

May 20, 2024

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 20th day of May 2024, 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, Barbara Higgins called the roll and Commissioners present were Keith Davis, Jeff Burrough and Jim Borden.

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

AWARDS AND PRESENTATION:

Commissioner Burrough read aloud a Proclamation by Governor Kay Ivey proclaiming May 2024 as Older Americans Month.

Commissioner Borden read aloud a Proclamation from the Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging (M4A) proclaiming May 2024 as Older Americans Month.

Ms. Jessica Sanders Walker, Vice President of Sanders Aviation and Sanders Flight Training Center spoke on behalf of Operation Aviation Foundation, 501T3 non-profit organization, and the Aviation Career Education (ACE) camp. She said they had their first camp last year and will be having the same camp July 17 through 19th. She stated that they are still the only approved and co-sponsored ACE camp in the entire State of Alabama. She said the camp was a big success last year and expects this year to also be a big success and gave a great presentation on what the camp will offer. (She was given a hand of applause)

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to Approve the Agenda, to Approve the Meeting Minutes of May 6, 2024 and to add item 8, ACE STEM Camp.

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

County Engineer Glenn Peek gave an update on Smith Chapel Bridge. He said the opening may be delayed until the end of June.

OLD BUSINESS:

Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Bid No. 819 – Crushed Limestone.

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis to close bid and approve 819 - Crushed Limestone –

Commissioner Borden stated, is that just for his district?

County Engineer Glenn Peek stated that the award will be approved per district and after a brief discussion, Commissioner Davis amended his motion to District One and the Award will be to Wiregrass for District One. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Burrough.

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.

Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Davis to approve 819 to be awarded to Wiregrass for District Two.

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.

Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Davis to Award Bid No. 819 for District Three to Wade Sand and Gravel.

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.

Commissioner Burrough made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Davis to Award Bid No. 819 to Wade Sand and Gravel for District Four.

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.

(Commissioner Davis gave a brief explanation for why it was handled in this manner)

After explanation and recommendation by County Engineer Glenn Peek, motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough that District One decline Bid No. 820.

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.

After much discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Davis that District Two decline Bid No. 820.

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.

Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Davis to accept Bid No. 820 to Wade Sand and Gravel for District Three.

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.

Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Davis to table Bid No. 820 for District Four.

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.

NEW BUSINESS

(1) Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Bid No. 818 (WCP 64-03-24) Resurfacing and Striping Mountain View Road.

After explanation and recommendation by County Engineer Glenn Peek, motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to table the Bid No. 818 (WCP 64-03-24) Resurfacing and Striping Mountain View Road.

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 Bid No. 822 - Resurfacing Roads in District Two.

After explanation and recommendation by County Engineer Glenn Peek and input by Commissioner Burrough, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioners Borden and Davis, simultaneously, to award Bid No. 822 – Resurfacing of Roads in District Two to Wiregrass.

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 Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to approve Revenue Final Settlement Report.

After explanation by the Chairman Miller that the Commissioners have a breakdown of the final settlement and input by Commissioner Davis that this is standard procedure, motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to Approve Revenue Final Settlement Report.

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 Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Davis to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to approve ClearGov Service Order.

After explanation by Chairman Miller, input by County Attorney Richard Fikes and much discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to approve ClearGov Service Order.

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.

(5) Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to vacate Walker Circle in Nauvoo.

After explanation by County Engineer Glenn Peek that this is to advertise to vacate Walker Circle and to put it back on the Agenda the first meeting in July, input by Commissioner Burrough, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to advertise to vacate Walker Circle in Nauvoo.

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 Davis to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Transit request for Approval of \$25,082 for New Vehicles

After explanation by Mrs. Deidre Tatum and much discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to approve the Transit request of \$25,082 for New Vehicles. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Davis amended the motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Borden to state that the funds would come out of the Reserves, which is General Funds.

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.

(7) Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to change job description for County Administrator II.

After Chairman Miller asked if there were any questions or comments and County Attorney Richard Fikes stating he had no problems with it, motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to approve to change the job description for County Administrator II.

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.

(8) Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Borden to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of ACE Camp.

After explanation by Commissioner Davis and his recommendation that everyone go out and see all the kids get their certificates and things and it having been known that the insurance requirement has been met, motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Borden to Approve the ACE Camp to be held at the Airport.

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.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS:

County Attorney Richard Fikes made known to the Commission that on item 6, to vacate Walker Circle, they will have to advertise for thirty days and that it will need to be put back on the agenda for July 15 for Public Hearing.

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to add as No. 9 Motion to advertise for thirty days public hearing to vacate Walker Circle and place it on the Agenda for Public Hearing July 15, 2024.

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

With no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

(9) Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open for discussion to advertise for thirty days and place on the agenda July

15, 2024 for public hearing to vacate Walker Circle.

Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Davis to close discussion and to place on the agenda July 15, 2024 for public hearing to vacate Walker Circle.

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.

Chairman Miller mentioned that June 3rd is a holiday and that the Commission voted back in November, 2016 under new business that they would continue to hold meetings on the first and third Mondays at 9:30 a.m. unless it falls on a holiday and in that instance that meeting will be held the next day on Tuesday.

Commissioner Burrough stated, "June 4th at 9:30?"

Chairman Miller, "Yes, sir."

Commissioner Davis stated that he appreciated everybody. He stated that he is recovering from the second neck fusion within the last year. He gave an update on his condition and stated he hated to miss. He commended his fellow commissioners on doing a good job whether he is here or not and stated it makes him rest assured when they've got good gentlemen doing good work for the county. He stated that Commissioner Steven Aderholt has also been dealing with some health issues. He asked that they continue to pray for Steven and continue to pray for him. He stated, "This ACE Stem Project again, is just a fantastic program. And Jessica and Sanders Aviation does such a great job at the airport and adds so much to the county. Now, they've branched out to Tuscaloosa and they're just a fantastic asset to our county, the Airport and the job they do out there." He said there are a lot of good things going on in the county and one thing he would like to say is, "Focus on the positive. Yeah, there's a lot of negative things that go on in this county from time to time, but positive far outweighs the negative. We need folks that are positive. There are a lot of great people working together." He said there are a lot of ongoing good things coming up in the county and a lot of good projects. He congratulated John and said he will be the new commissioner come November. He stated, "Continue to pray for us as we make decisions and pray for good health. Thank you."

Commissioner Burrough stated that he is glad to have Commissioner Davis back and he appreciates everybody that comes to the meetings and all the work that they do in our county, that they've got a lot of good employees and he appreciates each and every one of them. He thanked the ladies for the presentations and congratulated and thanked them for the things they do at the airport and do for our transportation, it's just the community working together. He stated, "I'd like to take a minute and just congratulate our teachers and our school staff. Another school year is just finishing up. I

know my wife's a teacher and they've been running ragged for the last couple of weeks trying to end the school year." He said that there were graduations from kindergarten to college and that anyone who has put in the work in goals and school are to be commended and that he wants to tell all the parents and grandparents in the room, congratulations. He said that they do have some road projects going on in District Two and that he's sure that each district has some things that are going to be going on since the weather is now warm so they can get out there and do the road projects to improve some of the road conditions. He gave an update on Smith Chapel Bridge.

Commissioner Borden stated, "Again, I'm just glad to see Mr. Davis back. Having had the orthopedic surgeries over the years, I understand where he is coming from. It's not an easy battle when you get into that position in life that there's not much pain that equals the nerve, the spine pain, the neck and lower back. So again, good to have you back. Again, I just want to thank everyone for being here. Again, our presenters, they pretty much covered all, so again, just thank everyone for being here and we'll see you next meeting."

Chairman Miller stated, "I, too, would like to say thank you for everyone being here. We appreciate Mrs. Walker. That's going to be a great project. Sunday I was at graduation in Birmingham with my granddaughter. My grandson was sitting beside me and talked about a career in aviation. And we talked about Sanders' Aviation about him coming up and just coming to see and look. And so, this program he'll maybe look at maybe next year or something. But I really appreciate the aviation side of this because as a child I grew up wanting to be a pilot and become a pilot and have flown out there quite a bit. And it's an awesome thing. So, these kids that get involved, it's great. I appreciate each county employee that's here, those that are not here. It takes every one of these people to keep this county going. Mr. Peek works hard on our engineering department. I know he has a lot of things going on and he's spread thin. We appreciate him very much. Mr. Fikes, same way, I know he's very thin. So, we appreciate each and every one of you. All these projects that's been going on, we're happy for them. And before we leave, I want to thank Mrs. Jones for being here. She gave us a good report this morning. And I don't know if you want to say a little something on that. We would love for you to if you would.

Mrs. Jones stated that David Knight will talk with them, but they are very, very excited. She said they have closed on the County Industrial Park along I-22 and have started the grade work on it. And she thanked the Commission and said it would not have been possible without them.

Chairman Miller continued: "Mrs. Tatum, you do a great job. Keep that up."

Mrs. Tatum stated, "Thank you, thanks for the Commission's support."

Chairman Miller continued: "At this time I will entertain a motion to adjourn."

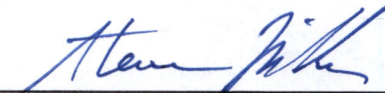
ADJOURN:

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

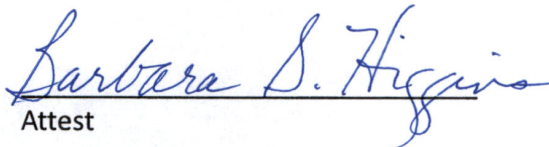
With no discussion, the vote taken resulted as follows: District One: Aye; District Two: Aye; District Three: Aye.

With no opposition the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Read and Approved:



Chairman



Attest