

July 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 July 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 and Jim Borden.

Reverend Ralph Williams gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATION:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Dunagan to Approve the Agenda and to Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 15, 2026.

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, "Good morning, everyone. First, I just want to say I hope everyone had a wonderful Fourth of July weekend.

First and foremost, we have a reading of the Declaration of Independence on July 8th on the Courthouse steps at 5 o'clock p.m. I would love to see everyone there. A car show will actually be following immediately afterwards. And also, I wanted to say thank you to everyone who showed up to the Walker County's America 250 Independence Day Celebration at Cordova's Indian Head Mill Park. There was a great crowd. And a special thank you to CEIDA and Ms. Renee Sides for putting on the event and making it happen."

County Engineer Glenn Peek stated, "We're finishing up a few paving projects currently. We're waiting on striping contractors. They've been held up some due to weather and other problems. We're also opening a couple of bids next week. One of them will be bid for the Gibson Hill Bridge replacement."

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 ARSEA/APEAL One-Time Longevity Bonus for Retirees for \$1.00 per month/\$12.00 per year (Total Cost to County \$40,404.00)

After explanation by County Administrator Amy Frederickson and a brief discussion, Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Dunagan to Approve the ARSEA/APEAL One-Time Longevity Bonus for Retirees for \$1.00 per month/\$12.00 per year (Total Cost to County \$40,404.00)

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.

(2) Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Dunagan to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Request to Surplus & Sell by Trade or Public-Auction One (1) Ford Explorer from Re-Appraisal Department.

After explanation by Revenue Commissioner Jerry Davis and a brief discussion, Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to Approve the Request to Surplus & Sell by Trade or Public-Auction One (1) Ford Explorer from Re-Appraisal Department.

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.

(3) Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Request to Amend Hope for Women's Opioid Funding Proposal.

After explanation by County Administrator Amy Frederickson, input by Chairman Miller, and clarification by Commissioner Burrough, Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to Approve to Amend Hope for Women's Opioid Funding Proposal.

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 to Nominate Chairman Steve Miller to Continue Serving on the ACCA's Legislative Committee for 2026-2027 Session.

After Chairman Miller stated that if either of the other Commissioners wants the job, they're welcome to it, and Commissioner Borden acknowledging that Chairman Miller had done a very good job and been active in the ACCA in Montgomery to the point that he has been approached to be nominated for other job duties with the ACCA, Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to approve to Nominate Chairman Steve Miller to Continue Serving on the ACCA's Legislative Committee for 2026-2027 Session.

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:

Commissioner Dunagan stated, "I want to thank everybody for coming today. I'm glad everybody had a safe and happy Fourth of July. We are doing some road work as far as cutting overhead limbs and bushhogging. So, if you see my workers, please use caution. They all have families to go home to. We're trying to do a few other things in District One to improve our patching and trying to fix some of the smaller side roads. If we haven't got to it, we will. At the end of the day, we do work for you, the Public, so we're trying to do all we can. Thank you."

Commissioner Burrough, "I also, would like to thank each person for attending today. I might just start out, I have a couple of notes here. Trenton, I appreciate you coming and speaking out. This is an area that none of us are versed or know. And I promise you we'll do our due diligence to listen at every angle there is about the DATA Centers. There's no defending it, we need road money in this county. But, I definitely will take a few hard looks and study it and learn if they decide to come to this county. I made note to look at that ACCA convention topics and think DATA Center has a two-session topic at that time and you may know more about it, I don't know, but the second week of August we will learn about it. Thank you for coming.

Also, too, on the Fourth of July we had -- I know the Mayor here, had him a celebration -- Carbon Hill, Oakman, everybody had fantastic support and I commend y'all for holding those things in your particular communities and towns for the people to enjoy. I know a lot of people had a lot of fun this week. I hope nobody had any firework accidents or anything like that, but I know that those three communities in my district had an outstanding Fourth of July. So, thank y'all for caring and doing.

Also, too, we just finished up -- Glenn, Kansas is just waiting on striping, that's one of them?"

County Engineer Glenn Peek stated, "Striping, yes, sir."

Commissioner Burrough continued, "We've got that four mile stretch through Old Highway 78 completed here during the last couple of weeks and working on a couple of issues on it. We've got to fill in the gravel, I think, on the sides of the road and stuff like that, but we've been working on that. The storm last week, had calls come in, we had fifteen trees hit the ground, I don't know if it was Thursday or Friday night, I can't remember. The guys worked out late and they're out today picking up debris from those trees after we got them out of the road. They work hard and I appreciate every one of them that work for me."

He mentioned that on July the 11th that former Commissioner Bridges' daughter, Heather, is putting on a Walk-for-Lives event at the Gamble Park. He asked that everyone attend; and asked that Ed put that in the Daily Mountain Eagle.

Commissioner Borden stated, "It's hard to add, Mr. Burrough pretty much covered everything that I was going to say, except I will reiterate when our employees are out on these county roads, our county roads are in bad shape anyway -- We're behind on everything that we're trying to accomplish -- Again, I just ask the citizens pay attention to the 'Men Working', signs. We have a lot of narrow roads, blind roads and people -- some people do have a tendency to drive a little fast on those roads. I've been out there with them. Again, we don't want nobody to not go home at the end of the day, so just use caution. I bought, several months back, which it's slow go -- I told somebody the other day with my 350 miles of road, I've got 700 miles of right-of-way to maintain. We did buy -- I think District One bought the first one and I liked what I saw, but it's called a Limb Buster. It is an attachment on a Skid-Steer that allows us to cut as high, -- what is it John, about 24 --

Commissioner Dunagan stated, "25 feet."

Commissioner Borden continued, "24 -- 25 feet of elevation down the side of the road. The roads that we have worked, they look a hundred percent better. It curves, it just looks more attractive. I mean, it's better for the school buses. So that is ongoing.

Then as we get into Fall and the Winter, we will do more of that, but when we're operating with five, six, seven-man crews and it takes three to four to cut the brush and then you need three or four to be out patching potholes. You're limited to pick and choose from day to day, where can you do the most, good for that day.

But, our bushhogging will – we'll continue bushhogging the county or the district. But again, there's so many miles of it, especially with our late spring rains that we got and then the rains that we're currently getting, I think some people say, 'Well, you haven't bushhogged', well we've bushhogged through the county, the district once, but it had grown back so fast, with especially your patches of Johnsongrass that it's terrible. So, we will be continuing to mow and again, on the bigger county roads these tractors they're in the right lane. They cannot get out of the road. So, again, when you see fresh cut grass or the signs out, pay attention, because just around the curve, you're running 45 or 50, there's tractor running 4 or 5 miles an hour. It's dangerous.

Again, I just want to thank everyone for being here. I guess, the only thing to say from the Fourth, we do live in the Greatest Country on the face of the Earth. And that celebration from Saturday gives each, and every one of us in here, our Bill of Rights, Our Free Speech and all of the protections that the Constitution provides for us. No other country on the face of the Earth has what we have here, ladies and gentlemen. We don't need to lose it. We need participation in your government, no matter if it's a complaint, that's what it is about. You have a right to come voice your opinion."

Chairman Miller stated, "I, too, would like to say thank you for everyone attending. We are working hard to improve this county and understand the funding and the shortfalls that funding provides. We just don't have that funding for those roads and things that we need. Mr. Burton, we heard you. We will take everything in consideration if and when anything ever happens.

We want to praise Ms. Renee Sides for what she did for the County on the America 250 and Ms. Amy. They worked together and it was a great, great turnout and there was a lot going on.

The July 8th reading of the Declaration out here, it's going to start at 6 p.m. on the east coast and go all the way across to the west coast and I think that winds up at 2 o'clock in the west coast. Somewhere in that neighborhood. And we're simultaneously going to be reading that Declaration of Independence at courthouses across this country. So, it is what happened on July the 8th, 1776, that was the first reading, so here we are 250 years down the road. So, that will be something that we're all in the timeframe to be here for that event. You know, 250 years, we'll never see the 500, any of us, probably. But at the same time, you know, we're here today. So, that's what counts.

The employees of the county thank you. We thank you for your service.

On a sad note, the County Family has lost one. We don't know the correct details or anything about it, but we had a lady that worked at the Sheriff's Department that was a clerk in the evidence room that passed away. And we just want to remember that family. And nothing to do with county business, but you know, it's sad and so keep

that family in your prayers, most of all.

With that said, I'd entertain a motion to adjourn."

ADJOURN:

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunagan 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