’s when it comes down to what is available to help. You can’t just apply for a grant ever so often to work on a little road, as that last line Commissioner Burrough read, roughly 1200 miles of road and 93 bridges in this county. A combined Four Million Dollar a year budget. It doesn’t go far. With that I’ll close.”

District Four Commissioner Steven Aderholt stated, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I really can’t add anything to what these gentlemen has said about how our county



came together the past week during the tragedy with everything that transpired. Again, my thanks to all of our departments, Regina and everybody that put a hand into that event. Thank you very much for your hard work and dedication. Representative Barnes, Senator Woods, thank y'all for being here today. We certainly do appreciate everything that you're doing for Walker County. Our goal and focus is Walker County, it's not regional, it's not across the state. We're here today to work for the people of Walker County. And that's what we come here to do every time. I also make highlight and seen the people here that are involved with it, our constant and ongoing battle with the generational effects of opioids. It's a detrimental thing to our county. I don't ever want that to just pass by or seem like it's just another ask for money, people coming in here requesting help or funds for the opioid problem that we've had in this county. Opioids have affected Walker County and every citizen in it, whether you've been addicted by it, you're related to somebody that's been addicted to it or you've lost family members or distant family members, everybody in Walker County has been affected by Opioids at some level. So, our path going forward is to continue to battle. We do that through funding. We do it through legal organizations. To me it's just as important as road funding or anything else that we do here, because this affects the lives of people as much as anything that we do. So, I would ask our Legislature, again, since you're here today and we're making shots and making points while you're up here, we need to continue to do everything that we can to battle the opioid problem in Walker County. Not just the immediate effects of opioid problem, but the long-term generational impact that it's had on the County. Most of all, pray for us and pray for our county and pray for all that have been involved in this horrific situation over the past week. Pray that God will intervene in the opioid situation. Thank you."

Commissioner Burrough, "Chairman, if I can jump back in there. Also, the Sheriff's Office don't have anybody here, so it's sort of easy not to remember them, but I mean, Nick and them done – you know, it's a very trying time for him over the week, too. And I just – they worked hard and we certainly want to thank our law enforcement, you know, all the law enforcement were there, I think I saw maybe every agency there, but you know our Sheriff's Office was right there in the middle of it, handling it. So, I appreciate them."

Chairman Miller stated, "And I, too, personally want to thank our EMA, our Sheriff's Department, I know they worked hard. I kept up with it and talked to Ms. Regina a couple of times. And I know they were totally affected. And I do appreciate them very much, all of the firefighters and the local folks that came out and all the

other agencies that were there. Thank you from the bottom of my heart also.”

The Chairman announced that they need to retire to executive session.

**ADJOURN:**

After County Attorney Charles R. Stephens, Jr. presented a letter requesting that this meeting be adjourned to Executive Session as the matters to be discussed meets the criteria for an executive session, Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough that this meeting be adjourned to Executive Session and not reconvene until the next regularly scheduled meeting or at the call of the Chairman.

With no discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

(Meeting Adjourned to Executive Session)

Read and Approved:

  
Chairman

  
Attest