

April 6, 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 6th day of April 2026, Chairman Miller gave the welcome and called the meeting to order.

After Chairman Miller gave the invitation for comment from citizens and other elected officials, County Administrator Amy Frederickson called the roll and Commissioners present were John Dunagan, Jeff Burrough, Jim Borden and Steven Aderholt.

Commissioner Aderholt gave the invocation and Mr. Sudberry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATION:

An informative presentation was given by Mr. Sudberry from the Child Advocacy Center. County Administrator Amy Frederickson read aloud two Proclamations which were presented to Mr. Sudberry proclaiming April, 2026 as Child Abuse Awareness Month & Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Chairman Miller read information from the ACCA Plan 2026 to advocate for children's safety well-being and stated that a group will be meeting at the Alabama Capitol tomorrow to deliver information to State lawmakers to discuss key issues in backing children and families across the State to raise awareness of threats facing children.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Michael Rice: "Members of the Commission and residents here, my name is Michael Rice. Thanks for allowing us to be here today. This is part of the responsibility by ADEM to adopt the Solid Waste Management Plan within Walker County. They have to have a public hearing. I think it's been advertised in the Daily Mountain Eagle Newspaper for a minimum of thirty days that this hearing was going to take place today at this Commission meeting. And so, we are here now today if there are any public comments or questions on the advertised Solid Waste Management Plan, we would be able to listen to those today and document those. And if there are any adjustments to the Plan that need to be made before the Commission formally adopts it, we will consider those with the engineering staff and the Commission before it's formally adopted by the Walker County Commission. So, that's what's being presented today at this Public Hearing."

Chairman Miller asked: "Any questions or Comments from the Public?"

County Administrator Amy Frederickson stated: "For the record, we haven't received any comments."

Chairman Miller stated, "So, then we'll proceed."

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to Approve the Agenda; to Approve the New Vendor List for March 2026; and to Approve the Meeting Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 16, 2026.

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. This is just a brief reminder that the 2025 Statement of Economic Interest Forms will be due April 30th. I will be sending out an email to every department identifying individuals that need them, along with the form and any frequently asked questions they may have can be addressed at that time. It should be tomorrow, if not this afternoon when you receive that email.

County Engineer Glenn Peek stated, "We have a county-wide safety training scheduled for the 15th for all safety-sensitive departments which will be held at the Civic Center. We are also working on future paving projects. We will open bids on the 15th for a section of Empire Road and Old Highway 78 in the Kansas area. And also, tomorrow they should start a resurfacing project that is around the hangars at the Airport."

OLD BUSINESS:

No motion was made to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Alabama Southern Fair Pre-Application for Rental of the Old Airport Property, April 15th – April 19th 2026, therefore no action was taken.

NEW BUSINESS:

- (1) Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to Renew \$9,000.00 Lease of Lots 2 & 4 in Block 224 Jasper, Alabama.

After explanation by Chairman Miller and a brief discussion, Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to Approve to Renew \$9,000.00 Lease of Lots 2 & 4 in Block 224 Jasper, Alabama.

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.

- (2) Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Borden to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Joey's Plumbing Proposal Re-Plumbing of Probate Office and Archives Building for \$22,800.

After explanation by Probate Judge A. Lee Tucker, input from Chairman Miller, and a brief discussion, Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to approve Joey's Plumbing Proposal Re-Plumbing of Probate Office and Archives Building for \$22,800.

With no further 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 this motion carried.

- (3) Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of NEUMO (formerly AVENU) Proposal for the Collection of Sales & Use, Motor Fuel, Tobacco, Alcohol, Rental, Lodging Taxes on Behalf of Walker County.

After explanation by Representatives Dan Holden and Connie Taylor from NEUMO (formerly AVENU Insights), input by County Administrator Amy Frederickson and Chairman Miller, and much discussion, Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and expanded by Commissioner Borden to give the Chairman the ability to do this, get it all checked out, but vote on this at the next meeting to give them a couple of weeks and if there are any questions to come back, but still proceed forward with it, but instead of it just being a done deal, they will come back in two weeks and vote on it. And he can reach out to the Commissioners, individually, if there is anything that comes up.

Commissioner Aderholt added, "That's just a motion to table."

Commissioner Borden added: "No, I want him to pursue."

Commissioner Aderholt withdrew his motion.

Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough that the NEUMO (formerly AVENU Insights) Proposal for the Collection of Sales & Use, Motor Fuel, Tobacco, Alcohol, Rental, Lodging Taxes on Behalf of Walker County be reviewed by the Chairman and Counsel and give the Chairman the Authority if they agree that they're okay, then bring it back to the next Commission Meeting to Approve the contract. If there are any changes or anything, the Chairman will give them that information through the County Administrator Amy Frederickson.

With no further 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.

- (4) Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Simple Grants SS4A Planning and Demonstration Management Plan.

After explanation by Ms. Janet Adams and input by County Engineer Glenn Peek, motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Dunagan to Approve Simple Grants SS4A Planning and Demonstration Management Plan.

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.

- (5) Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of 3D Construction (Labor Only) \$19,564.00 Proposal for Repair and Replacement of Flooring and Subflooring in the Archives Building.

After explanation by Probate Judge A. Lee Tucker, Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Borden to approve 3D Construction (Labor Only) \$19,564.00 Proposal for Repair and Replacement of Flooring and Subflooring in the Archives Building.

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.

- (6) Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Dunagan to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of C-Spire Web-Ex 36 mo. Contract Update & Changes.

After explanation by Amy Frederickson and much discussion, Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to table the C-Spire Web-Ex 36 mo. Contract Update & Changes.

With no further 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.

- (7) Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Borden to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to Appoint Ms. Kimberly Allred to the Northwest Alabama Mental Health Center Board of Directors to serve a Six-Year Term Beginning April 6, 2026 and Ending April 5, 2032.

After Chairman Miller stated that they had received a letter from Northwest Alabama Mental Health requesting that Ms. Allred be appointed as a Board Member, Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to approve the appointment of Ms. Kimberly Allred to the Northwest Alabama Mental Health Center Board of Directors to serve a Six-Year Term Beginning April 6, 2026 and Ending April 5, 2032.

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.

- (8) Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to transfer Ms. Cindy Kellum to Solid Waste Department as a Full-Time Common Laborer, effective today, Monday, April 6, 2026.

Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Dunagan to approve to In-Service Transfer Ms. Cindy Kellum to Solid Waste Department as a Full-Time Common Laborer, effective today, Monday, April 6, 2026.

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.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Aderholt stated, "Thank you Mr. Chairman. Thank everybody for being here today. As always, I appreciate everybody coming and participating in Walker County government. A lot of good things, hopefully, is going for Walker County this year and years to come. Again, thank everybody for coming and I look forward to many meetings to come."

Commissioner Borden stated, "I would just thank everyone for being here today. We're getting into a good time of the year, late spring, I guess, or middle spring now. Weather conditions will start to improve, so we'll be out in District 3 starting our patching programs again. We still have several culverts that need to be replaced. We'll be working on them this week and probably the next week.

I didn't say this our last meeting, but District 3 bought what we call a limb buster. It is an extension of what we call a giraffe. You've seen them out on the rights-of-ways of utility companies. This allows us to reach upwards of twenty feet, I guess, above the highway to cut our overhanging limbs. Over the years we got a lot of questions from bus drivers on the bus routes and stuff about low-hanging limbs and stuff. This is going to make the roads safer for the buses. We could get out and get problem spots a lot quicker. You look at the cost of this attachment versus what it costs to contract it out. I think Mr. Dunagan will attest to it. The first five or six miles that we cut out, you basically pay for the machine if you were trying

to go the contractor route.

Again, Mr. Dunagan brings this up a good bit and it's an issue that does not need to die again, our tax situation. In this county our 2-cent county sales tax does not go to your roads. It goes to the Boards of Education, Walker and the City of Jasper. We are limited in the districts on the monies we receive. The Commission office is open 5 days a week. Chairman will sit down and show anyone that is interested what we actually get per month in these districts.

Again, we do not get a lump of money at the beginning of the fiscal year. Our monies come in monthly. They're not even consistent. There's a pretty good variation from month to month, depending on the tax collections through the state, that sends us the money for these accounts that we have for the roads in our districts. Again, without a source of funding to generate more money for these roads, we are facing an uphill battle. I've been here 5 years. For years I set out looking, thinking man, I know there's a better way to do this. Once you get into the Commission position, and this is what I've always told people when I first started to run, it's an open door. I, at this point, will answer any questions, show you anything that pertains to this county's finances. That's what the people out in the public need to understand. We don't have a magical stash of money that we are sitting on and purposely not going out and repairing roads. It is strictly a lack of funds.

With the cost of stuff today, \$200,000 or \$250,000 is not going to solve the road problem when you have almost 1,200 miles of road in this county. I have 350 plus of those miles just in District 3. And this is just, a little paper I had. Just to give you an idea, this past fall, I named some roads that we were going to redo. They were not high-quality jobs. They were not cut down to the base and repacked. This is just trying to get them better than they were and get some longevity out of them. District 3 did 4.2 miles of road last year. I think we ended up, what was it Glenn, sometime towards the end of October, end of November maybe? It was \$633,000. So, we had \$1,000,000 to spend on the roads in District 3. If you were able to average 10 miles a year, it would take 35 years to get all the roads repaired in District 3. There's not a road in District 3 that's going to last 35 years because some of the people in District 3 are riding on roads that probably were paved or repaired 35 years ago. You see what you have today.

Again, it comes back -- It's going to be up to the people in this county. I'll lay the facts out for you, but the people have got to make the decision. Again, if I have \$50 to work on the road, you get \$50 worth of repair. If you want more than that, it is going to take somebody stepping up and trying to figure this solution out. There's no magic, just pull it out of the air. The state does not fund us enough money for these roads. Mr. Peek, I believe, will -- I'm going to put him on the spot. I like doing this to him. I hear all of the time, 'hey, have you applied for state grants, call the state for grants'. How forthcoming, Peek, is the state with grants when we ask for them. Do we just call and they send us the money?"

County Engineer Glenn Peek stated, "We went through all of their paperwork last year and did not get the Rebuild Grant."

Commissioner Borden states, "Correct."

County Engineer Glenn Peek stated, "We have gotten it in the past. District 4 got it 2 years ago. Last year, we did not get one. We have reapplied for it this year and hopefully will get an answer at the end of April or the first week of May."

Commissioner Borden continued, "And that's some \$425,000 is what we asked for?"

County Engineer Glenn Peek stated, "We'll actually get \$350,000 and we will put up –

Commissioner Borden stated, "Three fifty, and then we still have to match some money to, again, to try to go out and pave two and a half to 3 miles of road work when you need a million dollars. So, that is where this is. I will say this from this point till I'm unelected that this is the facts. This is the facts as I know them. I will state it every day of the week and every Commission meeting this point forward. We have got to step up and try to figure out as a community and a county what we want. And, with that, I'll pass it down the line."

Commissioner Aderholt: "Can I add one sentence to this -- to these comments, if you don't mind?"

Commissioner Borden said, "Please."

Commissioner Aderholt: "Ultimately, it's not Walker County Commission who decides revenue. It is the Alabama State Legislature who decides where our revenue comes from and how much we get. We can't – we don't invent revenue at the County Commission level. We're an extension of Alabama Legislature."

Chairman Miller: "And before I pass this on to Mr. Burrough here, remembering that, to what these two gentlemen are saying, this Commission, unlike cities; cities can implement a sales tax by a vote of their councilmen. The county does not have home rule. That means we cannot vote taxes in here, okay? So, it has to be presented to the people of Walker County. The people of Walker County have to say yes or no, we want our roads fixed faster than what you're doing it or not; you're doing okay just like you are. So, at some point, what Mr. Borden is saying is that you voters of Walker County, at some point, have to say, yes, I want better."

Commissioner Burrough stated, "Well, I'm going to move on to our cleanup

months. The State of Alabama has a program that they've dedicated April as a cleanup month and in District Two, I think Wayne has distributed our bags out to just about every municipality and hope all of y'all's are too. The Mayor of Nauvoo is here. I know he's got his. I delivered them myself. But it started in April and a lot of times; it was Easter this past weekend and I don't think many people participated or done anything, but starting this Saturday, we encourage people to get some of these bags from their municipalities and participate one Saturday coming up in the rest of this month to just get out and try to pick up your roadway. And those particular bags are -- I haven't seen one yet, but they always are clear and have, you know, we can tell what they're used for and if you picked it up off the street and you don't have no place to dispose of it at your local place, just come to my district. We'll have the gate open on Saturday and put it in our dumpster and we'll make sure it gets to the Solid Waste Department. So, I just encourage everybody that can, to participate in a cleanup day with one of these Saturdays through the rest of April, if you can. That's something that's sort of big and I know that people will advocate for it but then that Saturday morning when you show up, you may only have two or three people there. But I encourage people to get out and try to participate and let's try to pick some of our roadways up. I know the Sheriff's Department has the inmates out and they do what they can and each of our districts will go clean up a place that's just been a dumpsite, you know, but there's a lot of Jack's cups and stuff like that in the ditches and we need people out picking it up if you can.

In District 2, we have a couple of paving projects that are starting. We're also planning --I know they're talking about the revenues that we do have or that we need, to do our road paving, but we do have some minimal money that we're trying to all get some roads together and come up with some type of package for this summer. So, we are trying to be positive, trying to pave what we can, and some of those projects will be coming up in the summer. Other than that, thank you to everybody for coming."

Commissioner Dunagan stated, "I echo what these other gentlemen said. Also, as to Mr. Burrough's comment, as a county, please do better. Don't throw your trash out. Wait until you get home or to a gas station or somewhere, try to help out. We have so many miles. You know, let's try to keep Walker County clean. I mean, it's pretty bad when you drive down the road and somebody is so sorry they throw their garbage out instead of being responsible and doing like most people do and take it home with them. So please do better on that.

Also, we've had one of our county employees pass away, so please keep Keith's family in your prayers. Keith was our airport manager. He was a real good man. Please continue to pray for his family. I've got a few paving projects fixing to come up. One is actually fixing to start here pretty soon on Burroughs Crossing. If you see them out working, please use caution. I know it's a hindrance

sometimes, but we are trying to improve as much as we can, so please use caution on that road when you see them. I also would like to thank some local fire departments. We had something that happened this past week and I would like to thank Curry and Piney Woods and Arley. If you don't pay your fire dues, please do. These Volunteer Fire Departments need that money. And you don't know how much they do at these areas until you have to use them. So, they don't run on nothing. They donate their time. They do the best job they can. They're all volunteers, so please pay your fire dues and help these local fire departments. On that, I'll pass it to Chairman Miller."

Commissioner Borden added: "Chairman Miller, I apologize for this. I'm glad Commissioner Dunagan brought it up. Again, we ask for prayers throughout the county for the family of Keith Duncan, but also Commissioner Dunagan that's speaking – I don't – I'm going to do this anyway. I ask that we keep him and his family in our prayers. He faced a loss over the weekend. His house was -- burnt down. Luckily, fortunately, everyone was safe. No one, I don't believe, was at home at the time, so again, just – he'll have a lot on his mind this coming week and in the coming weeks. As he enters a new chapter of his life trying to recover and rebuild. But again, I just ask that everyone keep these two families in your prayers. Thank you, sir."

Chairman Miller stated: "Thank you, gentlemen. I, too, would like to say Mr. Keith Duncan, I've known him for a long, long, long time, back in my construction days and he was a very good man and our airport manager for the county and his loss will hurt the county somewhat in the aviation industry. He really worked hard there and we want to lift that up to everybody and let everybody know and certainly continue to pray for his family and John and his family, just continue to remember them. And we appreciate that."

A little update on the county financial budget: We're basically half a year into the county budget. Our budget this year being the \$13,707,687.96. Basically, as of March 31st, we spent some \$7,484,936.34. The target would have been 50%. Basically overall, we're running 54.60%. And I've got this chart, anybody can have copies of it. And so, we're running about 4.6% over. That equates to at the end of the year if you project it out, that would be about \$1.26 million over. So at this time, I'd ask all departments including ours here at the County Commission, to tighten our belts somewhat and help with pulling that down. You know, we've only got 4.60% to pull down, at the moment. If we continue to let it grow, that will grow as the year goes. So, tighten your belts, ladies and gentlemen. And everybody is doing a good job. We just need to work a little bit harder to make it work.

And with that, if nobody else has anything, I would entertain a motion to adjourn."

ADJOURN:

Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Dunagan that this meeting be adjourned to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled meeting or at the call of the Chairman.

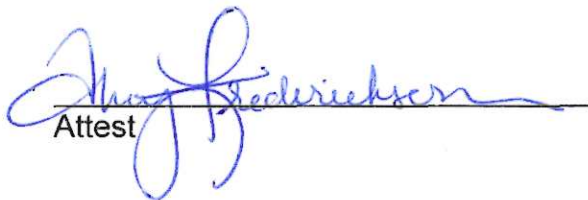
With no discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Read and Approved:



Chairman



Attest