

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 July, 2017. 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:

Brad Holmes Commissioner, District 1

Roger Garner Commissioner, District 1

Joe Hackworth Commissioner, District 2

Fay Parker Commissioner, District 2

Legal Counsel:

Christopher A. Smith County Attorney

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 was delivered by Commissioner Joe Hackworth.

Awards and Presentations: Shoals Scholar Dollars

Judge Deborah Paseur introduced Lisa Patterson who is the treasurer for the Shoals Scholar Dollars program and Dr. Randy Pettus who is the Director of Shoals Scholar Dollars. Judge Paseur gave the Commissioners a brief history of the program including how the program is a work force

program and how it impacts our community. Ms. Patterson, treasurer of Shoals Scholar Dollars, stated that last year, over 496 students applied for the program and Shoals Scholar Dollars paid tuition for 170 students. Ms. Patterson also stated that within the upcoming year, the program will be working with the University of North Alabama. Dr. Pettus, Director of Shoals Scholar Dollars, explained that this program is the only program that requires drug testing for the students and also requires that the students maintain a 2.5 grade point average. Ms. Patterson stated that the Shoals Scholar Dollars program would like to ask the Lauderdale County Commission for a thirty-one thousand dollar donation. Commissioner Holmes asked where they came up with that figure. Ms. Patterson stated that it was done by population. Commissioner Holmes asked Dr. Pettus what happens to the students that do not finish the program because there were around forty nine students who did not finish. Dr. Pettus stated that some students transferred to other schools and some didn't keep their grade point average high enough to stay in the program. Commissioner Hackworth stated that he wished to thank everyone involved with the program for all of their hard work and that he is a big fan of the program.

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

Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Hackworth to approve a resolution that allows a one-time lump sum payment to Employees Retirement System for eligible retirees and beneficiaries of deceased retirees of Lauderdale County in the amount of sixty-one thousand one hundred and six dollars. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution is herein recorded and made part of these minutes.

Commissioner Hackworth moved, seconded by Commissioner Holmes to approve a resolution for a project at Brush Creek Park. It has been determined that a storage building is needed for maintenance equipment storage at the park. The cost of the building is nine thousand forty-three dollars and fifty-one cents and the building will be constructed by Summertown Metals of Summertown, Tennessee. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution is herein recorded and made part of these minutes.

Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Garner to approve a resolution that will allow the Lauderdale County Probate office to enter into a contract with Syscon, Inc. of Newport, Alabama for the preservation of real estate recordings and Probate court case files. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution and a copy of the contract are herein recorded and made part of these minutes.

Commissioner Garner moved, seconded by Commissioner Hackworth to approve a resolution to allow the Lauderdale County Probate Judge, William Motlow, to hire one temporary, part-time employee to assist with the upcoming Special Elections. The employee will work nineteen hours per week for up to six weeks. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion is unanimously approved. Resolution is herein recorded and made part of these minutes.

Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Hackworth to approve a resolution to authorize a request from the Lauderdale County Sheriff's Department to remove a vehicle from the inventory list due to unusable condition. The vehicle is a 2008 Ford Expedition – VIN number 1FMFU16548LA64779 – County asset number 7203. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution is herein recorded and made part of these minutes.

Commissioner Garner moved, seconded by Commissioner Holmes to approve a resolution to allow the Lauderdale County Commission to enter into an agreement with the State of Alabama, acting through the Alabama Department of Transportation relating to a Vegetation Management Alternative Project with part of the project being funded by the Federal Highway Administration. Commissioner Hackworth stated that this program has been great and that County Road 8 looks wonderful. Commissioner Garner stated that this was one of the best programs that the County has done and that this herbicide program is great. Commissioner Parker stated that he appreciates all of the work that the Lauderdale County Road Department has done with this program. There being no further discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution and a copy of the agreement are herein attached and made part of these minutes.

Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Garner to approve a resolution to allow the Lauderdale County Revenue Commissioner, Danny Hendrix, to change two job descriptions in his department. The job description for the Revenue Collection Clerk is changed to Revenue Assessment Clerk and will remain a Grade Four. The job description for the Revenue Redemption/Assessment Clerk is changed to Revenue Collection/Land Redemption Clerk and will remain a Grade Five. Revenue Commissioner Hendrix will be allowed to move a current Grade Four employee to the Revenue Redemption/Assessment Clerk position which will move the employee from a Grade Four position to a Grade Five position. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution and copy of the new job descriptions are herein attached and made part of these minutes.

Commissioner Hackworth moved, seconded by Commissioner Garner to approve a resolution to allow the Lauderdale County Commission to enter into an agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation for the construction of a 2@40' span AASHTO girder bridge replacement on County Road 61 over Butler Creek – BIN number 001467, Length of 0.129 miles, Project number ACBRZ62145, ATRIP (005); LCP number 39-152-13; ATRIP number 39-05-14. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution and copy of the agreement are herein recorded and made part of these minutes.

Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Garner to approve a resolution to allow the Lauderdale County Commission to enter into a contract with Rogers Broadcasting and the Florence-Lauderdale Emergency Management Agency for leasing a tower space at the Killen, Alabama site. This is a current contract renewal with no changes from the previous year and will be effective July 1st, 2017 and will expire on June 30th, 2018. The annual cost is four thousand nine hundred sixty-nine dollars and forty-four cents. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution and copy of the contract 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. LA-2017-10, "Uniforms for Lauderdale County Sheriff's Department". Bid responses were received, publicly opened and read aloud on July 14th, 2017. A bid tabulation sheet was prepared for the Commissions review. Chairman Pro-Tem Parker asked Chief Richard Richey for his recommendation. Chief Richey stated that he recommends NAFECO, Inc. of Decatur, Alabama. Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Garner to approve the bid. After a brief discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Bid is awarded to NAFECO, Inc. of Decatur, Alabama. Bid is herein recorded and made part of these minutes.

The Lauderdale County License Commissioner, Rodney Pettus, has requested that one of his clerks be placed on Family Medical Leave which will begin on July 6th, 2017 and be effective through September 22nd, 2017. All medical paperwork has been completed and filed. Commissioner Garner moved, seconded by Commissioner Hackworth to approve Family Medical Leave. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Family Medical Leave is approved and made part of these minutes.

The Lauderdale County Solid Waste manager, Robert Bevis, has requested that one of his employees be placed on Family Medical Leave which will begin on June 18th, 2017 and be effective through August 25th, 2017. All medical paperwork has been completed and filed. Commissioner Holmes moved, seconded by Commissioner Garner to approve the Family Medical Leave. There be no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Family Medical Leave is approved and made part of these minutes.

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

CHECKS ISSUED JULY 10TH, 2017 THROUGH JULY 23RD, 2017

GENERAL-SPECIAL CHECK # 52224-52308	\$558,531.54
AGRI-BUSINESS FUND CHECK # 3572-3577	\$2,056.58
LEPA FUND CHECK # 7831-7837	\$4,350.84
GASOLINE TAX FUND CHECK # 16418-16431	\$215,960.06
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 # N/A	0.00
RRR GASOLINE TAX FUND CHECK # 645	\$6,345.08
REAPPRAISAL FUND CHECK # 11123-11131	\$22,392.75
REAPPRAISAL MONEY MARKET CHECK # N/A	0.00
TOURISM, REC. & CONVENTION FUND CHECK # 450 & 451	\$15,496.13
RSVP FUND CHECK # 16958-16964	\$4,287.71

CHILD PROTECTION FUND CHECK # 1207	\$1,381.99
SERIES 2001 DEBT SERVICE FUND CHECK # N/A	0.00
CDBG FUND CHECK # N/A	0.00
SOLID WASTE FUND CHECK # 6919-6932	\$113,979.40
ACCOUNT PAYABLE FUND CHECK # 39150-39192 (CHECK #39169 IS VOID)	\$209,214.43
FIRE PROTECTION FEE FUND CHECK # 4324-4337	\$7,130.20
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT TAX FUND CHECK # 1127	\$696,525.35
TOBACCO TAX FUND CHECK # N/A	0.00
TVA TAX FUND CHECK # 5513-5524	\$385,558.09
Total	\$2,243,210.15

Scheduled Public Hearings: none

Staff Reports: none

Public Comment Period:

Jennifer Patrick of 4587 County Road 16, Florence, Alabama, read a statement to the Commission concerning the closing of the bridge on Lauderdale County Road 16 – copy of the statement is attached.

The Lauderdale County Engineer, Eric Hill, stated that he had a meeting about the bridge project as of 3:30 that very afternoon and that we are waiting on reports. Mr. Hill also stated that we cannot move forward until we have the reports and it could be months before we hear anything from the experts.

Vernon Allison of 1880 County Road 74, Florence, Alabama stated that he is not happy with the Lauderdale County Farmers Market and as a Lauderdale County citizen, he is not allowed to go to the Colbert County Farmers Market because they don't allow anyone except Colbert County citizens participate in their market. Mr. Allison also stated that he is not happy about the prices that some of the vendors are charging and that he cannot compete with them and it creates a hardship for him and other local vendors.

Commissioner Holmes stated that in relation to Mr. Hill's statement regarding the bridge design issues and waiting for expert opinions, it appears that a new bridge will take at least three years. Commissioner Holmes also stated that as we move into phase two of the project, we could face an additional three to six months of waiting for the State archeologists. Commissioner Holmes further stated that we don't have any way of knowing what the actual time line will be because considering what this project entails, there is no way to complete this project fast. Commissioner Parker stated that the bridge was built in 1935 or so and there are a lot of people and departments involved. Commissioner Parker also stated that he wishes that the bridge could re-open but there are too many safety issues.

Betty Hooks of 4416 County Road 16, Florence, Alabama asked if there were any landowners in the area that are holding up the bridge project and Commissioner Parker replied no.

Mr. Patrick of 4587 County Road 16, Florence, Alabama asked if the Commissioners could assure him that a bridge will be built. Lauderdale County Engineer, Eric Hill, stated that no one can say for certain because no one knows the exact location therefore, no one can promise that the project will go forward. Commissioner Hackworth stated that this project is priority for him and Commissioner Parker stated that it is priority for him as well.

Debra Lawson of Lauderdale County stated that her fear is that this was going to be another ghost bridge and that people will come to the meetings at first and then they will just lose interest. Ms. Lawson also stated that the place where her son used to fish is now blocked off and it causes them to have to drive a mile out of the way. Ms. Lawson stated that she was a school bus driver and that all of those years that the buses had to be re-routed cost the County a lot of money due to extra time and gas.

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

LAUDERDALE COUNTY COMMISSION

Danny Pettus, Chairman

Brad Holmes, Commissioner

Roger Garner, Commissioner

Fay Parker, Commissioner

Joe Hackworth, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Brenda Bryant, County Administrator