

May 19, 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 19th day of May 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, and Jim Borden.

Commissioner Borden gave the invocation and Commissioner Dunagan led the pledge of allegiance.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATION:

Ms. Janet Adams reported that Walker County through the Alabama Forestry Commission has been awarded a \$400,000 Rural Logging Efficiency Grant which was established through the Alabama Legislature's Rural Logging Efficiency Act which will be used to Replace Bridges and Strengthen Timber Transportation. She stated that Michael Rice with EEFS helped them write the grant and it will be used for Gibson Hill Road.

Commissioner Burrough added that there are a lot of people who are involved in the logging industry in Walker County. He stated, "A lot of them reminded us that we had this grant to apply for. I would like to thank Glenn's Office and Janet for doing that. We had a problem with Gibson Hill Bridge and repairs have already been done. Its opened back up, but we have a lot of logging friends and they are proud that the Commission has put these out to help rural bridges. And I am sure we can do it further in years to come. Thank y'all for the ones who done the grant."

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Dunagan to Approve the Agenda and to Approve the Meeting Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 5, 2025, and Approval of the Emergency Meeting of May 9, 2025.

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

County Administrator Amy Frederickson stated, "I would like to thank Ms. Adams for her hard work and her diligence in pursuing the Alabama Forestry Commission Grant. I know we are looking forward to proceeding."

County Engineer Glenn Peek stated, "We are currently working on putting together some plans and bids for future projects for the recent money that the districts have. That

is all I have at this time.”

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

(1) Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Request for Temporary Appointment of Linda Ingram to Board of Equalization for 2025 Board Hearings Beginning July 7, 2025, and Ending August 20, 2025.

After explanation by County Revenue Commissioner Jerry Davis, Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Borden to Approve the Request for Temporary Appointment of Linda Ingram to Board of Equalization for 2025 Board Hearings Beginning July 7, 2025 and Ending August 20, 2025.

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

(2) Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Authorization to Submit FY2024 Final Settlement to the Alabama Department of Revenue.

After explanation by Amanda Butler of the Revenue Commission Office, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Dunagan to Approve the Authorization to Submit Final Settlement to the Alabama Department of Revenue.

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

(3) Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to Close All Non-Essential County Offices on Thursday, June 19, 2025, for the Observance of the Juneteenth Holiday.

Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Dunagan to Approve to Close All Non-Essential County Offices on Thursday, June 19, 2025 in Observance of the Juneteenth Holiday.

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

(4) Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Walker County Landfill Holiday Weekend Closures, as follows:

- a. Saturday, May 24, 2025;
- b. Saturday, July 5, 2025;
- c. Saturday, August 30, 2025;
- d. Saturday, November 29, 2025 and
- e. Saturday, December 27, 2025

After explanation by Solid Waste Director Rodney Cain, motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to approve to Walker County Landfill Holiday Weekend Closures, as follows:

- a. Saturday, May 24, 2025;
- b. Saturday, July 5, 2025;
- c. Saturday, August 30, 2025;
- d. Saturday, November 29, 2025 and;
- e. Saturday, December 27, 2025

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

(5) Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Request to Promote Jason Swindle to the Position of Supervisor II for District One, Effective May 19, 2025.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Borden to Approve the Request to Promote Jason Swindle to the Position of Supervisor II for District One, Effective May 19, 2025.

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

(6) Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to In-Service Transfer Scott Thompson to the Position of Driver/Operator within Solid Waste Department, Effective May 19, 2025.

After explanation by Solid Waste Director Rodney Cain, motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Borden to approve to In Service Transfer Scott Thompson to the Position of Driver/Operator within Solid Waste Department, Effective May 19, 2025.

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared this motion carried.

(7) Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Request to In-Service Transfer Joshua Richardson to the Position of Courthouse Security Sergeant, Effective May 19, 2025.

Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to Approve the Request to In-Service Transfer Joshua Richardson to the Position of Courthouse Security Sergeant, Effective May 19, 2025.

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

(8) Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Request to In-Service Transfer Richard Victory to the Position of Courthouse Security Officer, Effective May 19, 2025.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to approve the Request to In-Service Transfer Richard Victory to the Position of Courthouse Security Officer, Effective May 19, 2025.

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

(9) Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Request to Hire Joe Taylor as a Part-time Courthouse Security Officer, Effective May 19, 2025.

Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to approve the Request to Hire Joe Taylor as a Part-time Courthouse Security Officer, Effective May 19, 2025.

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

(10) Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Request to Hire Jonathan Cole as a Common Laborer/Public Service Worker for District One with an Expected Start-Date of May 21, 2025.

After explanation by Commissioner Dunagan, motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to approve Request to Hire Jonathan Cole as a Common Laborer/Public Service Worker for District One, with Expected Start-Date of May 21, 2025, subject to successful completion of the Walker County Civil Service Board drug-test and hiring paperwork.

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

(11) Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Request to Hire Albert Ventura as a Common Laborer for Solid Waste Department, with Expected Start-Date of May 21, 2025.

Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to approve the Request to Hire Albert Ventura as a Common Laborer for Solid Waste Department, with Expected Start-Date of May 21, 2025, subject to successful completion of the Walker County Civil Service Board drug-test and hiring paperwork.

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

(12) Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Request to Hire Mary Brooks, Abbey Richardson, and Layla Darty as Full-Time Communications Officers for the Walker County Jail with an Expected Start-Date of May 21, 2025.

After explanation by Chief Deputy Ralph Williams, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Dunagan to approve the Request to Hire Mary Brooks, Abbey Richardson, and Layla Darty as Full-Time Communications Officers for the Walker County Jail with an Expected Start-Date May 21, 2025; subject to successful completion of the Walker County Civil Service Board drug-test and hiring paperwork.

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

(13) Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Request to Hire Justin Farrar as a Full-Time Jailer at the Walker County Jail, with an Expected Start-Date of May 21, 2025.

After explanation by Chief Deputy Ralph Williams, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to approve to Hire Justin Farrar as Full-Time Jailer at the Walker County Jail, with an Expected Start-Date of May 21, 2025

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

(14) Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Borden to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Walker County Solid Waste Department Pricing Changes for Landfill Dumping, Commercial and Residential Garbage Services, and Roll Off Rentals; Pricing Changes to take effect Tuesday, July 1, 2025.

After explanation by Chairman Miller, input by Commissioners Borden and Burrough, motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner

Burrough to approve the Walker County Solid Waste Department Pricing Changes for Landfill Dumping, Commercial and Residential Garbage Services, and Roll Off Rentals; Pricing Changes to take effect Tuesday, July 1, 2025.

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Dunagan stated, "Thank everybody for coming. And we thank all our county employees for the jobs y'all do. If anybody in District One wants to ask about the county budget, my budget, I am willing to sit down and explain it, go over the budget with you. I have all the numbers. I want y'all to know what we are doing with tax dollars that we do receive off the gas tax. Other than that, if you have any questions please reach out."

Commissioner Burrough, inquired of Eddie Miller of the Civil Service Board if there was anything else needed in moving one of his employees, which has already been voted on, from part-time to full-time. "We have an employee that we moved from Part-time to Full-time. I was just making sure we were covered by the Civil Service Rules. Other than that, thanks to everybody for coming. I certainly do hope that these storms start to let up, maybe this week. I do not know if they have got another round tomorrow and – it seems like all we have been doing is picking up trees. And I know it is frustrating to the men to get stuff cleaned up and then having to go right back out and do some more. Road projects, Glenn is working on some of our road projects, getting with his staff, and trying to draw up the plans for certain roads we are going to get paved. If the storms will let up, I am sure each of the districts are going to be out doing maintenance on certain roads. And that will be some of the ones that we can still patch and dura-patch. Other than that, I thank everybody for coming. And I will pass it down to Jim."

Commissioner Borden stated, "Thanks everyone for being here. Again, thank you to all our county employees. They keep this County moving on the front line and behind the scenes. Again, on the weather issue, we have had – it depends on what city you live in. We are kind of in between the north and Tuscaloosa, so we are probably averaging in the 10" of rain so far in the past month or so. Tomorrow when the storms start to come in, with the ground saturated as Commissioner Burrough said, it is getting now to when a storm comes through trees fall. I want to thank all of our volunteer fire departments. They do a tremendous job. A lot of times they – I get the call from 9-1-1, I touch base with the corresponding fire department, they are already on the scene and have handled it. We will go back a lot of times the next morning and clean some of the stuff off the side of the road, that sort of thing. But again, just a shout out to all the volunteers and all our first responders. That is all I have."

Chairman Miller stated, "I would like to say thank you for everyone attending. And we hope that everyone stays safe tomorrow afternoon with the storms. Like they say, the grounds are saturated, but if you see someone out there cleaning up or whatever, please be safe on the roads and be slow, because these folks are out trying to keep the roads open and going. We are just so much appreciative of this Alabama Forestry Commission \$400,000.00 grant. And thank everyone who worked on that. All the employees of the County thank you so much for what you do. It does not go unnoticed. And with that, I would entertain a motion to adjourn."

ADJOURN:

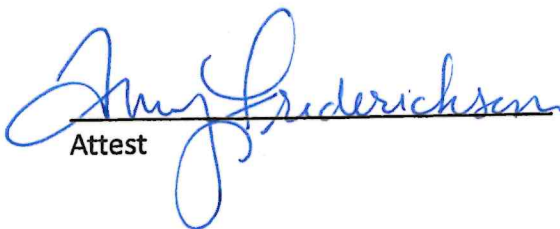
Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Dunagan that this meeting be adjourned to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled meeting or at the call of the Chairman.

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Read and Approved:


Chairman


Attest