

STATE OF ALABAMA §

LAUDERDALE COUNTY §

The Lauderdale County Commission convened at the Lauderdale County Courthouse in the City of Florence, Alabama at 5:00 p.m. on the 24th day of September, 2018. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman Pro-Tem of the Lauderdale County Commission, Fay Parker. Upon roll call, the following members answered present:

Roger Garner	Commissioner, District 1
Brad Holmes	Commissioner, District 1
Joe Hackworth	Commissioner, District 2
Fay Parker	Commissioner, District 2 and Chairman Pro-Tem
Legal Counsel:	
Christopher A. Smith	County Attorney
Those who answered absent:	
Danny Pettus	Chairman

Chairman Pro-Tem Fay Parker, upon declaration of a quorum being present, opened the meeting for the transaction of business.

The invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were delivered by Commissioner Garner.

Awards and Presentations: None

Public Comments on Agenda items: None

Commissioner Hackworth moved, seconded by Commissioner Garner that all items listed on the regular business agenda be approved for immediate consideration. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Agenda is herein recorded and made part of these minutes.

Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Garner that the minutes of the last regular meeting of the Commission be approved for recording. There being no discussion and upon vote taken, motion unanimously approved.

Commissioner Garner moved, seconded by Commissioner Holmes to authorize a resolution to change the Commission Meeting that is regularly scheduled for Monday, October 8th, 2018 to Tuesday, October 9th, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. due to the Columbus Day holiday. Resolution is herein recorded and made a part of these minutes.

Commissioner Hackworth moved, seconded by Commissioner Holmes to approve a resolution to authorize EMPG Cooperative Grant Agreement 18 EMF with the State Emergency Management Agency in the amount of forty five thousand two hundred ninety-six dollars which is to be used for the sole purpose of emergency management preparedness programs. This Cooperative Agreement is accepted and the Florence-Lauderdale EMA Director and the Chairman of the Lauderdale County Commission will execute all required documents. Any budget amendment needed for the financial management of this grant is authorized and approved. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution and copy of grant agreement are herein recorded and made part of these minutes.

Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Garner to approve a resolution to authorize EMPG Cooperative Grant Agreement 18 EMS with the State Emergency Management Agency in the amount of twelve thousand dollars which is to be used for the sole purpose of emergency management preparedness programs. This Cooperative Agreement is accepted and the Florence-Lauderdale EMA Director and the Chairman of the Lauderdale County Commission will execute all required documents. Any budget amendment needed for the financial management of this grant is authorized and approved. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution and copy of grant agreement are herein recorded and made part of these minutes.

Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Hackworth to approve Change Order Number One for Brush Creek Park Improvements – Contract Number Two – site development – Project Number 15-LW-1019. This change causes an increase to the contract price in the amount of seventeen thousand three hundred eighty-five dollars and an increase of ten calendar days. Any budget amendment needed is herein authorized and approved. Commissioner Hackworth asked Richard Edmonds of White, Lynn, Collins, and Associates who is overseeing this project for the Lauderdale County Commission, if the builders that provided a bid for this project could have known that the soil was not solid enough to build upon. Mr. Edmonds stated

that there was no way for the contractor to know about the soil issue until the digging started. There being no further discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution and copy of change order are herein recorded and made part of these minutes.

Commissioner Garner moved, seconded by Commissioner Hackworth to approve a resolution that allows the Lauderdale County Commission to enter into a Project Agreement with the State of Alabama in the amount of four million dollars. This project agreement will help build a Work Force Development Center. This grant will be used solely to pay for capital costs of the project. The Lauderdale County Commission does hereby enter into the project grant agreement with the State of Alabama Amendment 666 Bond Commission. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution and couple of agreement are herein recorded and made part of these minutes.

In compliance with competitive bid laws of the State of Alabama, sealed bids were advertised for Bid No. 2019-1, "Cold Mix for Patching". Bid responses were received, publicly opened and read aloud on September 18th, 2018. A bid tabulation sheet was prepared for the Commissions review. Chairman Pro-Tem Fay Parker asked Lauderdale County Engineer, Eric Hill, for his recommendation. Mr. Hill stated that he recommends Advanced Asphalt Products. Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Garner to accept his recommendation. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Bid is awarded to Advanced Asphalt Products of Jasper, Alabama. Bid tabulation sheet is herein recorded and made a part of these minutes.

In compliance with competitive bid laws of the State of Alabama, sealed bids were advertised for Bid No. 2019-2, "Concrete Roadway Pipe". Bid responses were received, publicly opened and read aloud on September 18th, 2018. A bid tabulation sheet was prepared for the Commissions review. Chairman Pro-Tem Fay Parker asked Lauderdale County Engineer, Eric Hill, for his recommendation. Mr. Hill stated that he recommends Foley Products Company. Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Garner to accept his recommendation. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Bid is awarded to Foley Products Company of Fairhope, Alabama. Bid tabulation sheet is herein recorded and made a part of these minutes.

In compliance with competitive bid laws of the State of Alabama, sealed bids were advertised for Bid No. 2019-3, "Sign Post". Bid responses were received, publicly opened and read aloud on September 18th, 2018. A bid tabulation sheet was prepared for the Commissions review. Chairman Pro-Tem Fay Parker asked Lauderdale County Engineer, Eric Hill, for his recommendation. Mr. Hill stated that he recommends G & C Supply, Inc. Commissioner Hackworth moved, seconded by Commissioner Holmes to accept his recommendation. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Bid is awarded to G & C Supply, Inc. of Atwood, Tennessee. Bid tabulation sheet is herein recorded and made a part of these minutes.

In compliance with competitive bid laws of the State of Alabama, sealed bids were advertised for Bid No. 2019-4, "Lubricants". Bid responses were received, publicly opened and read aloud on September 18th, 2018. A bid tabulation sheet was prepared for the Commissions review. Chairman Pro-Tem Fay Parker asked Lauderdale County Engineer, Eric Hill, for his recommendation. Mr. Hill stated that he recommends W.H. Thomas Oil Co. Inc. Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Hackworth to accept his recommendation. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Bid is awarded to W.H. Thomas Oil Co., Inc. of Decatur Alabama. Bid tabulation sheet is herein recorded and made a part of these minutes.

In compliance with competitive bid laws of the State of Alabama, sealed bids were advertised for Bid No. 2019-5, "Traffic Signs & Reflectors". Bid responses were received, publicly opened and read aloud on September 18th, 2018. A bid tabulation sheet was prepared for the Commissions review. Chairman Pro-Tem Fay Parker asked Lauderdale County Engineer, Eric Hill, for his recommendation. Mr. Hill stated that he recommends Vulcan Signs & Stamping, Inc. Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Garner to accept his recommendation. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Bid is awarded to Vulcan Signs & Stamping, Inc. of Foley, Alabama. Bid tabulation sheet is herein recorded and made a part of these minutes.

In compliance with competitive bid laws of the State of Alabama, sealed bids were advertised for Bid No. 2019-6, "Hot Mix Asphalt (Pick up at Plant)". Bid responses were received, publicly opened and read aloud on September 18th, 2018. A bid tabulation sheet was prepared for the Commissions review. Chairman Pro-Tem Fay Parker asked Lauderdale County Engineer, Eric Hill, for his recommendation. Mr. Hill stated that he recommends Midsouth Paving, Inc. Commissioner Hackworth moved, seconded by Commissioner Garner to accept his recommendation. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Bid is awarded to Midsouth Paving, Inc. of Tuscumbia, Alabama. Bid tabulation sheet is herein recorded and made a part of these minutes.

The invoiced bills were audited, allowed, and ordered to be paid upon a motion by Commissioner Hackworth and seconded by Commissioner Garner. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved.

CHECKS ISSUED SEPTEMBER 10TH, 2018 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 23RD, 2018:

GENERAL-SPECIAL CHECK # 53887 - 53942	\$742,618.10
AGRI-BUSINESS FUND CHECK # 3677 - 3680	\$766.91
LEPA FUND CHECK # 8057 - 8064	\$5,573.16
GASOLINE TAX FUND CHECK # 16845 - 16862	\$312,789.10
PUBLIC BLDG., R & B SPECIAL CHECK # N/A	0.00
PUBLIC HIGHWAY & TRAFFIC FUND CHECK # N/A	0.00
AL. TRUST CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND CHECK # 346 - 348	\$198,063.14
RRR GASOLINE TAX FUND CHECK # 664	\$25,239.12
REAPPRAISAL FUND CHECK # 11404 - 11413	\$34,233.72
REAPPRAISAL MONEY MARKET CHECK # N/A	0.00
TOURISM, REC. & CONVENTION FUND CHECK # 480 - 482	\$69,820.76
RSVP FUND CHECK # 17177 - 17184	\$2,877.17
CHILD PROTECTION FUND CHECK # N/A	0.00
SERIES 2001 DEBT SERVICE FUND CHECK # 269	\$10,953.13
CDBG FUND CHECK # N/A	0.00

SOLID WASTE FUND CHECK # 7347 - 7360	\$150,399.60
ACCOUNT PAYABLE FUND CHECK # 40703 - 40764	\$495,837.22
FIRE PROTECTION FEE FUND CHECK # N/A	0.00
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT TAX FUND CHECK # 1152 - 1153	\$822,672.85
TOBACCO TAX FUND CHECK # N/A	0.00
TVA TAX FUND CHECK # 5681 - 5693	\$388,971.92
Total	\$3,260,815.90

Scheduled Public Hearings: None

Staff Reports: None

Public Comment Period:

Sheriff Singleton stated that he wants to give an update on the jail and the over-crowding issues. Sheriff Singleton stated that there are over three hundred twenty eight inmates in the jail and there were four fights recently at the jail due to over-crowding. Sheriff Singleton stated that it's been two weeks since he spoke to the Commission at the last meeting and he feels that it is his duty to let everyone know what is going on. Sheriff Singleton said that he intends to start a task force to help work on this issue and that there are three things that the County can do to get a new jail on the fast track:

1. Confirm that we are going to get a new jail
2. How are we going to pay for the new jail ?
3. The longer we wait, the more it will cost us

Sheriff Singleton stated that a jail should last forty years but since our current jail was built too small, it will not last that long. Sheriff Singleton stated that our jail was not built to keep up with future needs and that the task force that he will put together will be made up of community leaders including all the mayors who use our jail so that they can meet and discuss jail options. Sheriff Singleton said that the task force can talk about how the jail should be built, determine a course of action, and explore the revenue needed to build a jail. Sheriff Singleton further stated that if we do nothing, a federal judge will mandate that we build a jail so we need to be proactive.

Lora Morrow of 206 Roxie Drive, Florence, Alabama stated that she has questions for the Commission since they approved the Agri-Center Board. Ms. Morrow asked why the Commission had a Special Meeting on May 27th, 2017 to approve the Agri-Center Board. Ms. Morrow also asked why Dr. Humphrey Lee was on the board when he does not live in Lauderdale County. Commissioner Garner stated that Dr. Lee was living in Lauderdale County during that time.

K C Roberson of Saint Joseph, Tennessee read a statement from the Sons of the Confederate Veterans – see attached statement.

There being no further business to come before the Commission and upon a motion made by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner Hackworth, the meeting was duly adjourned until the next regular meeting subject to call.

LAUDERDALE COUNTY COMMISSION

ABSENT

Danny Pettus, Chairman

Brad Holmes, Commissioner

Roger Garner, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Brenda Bryant, County Administrator

Fay Parker, Commissioner

Joe Hackworth, Commissioner

Lauderdale County, AL Commission Meeting 9-24-2018
Concern of Project Say Something Statue and History Narrative

KC Roberson of Saint Joseph, TN as Camp Commander of the E.A. O'Neal Camp 478 Florence with the Sons of the Confederate Veterans (aka SCV). The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans Organization and in 1896, handed us down the responsibility to protect, preserve and honor our Confederate Veterans truthful Southern history, graves, monuments, flags and artifacts so that future generations can understand the motives that animated the Southern Cause!

We have serious concerns over the recent intentions and actions of the "Project Say Something" group (hereafter, referred to as PSS) toward contextualizing the Confederate Statue Memorial area in front of the Courthouse and their approach methods.

On October 6 of last year, a PSS Panel Discussion Program was open to the public. SCV members attended their presentation. Camille Bennett opened the venue about the PSS purposes & etc. including the following:

Their Mission Statement stated: to unify, educate, heal and empower communities.....and so forth. Their 1st goal was to remove the Confederate Statue Memorial from the Courthouse grounds however, they could not remove it due to the passage of the Alabama Memorial Preservation Act of 2017.

The conversation transformed into "we don't now want to take the Confederate Statue Memorial down"... "we wish to complement the history with a PSS statue with additional information on plaques or signs".

Ms. Bennett referred that the Civil War was all caused over slavery, the South passed laws and Jim Crow laws to discriminate, stated that Confederates were traitors and other panelists expressed the Confederate Statue was put up to perpetuate White Supremacy!

Tori Bailey of the Panel, expressed the Confederate Statue Memorial was erected to intimidate African-Americans, to whitewash history, to put on a rosy glow and "It is an insult".

By the content of their program, plans and Mission Statement would be difficult to Unify the community, educating with misleading history, Heal ? It may create more wounds and to Empower Communities with misleading narratives.

There are still a lot of African-American and white people living in Lauderdale County that have ancestors that served in the Confederate Infantry, Calvary, Marines and Navy.

We all need to think more carefully what is best for Lauderdale County.