

April 7, 2025

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 7th day of April 2025, 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 Commissioner Borden led the pledge of allegiance.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATION:

Jennifer Andress, External Affairs and Special Projects Director for Freshwater Land Trust Project gave an update on the Walker County Mulberry Fork Project. She was assisted by Patrick Ritchey, Landscape Architect and Walter Hogue, Urban Designer.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to Approve the Agenda; to Approve the Meeting Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 17, 2025, the Special Meeting of March 26, 2025 and the Emergency Meetings of March 30, 2025 and April 1, 2025; to Approve the New Vendor List; and Claims against the County for April, 2025.

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, "I just want to first say, thank you to everyone who came to the April 1st Wellness Check. I believe it was successful. We are going to have a makeup scheduled for April 30th. It begins at 12:30 and I just ask that anyone who was not able to attend on the 1st to sign in. Secondly, a reminder about the Two Lights for Tomorrow celebration on April 18th, 2025, which is the kickoff of the America 250 event. We will be recognizing it and commemorating it on the 17th. It will begin at 9 o'clock in the morning in Cordova. At 11 o'clock we will be moving here at the County Commission at the Main Courthouse, with Jasper at 1:00 and Nauvoo at 4 o'clock."

County Engineer Glenn Peek stated, "Currently, the contractor has completed the paving portion of Empire Road and Old Empire at Hill Road, waiting for the striping which it has to have a curing period for a while before they can put permanent striping down. We also have been working with Garver Consulting firm on doing some work out at the airport. That is all I have."

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- (1) Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Request to Reserve Old Fairgrounds for Reebo Reeves Invitational on October 4, 2025.

After explanation by County Administrator Amy Frederickson and a brief discussion, Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to Approve the Request to Reserve Old Fairgrounds for Reebo Reeves Invitational on October 4, 2025.

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.

- (2) Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Dunagan to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Auto-Owners Insurance Group Quote for Flood Insurance on Old Alabama Power Building with Annual Premium of \$2,101.00 and 30-day Effective Date Waiting Period.

After explanation by County Administrator, Amy Frederickson and input from Chairman Miller and a brief discussion, Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to Approve the proposal of Auto-Owners Insurance Group Quote for Flood Insurance on Old Alabama Power Building with Annual Premium of \$2,101.00 and 30-day Effective Date Waiting Period.

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.

- (3) Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Bid #847: One or More Used Hydraulic Knuckle-boom Brush and Limb Loaders with Dump Body and Chassis.

After explanation by County Engineer Glenn Peek and much discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to Award Bid #847 to Ingram Equipment, as they met all the bid qualifications, pending inspection by Commissioners Burrough and Aderholt.

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.

- (4) Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to Give Chairman Miller the Authority to Execute a \$70,594.38 3-year General Obligation Warrant Agreement for District Three.

After explanation by Commissioner Borden, motion was made by Commissioner

Borden and seconded by Commissioner Dunagan to approve to Give Chairman Miller the Authority to Execute a \$70,594.38 3-year General Obligation Warrant Agreement for District Three.

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 Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to Publish Notice of Public Hearing on Request to Vacate a Portion of Woodley Loop Road off Akins Miller Road in District Three.

After explanation by Commissioner Borden and County Engineer Glenn Peek, motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to Approve to Publish Notice of Public Hearing on Request to Vacate a Portion of Woodley Loop Road off Akins Miller Road in District Three.

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.

- (6) Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Borden to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Request to In-Service Transfer, From the Eligible Register, Ms. Angie Locke into the Full-Time Position of Business License Administrative Assistant in the Probate Office, effective today, April 7, 2025.

After explanation by Probate Judge Lee Tucker, Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to In-Service Transfer, From the Eligible Register, Ms. Angie Locke into the Full-Time Position of Business License Administrative Assistant in the Probate Office, effective today, April 7, 2025.

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 this motion carried.

- (7) Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Request to Hire Both Ms. Mary Jillian Killian Brooks and Ms. Layla Coral Darty as Part-Time Communications Officers for the Walker County Jail. Pending successful completion of both the Walker County Civil Service Board drug test and hiring paperwork, Ms. Brooks and Ms. Darty are expected to Begin Employment on Wednesday, April 9, 2025.

After Commissioner Burrough got confirmation from Payroll Clerk Billie Jo Keeton that slots are available, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to Approve the Request to Hire Both Ms. Mary Jillian Killian Brooks and Ms. Layla Coral Darty as Part-Time Communications Officers for the Walker County Jail. Pending successful completion of both the Walker County Civil Service Board drug test and hiring paperwork, Ms. Brooks and Ms. Darty are Expected to Begin

Employment on Wednesday, April 9, 2025.

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.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

After explanation by County Engineer Glenn Peek, Chairman Miller inquired if anyone was present who would like to speak today at this Public Hearing to Vacate Race Track Road in District Four. No one responded and Commissioner Aderholt explained the further process upon Chairman Miller's inquiry.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Dunagan stated, "Thank everybody for coming today. We finally got some striping done in District One that was well needed. We had a long evening, along with the EMA. I want to thank the fire departments that came out to help us and my employees for working hard, we started about 1:30. We are doing a lot of patching, trying to get District One's roads in shape. We are still doing clipping and cutting. So, if y'all see our workers, please use caution."

Commissioner Burrough stated, "I, too, thank each person for being here and showing interest in the county government. Yesterday or night before last was an eventful thing. It kept a couple of my guys out all day yesterday, working. And I had a couple of big culvert areas that have washed out. And we will have to close the road on Pleasant Grove Road, for probably all week long. So, it is a big project and, you know, these spring storms come along, they cause us problems for that storm, but it also puts us behind on some other things. So, you will have to bear with us to get caught back up on picking trees off the side of the road and stuff like that. We can cut them and get them out of the way, but we must come back and clean them up. And it takes some time to do that when you have eight or ten to go down in one day. Other than that, we have got road projects coming up this – you know, the engineers have been getting bids and planning on them and we will start those in the summertime, but we have got a lot of things planned for 25.

Commissioner Borden stated, "Thank everyone for being here. As everybody knows you cannot add much to the weather part of it. Other than, we got three inches of rain, it seems like, in twenty minutes, so a lot of culverts and ditches will not handle the water. I had one culvert washed out and we are in the process already this morning of repairing that. We had several trees down. Again, I thank all the volunteers, first responders and particularly the fire departments for going out. They assist greatly when you have multiple trees over a nighttime period into the next day. We will be making our rounds, checking on those. A lot of times if they just get the roads open for us, we go back and cut it back to the back side of the ditches and clean up where it is necessary. Probably the next day or so we will be going around – the amount of water you have, technically, you can watch on the news, they advertise the flash floods. All the leaves, the small dead debris in the low areas in the ditches where this water comes through, it gathers it and

where does it clog up? At a culvert. So, we will be making our rounds checking our larger diameter culverts to make sure that they are open so, again our workers are out on the roads. We just ask people when you see the men working signs, pay attention. It is a dangerous job out on the roads. But we will be out this week and then hopefully get back to a routine of going back to patching roads. Thank you."

Commissioner Aderholt stated, "I could not have said it any better than Mr. Borden said it. The spring rains collect the winter debris and stacks it up against culverts. We went down Empire Road yesterday afternoon into Blount County and I think every culvert on the north side was stopped up because of that. And it is still running, I mean, it was just a massive amount of water that was continuing to run. So those things happen. Let us everybody be wise and be safe. Again, as Mr. Borden says, watch out for workers when you see signs. We want to keep everybody safe as we are working hard to improve our county and keep our roadways safe. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

Chairman Miller stated, "I, too, would like to say thank you to everyone that has attended. I appreciate you being interested in your county business. This County is poised to grow and do great things because of I-22. So, we want to continue to look forward at the positive notes there. And we appreciate all the County employees, these guys for getting out in the rainy, stormy weather and working on these culverts and trees in roads and all these kinds of things. When we are all at home resting, they out working. We appreciate that. And appreciate, the public's patience with these things that happen. With that said, I will entertain a motion to adjourn."

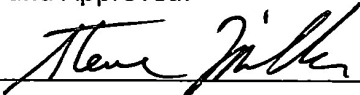
ADJOURN:


Motion was made by Commissioner Borden 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