

August 5, 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 5th day of August 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, County Administrator Amy Frederickson called the roll and Commissioners present were Keith Davis, Jeff Burrough, Jim Borden and Steven Aderholt.

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

AWARDS AND PRESENTATION:

Mr. Dan Floyd gave an informative presentation on the County Information Management System (CIMS – Software)

Ms. Aleesha Wester gave an update on the Safety/Risk Management Program. She stated, "I very much enjoyed going out to the Districts and different Departments and meeting the people. They were very friendly and very helpful."

County Engineer Glenn Peek stated, "I would like to add to that that CRS will have a site visit on August 13th."

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Davis to Approve the Agenda; to Approve the Meeting Minutes of July 15, 2024 and the Emergency Meetings of July 19 and August 1, 2024; to Approve the New Vendor List and to Approve the Claims Against the County for July, 2024.

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 have two things. First I would like to say thank you to all the county employees participating in the employees health screening." She said they had 90% employee participation and that they will retain their discounted health services. She stated that they are in the process of budget analysis and drafting and thanked all the department heads that submitted their proposed budgets and for them to let her know if there are any changes to be made as they will be finalizing it in the next few weeks and months.

County Engineer Glenn Peek stated that they are currently working on some plans and paperwork for future paving projects.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS

(1) Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Davis to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Memorandum of Understanding among The Alabama Department of Public Health, The Alabama Health Care Authority and The Walker County Commission for Improvements to The Walker County Public Library.

After explanation by Ms. Deidre Hill, County Administrator for the Walker County Health Department, motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Davis to approve the Memorandum of Understanding among the Alabama Department of Public Health, the Alabama Health Care Authority and the Walker County Commission for Improvements to the Walker County Public Health Facility.

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 Davis to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to appoint Mr. Greg Zachary to complete the term of Mr. Ralph Parker as Board Member of the Housing Authority of Walker County, Al (Dora). His term will end of February, 2025.

Motion was made by Commissioner Aderholt and seconded by Commissioner Davis to Approve the Appointment of Mr. Greg Zachary to complete the term of Mr. Ralph Parker as Board Member of the Housing Authority of Walker County, Al (Dora). His term will end on February, 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.

(3) Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to Purchase and Install HVAC System for 2nd Floor Hall in Main Courthouse (AirPros).

After explanation by Chairman Miller and input by Commissioner Burrough and County Attorney Richard Fikes stating that the amount of \$17,790.69 is under the bid line, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to Approve the Purchase and Installation of HVAC System for 2nd Floor Hall in

Main Courthouse (AirPros).

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 Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Davis to open discussion of Discussion and Approval for Purchase & Installation of HVAC System for Judge Farris' Office in Main Courthouse (AirPros).

After explanation by Chairman Miller and a brief discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to Approve Purchase & Installation of HVAC System for Judge Farris' Office in Main Courthouse (AirPros).

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.

(5) Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval of Ingenuity Statement of Work for Probate Court and Land Records.

After explanation by Probate Judge Lee Tucker and a brief discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Davis to Approve the Ingenuity Statement of Work for Probate Court and Land Records.

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.

Probate Judge Lee Tucker added, "Mr. Fikes has reviewed the contract, we've gone over that, it fits within the – there are no notches that we see."

(6) Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to open discussion of Discussion and Approval for the Walker County Commission to Authorize the Chairman to jointly apply with the Sheriff to the State Comptroller for funding under the Emergency Prisoner Feeding Fund.

After explanation by Chairman Miller and a brief discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to approve the Resolution to authorize the Chairman to jointly apply with the Sheriff to the State Comptroller for funding under the Emergency Prisoner Feeding Fund.

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 Davis and seconded by Commissioner Borden to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to Post for EMA Assistant Director.

After explanation by Chairman Miller, motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Borden to approve to Post for EMA Assistant Director.

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 Borden and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to Award Bid No. 825 – Interior Finish Construction Fire Association Building.

After explanation by Chairman Miller, recommendation by County Engineer Glenn Peek that they accept the low bid of \$68,850 and a brief discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Davis to Award Bid No. 825 – Interior Finish Construction Fire Association Building to the low bidder.

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.

(9) Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to Award Bid No. 826 – One 2021 or Newer Used Automated Side Loader and Chassis for Solid Waste.

After explanation by County Engineer Glenn Peek and input from Solid Waste Director John Dunagan and a brief discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to Award Bid No. 826 – One 2021 or Newer Used Automated Side Loader and Chassis for Solid Waste to Ingram Equipment Company.

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.

(10) Motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to execute an Easement – Distribution Facilities for Alabama Power Company.

After explanation by County Engineer Glenn Peek, motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to approve to Execute an Easement – Distribution Facilities for Alabama Power Company.

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.

(11) Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burrough to open discussion and Approval FY 2025 County Transportation Plan for Rebuild Alabama Funds.

After explanation by County Engineer Glenn Peek and input from Commissioner Borden and much discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to approve FY 2025 County Transportation Plan for Rebuild Alabama Funds.

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.

(12) Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to open discussion of Discussion and Approval to hire Full Time Common Laborer for Road and Bridge Department.

After explanation by County Engineer Glenn Peek, motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Davis to Approve to hire a Full Time Common Laborer for the Road and Bridge Department.

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.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Aderholt to open for discussion for Public Hearing on Blackburn Road 100' Setback Waiver.

County Attorney Richard Fikes inquired if anyone was present for the Public hearing regarding Blackburn Road.

After explanation by County Attorney Richard Fikes and no one being present after it was published in the paper that the hearing would be today, the Agreement was presented to the Commission. Motion was made by Commissioner Burrough and seconded by Commissioner Borden to approve the Blackburn Road 100' Setback Waiver.

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 Davis stated, "Robbie Dickerson, this will be your last Commission Meeting with us as a county employee and so I wanted to just recognize Robbie on my behalf on an outstanding job she has done. It's been an honor and pleasure to work

with you in this past ten years. It doesn't seem like ten years, but it's been ten years. You blink and it's ten years, ten years later. So, Robbie's moved up from various positions within the county. So, of course, she's previous County Administrator now. She will be retiring at the end of this month. Robbie, I wish you the best, wish your family the best, I continue to pray for Elijah and the things and issues that he faces and just wish you God speed and the best for you. Again, a real pleasure to work with you and you've done a fantastic job. Robbie loves this county, loves the employees and I think she's shown that through her work and compassion and just how intelligent, smart. The things that she has done. She's saved this county millions and millions of taxpayers dollars with her wisdom and budget, things – and programs that she's implemented, so she needs to be commended for that service. With that, Mr. Chairman, that's all I've got."

Commissioner Burrough stated, "Also, Robbie congratulations on your retirement. I wish you the best." He gave an update on Road Projects, namely, Smith Chapel Road, Scott Cemetery Road, Prospect Road and Patton Hill Road. He said there were several small tar and gravel roads and they will start doing some of those probably in early September or October. He stated that they will have tractors out on the sides of the road cutting and asked that people be careful and watch out for those.

Commissioner Borden stated, " I just thank everyone for being here today. Again, Ms. Robbie, as we go down the line, it's harder to say something because they've already said everything for us. But again, I've been knowing you now for almost four years, I guess, to say. I've enjoyed working with you. Best of luck. Retirement, it'll grow on you. So, you will have a lot to look forward to. Like I say, one door closes, other doors open up for us. So, again, good luck. Also, I just want to say Ms. Wester she does a good job with our safety stuff. She has stepped up to, I guess, county-wide safety is a big thing out there. These employees go out here at night, bad weather, just even normal weather working on some of the roads with the people that are on drugs nowadays, it is very, very dangerous situation. I always want everybody to go home safe at the end of the day. So, she is a valuable asset pushing our safety program forward." He stated that they have resealed Liberty Hill Road and that they finished up the Old Tuscaloosa Road.

Commissioner Aderholt stated, "Thank you Mr. Chairman. Thank everybody for being here today. Robbie, also I can't say it any better than these other guys have said it. It's been an honor to work with you over these past ten years. I always walked away from the Courthouse knowing with confidence that you had things under control. And I appreciate what you've done for us and the citizens of Walker County and I'm forever in gratitude. Thank you for everything you've done." He thanked Mr. Glenn Peek for all he's done since he's been in his ten year in office. He said every time he's called he's been ready to tackle whatever issues that was asked.

Commissioner Davis said, "Let's don't brag on him too much."
Commissioner Aderholt said, "He's done an outstanding job."
County Engineer Glenn Peek stated, "Thank you."

Chairman Miller stated, "I, too, would like to say Ms. Robbie congratulations on retirement. I know that travel is probably in some of your plans and I hope you enjoy some of that. That's something that we always work for and get to that point and get to do a lot of things. Our county employees, I can't express enough to all of the employees, they do a great job, that's what keeps this county running. We appreciate each, and every one of them. And just a little bit of thought process here, this County Commission basically does county business, we hold our meetings and we work for the taxpayers. Any public official that is elected is not controlled in office by this Commission at all. Any public official that has anything for their employees of this county, whether it be Probate, Revenue or whatever, those department heads are the firing and hiring authority. So, it is not this Commission that does that hiring and firing for each department. It is that department within itself. We are very thoughtful of each, and every individual in this county, citizens, and we're here to serve the citizens of Walker County. With that said, again, I think everybody for coming and I appreciate each, and every one of you. With that, I would entertain a motion to adjourn."

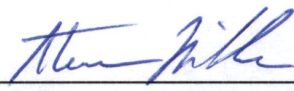
ADJOURN:

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; District Four: Aye.

With no opposition the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Read and Approved:



Chairman



Attest