

The Geneva County Commission met in regular session on Monday, October 25, 2021, at 9:30 a.m. at the Geneva County Courthouse in Geneva, Alabama.

Commission Chairman Toby Seay called the meeting to order and welcomed guests present. Commissioner Brannon opened the meeting with prayer. Chairman Seay led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no elected officials requesting to make public comment.

There were no citizens requesting to make public comment.

Commission Chairman Seay called the roll, and the following members were present: Commissioners Weston Spivey, Todd Brannon, Bart Wilks, and Wade Fulford. County Attorney, Phil Eldridge; County Engineer, Justin Barfield; Assistant County Engineer, Mike Shirah; Sheriff, Tony Helms; EMA Director, Brian Smith; Revenue Commissioner, Mary Ann Ellison, and County Administrator Cindy Williams were also present. The following business was transacted:

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

#### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approve Minutes of October 12, 2021. Commissioner Spivey made a motion to approve the minutes of October 12, 2021. Commissioner Fulford seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.
2. Public Hearing on the removal of six acres from the Industrial Park – Attorney Phil Eldridge stated that there had been advertisement in the local newspaper on October 6, 2021, regarding the removal of six acres from the Industrial Park and that a public hearing would be held today in the Commission Courtroom at 9:30 a.m. on the question of whether or not to remove a six-acre parcel from the Geneva County Industrial Park. Mr. Eldridge continued stating that the six acres are located due west of the back of the Wiregrass Electric property. He asked if anyone was present to express their views and opinions on the removal of this property from the Industrial Park. No one was present. Mr. Eldridge instructed the Commissioners that a resolution was prepared and would need to be voted on to remove the six acres from the Industrial Park. Commissioner Brannon made a motion to adopt the resolution removing six acres from the Industrial Park. A copy of said resolution is attached hereto. Commissioner Wilks seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0. Attorney Eldridge stated the resolution must lay over thirty (30) days before it will become effective.

3. Liberty Learning Foundation – Ms. Becky Saunders was present to discuss the Liberty Learning Foundation and what they are doing in schools. Currently the program is in forty-seven (47) counties in the State of Alabama reaching 52,000 students. The program is taught in the Geneva County and Geneva City schools and reaches approximately 450 students in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades. This program focuses on Civics, Character, Financial Literacy, American History, Career Readiness and Essential Skills. This program focuses on character and citizenship, which are not taught in schools and addresses the problem head on, teaching students the idea of service before self. Ms. Saunders stated that the program is funded by community alliances and currently their partners in our area are Wiregrass Electric, Covington Electric and Power South. She is requesting that the Commission please consider making an appropriation for this program in next year's budget.
4. Proclamations/Resolutions: Mrs. Shelby Danley and Mrs. Gloria Marks were present to read a Proclamation for Farm City Week. After the proclamation was read Commissioner Spivey made a motion to adopt the proclamation and resolution recognizing November 17 – 24, 2021 as Farm City Week. Commissioner Wilks seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0. Farm City Week will be recognized the week of November 17 – 24, 2021 and the banquet will be held at the Farm Center on November 18, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. Chairman Seay had a resolution for a CDBG Recaptured Funds Grant Application for Wiregrass Medical Center. The resolution is making it known that the Commission will be utilizing the grant assistance to prevent, prepare for and/or respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and other infectious diseases in Geneva County and the estimated cost associated with the proposed equipment purchases to benefit Wiregrass Medical Center is \$485,000.00. He also had a letter from Dr. Dale Mitchum stating the grant would be used to upgrade and replace the hospital's endoscopy equipment used to treat and diagnose COVID-19 patients. Chairman Seay asked the Commission to pass the resolution with the intent of approving the grant application for Wiregrass Medical Center. Commissioner Spivey made a motion to pass the resolution with the intent of approving the CDBG Grant Application for the Wiregrass Medical Center. Commissioner Brannon seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0. Chairman Seay stated he had a resolution from ALDOT for the sidewalk grant which has already been approved. Commissioner Brannon made a motion to adopt the resolution for the sidewalk grant at the Courthouse for ALDOT. Commissioner Wilks seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0. There is one other resolution from the ACCA to continue participating in the Alabama Workers' Compensation Self-Insurers Fund through September 30, 2024. Commissioner Spivey made a motion to adopt the resolution to continue participating in the ACCA Alabama Workers' Compensation Self-Insurers Fund through September 30, 2024. Commissioner Fulford seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.
5. Bids: None
6. Board Appointments: Chairman Seay stated that recently the Commission had appointed Mr. Neil Strickland to the SEACAP Board, however Mr. Strickland has

resigned the position. The SEACAP Board is asking for a new appointment to the board. Commissioner Spivey made a motion to table the board appointment until a later date. Commissioner Fulford seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

7. Approve the new County redistricting plan. Mr. Scott Farmer with Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development had forwarded to the Commissioners a revised redistricting plan after discussions at the last meeting on the plan. Commissioner Brannon made a motion to approve Plan 2 of the redistricting plan for Geneva County. Commissioner Spivey seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0. Attorney Eldridge stated that legal notice on the plan must be published in the local newspaper the required number of times and a public hearing must be scheduled. The hearing will be held Monday, November 22, 2021, at 9:30 a.m. in the Commission Courtroom. The Board of Registrars will send out cards to registered voters affected by the redistricting and notifying them of changes in their Commissioner and place to vote if any.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Board Appointments – None

**REPORTS OF STAFF:**

**Sheriff:** Sheriff Helms stated that he and Administrator Williams had been working on a grant for equipment for detention facilities due to COVID-19. There are only twenty (20) counties in the State that are applying for the \$5,000,000.00 grant, and it looks promising we will be approved for all items requested.

The Sheriff presented the Commissioners with information on the Mobile Command Centers he had previously discussed to provide to the ACCA at the upcoming Investing in Alabama Counties meeting. He is in hopes that this will be an allowed expenditure under the ARPA funding. The trailer he is looking at is a 27' bumper pull trailer at a cost of \$130,000.00. If approved he could sell the current mobile command center or use it as a secondary unit,

Sheriff Helms also reminded the Commissioners about the resolution he had given them a few meetings ago, supporting the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution, by supporting the Geneva County Sheriff and his office in their efforts to promote and ensure the safety and welfare of the citizens of Geneva County by making if necessary for citizens to obtain a concealed carry pistol permit.

**County Administrator:** Mrs. Williams stated that the two payrolls in November fall on holidays. Her office has checked with local banks and while most are automated, and payroll would be available to employees there are a few smaller branches that stated the payroll may be memo posted but it could create issues for employees using debit cards. She is asking the Commission if they would move the pay date to the Wednesday instead of the normal Thursday for the November 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> payrolls. Commissioner Brannon made a motion to move the payroll dates for the November 11 and November 25, 2021, to the Wednesday instead of Thursday. Mrs. Williams stated the time sheets would be required to be to Payroll on the Friday prior to payroll.

**County Engineer:** Engineer Barfield stated that the paving portion of the Rebuild Alabama projects on County Roads 8 and 49 are complete. The shoulder work on both roads will be completed soon, seeding and mulching will follow, then the permanent road striping.

His department has continued working the Southeast portion of the County on complaint work.

They currently have ten (10) drive-way pipes to install.

**County Attorney:** Attorney Eldridge stated he had the proposed resolution prepared for the ARPA funding for the meeting on Thursday in Ozark. He has added three additional requests, expanding the District courtroom, adding a bathroom at the Solid Waste building and assisting the City of Hartford in replacing the collapsing outfall lines in its sewer system and will now add for the Sheriff's request for a Mobile Command Unit. The Commission can wait on passing the resolution until after the October 28, 2021, IAC Meeting.

**Commission Chairman:** Chairman Seay stated he and Commissioner Brannon had completed a walk through of the Spec Building. The punch list items are being completed and checked off. The completion notice is being advertised. Work continues on the parking lot and Sally Port project at the Courthouse. Sidewalks should begin to be poured within a week and prep for the parking lot will begin. He has received a quote from Harris Security in the amount of \$14,551.00 for thirty-two (32) cameras (half inside and half outside). Commissioner Brannon made a motion to accept the quote from Harris Security to install a new security system in the Courthouse in the amount of \$14,551.00. Commissioner Fulford seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0. Chairman Seay also stated that the Auburn Extension office had requested the security system at the Farm Center be upgraded. Chairman Seay will inquire with Harris Security about this upgrade.

Chairman Seay reminded the Commissioners about the IAC meeting in Ozark Thursday, October 28, 2021, at 12:30 and the District meeting that night at 6:00 p.m.

The Sheriff, Jail Commander, Personnel Director, County Administrator and Chairman Seay had interviewed for the jail nurse position and are recommending the Commission hire Crissy Thompson be hired for the position. Commissioner Wilks made a motion to hire Crissy Thompson as the jail nurse. Commissioner Spivey seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

The Chairman presented a recommendation to approve Dr. Simmons as the medical director for the jail. Dr. Simmons returned his packet with a one-year agreement and if all parties are interested in continuing the partnership a two-year agreement after that. Commissioner Wilks made a motion to approve and accept the contract from Dr. Simmons as the medical director for the Geneva County Jail. Commissioner Fulford seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

**EMA Director:** Mr. Smith stated he was in the process of setting up a mitigation committee. He has a storm shelter meeting scheduled for November 1, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

at the Farm Center. This will be a Hazard Mitigation Grant in the amount of \$112,500. The average storm shelter will cost \$6,500.00 and the individual is responsible for paying up front for the storm shelter and then they will apply for their reimbursement of 75% of the cost. The sub-grant money will have to be run through the County.

**Revenue Commissioner:** Ms. Ellison stated that her department had a robust opening to tax season so far everything was running smoothly.

**Solid Waste Director:** Not present

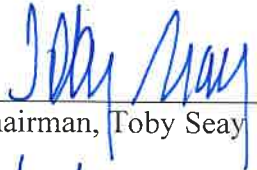
**E-911:** Not present


**Auburn Extension:** Mrs. Marks stated the nutrition agents are out in the schools. She invited all the Commissioners to the Farm City Banquet which will be held on November 18, 2021.

**Commissioner's:** Commissioner Brannon stated he had received a thank card from Mrs. Gary Shields for the flowers sent when ex Commissioner Gary Shields passed away. Commissioner Fulford thanked the Road & Bridge department for some work done in his district.

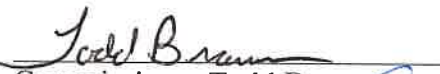
Commissioner Spivey made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Wilks seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

The above constitutes the minutes of the meeting of the Geneva County Commission held on Monday, October 25, 2021.


  
Chairman, Toby Seay

  
Cindy Williams  
County Administrator

  
Commissioner Weston Spivey

  
Commissioner Todd Brannon

  
Commissioner Bart Wilks

  
Commissioner Wade Fulford

STATE OF ALABAMA

GENEVA COUNTY

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Section 11-23-7, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, provides as follows:

"The county commission may abolish an industrial park or remove a portion of the territory from an industrial park if (1) the industries located therein request the abolishment of the industrial park or the removal of a portion of the territory from an industrial park; or (2) the property or a portion of the property within the industrial park ceases to be used for industrial park purposes. The county commission may abolish an industrial park or remove a portion of the territory from an industrial park only by resolution adopted after not less than one public hearing on the question. The resolution of a county commission to abolish an industrial park or remove a portion of the territory from an industrial park shall be effective 30 days after the resolution is adopted by the county commission; provided, that no resort to the courts is taken challenging such action prior to the expiration of such 30 days by a property owner within the area affected. If such action is taken by a property owner, the resolution of the county commission shall be effective only when a judgment adverse to the property owner has been rendered and is final, executory, and definitive. The results of any final action taken under this section which in any way alters the boundaries of the industrial park shall be filed with the clerk of probate court.";

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 11-23-7, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, all the lot owners and industries located in the Geneva County Industrial Park, filed a request with the Geneva County Commission that a portion of the territory of the Geneva County Industrial Park, which is West of property owned by Wiregrass Electric Cooperative, Inc., and being more particularly described as follows, be removed from the Geneva County Industrial Park:

A lot or parcel of land located in Hartford, Geneva County, Alabama, as surveyed by Andrew Bush Surveying, dated August 26, 2021, being more particularly described as follows: BEGINNING at an old rail road iron (RRI) beside a post, and recognized as the purported Southeast Corner of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 35, Township 2 North, Range 23 East, thence along the East Line of said Forty (the West Line of the Wiregrass Electric Cooperative Property described in Book 366, Page 343) a geodetic bearing North 01 degree-09 minutes-14 seconds West a distance of 663.13 feet to a found 1/2 inch rebar with cap (Jenkins) outside of a chain link fence Corner; thence North 89 degrees-34 minutes-20 seconds West a distance of 394.28 feet to a Set 1/2 inch iron pipe capped "26952" (SIP); thence South 01 degree-09 minutes-14 seconds East a distance of 663.13 feet to a SIP located on an old hedge row; thence along said Hedge Row (South Line of said Forty) South 89 degrees-34 minutes-20 seconds East a distance of 394.28 feet; which is the POINT OF BEGINNING having an area of 6.00 acres more or less. Said land Lying in the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 35, Township 2 North, Range 23 East.; and

WHEREAS, that pursuant to Section 11-23-7, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, the Geneva County Commission held a public hearing on Monday, October 25, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., after notice of said public hearing was published in the Geneva County Reaper on October 6, 2021, on the question of whether or not to remove a portion of the territory from the Geneva County Industrial Park which is West of the property owned by Wiregrass Electric Cooperative, Inc., and being more particularly described as follows, to-wit:

A lot or parcel of land located in Hartford, Geneva County, Alabama, as surveyed by Andrew Bush Surveying, dated August 26, 2021, being more particularly described as follows: BEGINNING at an old rail road iron (RRI) beside a post, and recognized as the purported Southeast Corner of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 35, Township 2 North, Range 23 East, thence along the East Line of said Forty (the West Line of the

Wiregrass Electric Cooperative Property described in Book 366, Page 343) a geodetic bearing North 01 degree-09 minutes-14 seconds West a distance of 663.13 feet to a found ½ inch rebar with cap (Jenkins) outside of a chain link fence Corner; thence North 89 degrees-34 minutes-20 seconds West a distance of 394.28 feet to a Set ½ inch iron pipe capped "26952" (SIP); thence South 01 degree-09 minutes-14 seconds East a distance of 663.13 feet to a SIP located on an old hedge row; thence along said Hedge Row (South Line of said Forty) South 89 degrees-34 minutes-20 seconds East a distance of 394.28 feet; which is the POINT OF BEGINNING having an area of 6.00 acres more or less. Said land Lying in the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 35, Township 2 North, Range 23 East.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Geneva County Commission, pursuant to Section 11-23-7, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, and after said public hearing, that a portion of the territory of the Geneva County Industrial Park, which is West of property owned by Wiregrass Electric Cooperative, Inc., and being more particularly described as follows, be and the same is hereby removed from the Geneva County Industrial Park:

A lot or parcel of land located in Hartford, Geneva County, Alabama, as surveyed by Andrew Bush Surveying, dated August 26, 2021, being more particularly described as follows: BEGINNING at an old rail road iron (RRI) beside a post, and recognized as the purported Southeast Corner of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 35, Township 2 North, Range 23 East, thence along the East Line of said Forty (the West Line of the Wiregrass Electric Cooperative Property described in Book 366, Page 343) a geodetic bearing North 01 degree-09 minutes-14 seconds West a distance of 663.13 feet to a found ½ inch rebar with cap (Jenkins) outside of a chain link fence Corner; thence North 89 degrees-34 minutes-20 seconds West a distance of 394.28 feet to a Set ½ inch iron pipe capped "26952" (SIP); thence South 01 degree-09 minutes-14 seconds East a distance of 663.13 feet to a SIP located on an old hedge row; thence along said Hedge Row (South Line of said Forty) South 89 degrees-34 minutes-20 seconds East a distance of 394.28 feet; which



is the POINT OF BEGINNING having an area of 6.00 acres more or less. Said land Lying in the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 35, Township 2 North, Range 23 East.

Pursuant to Section 11-23-7, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, this Resolution shall be become effective 30 days after its adoption by the Geneva County Commission.

Commissioner Brannon moved that the foregoing resolution be adopted and spread upon the minutes of this meeting, which motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilks, and upon the motion being put to vote, the following vote was recorded:

YEAS:

NAYS:

Commissioners:

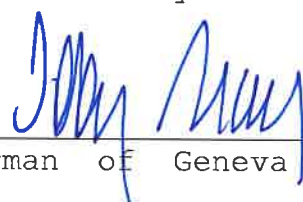
- Weston Spivey
- Todd Brannon
- Bart Wilks
- Wade Fulford

The chairman thereupon announced that the motion for adoption has been unanimously carried.

STATE OF ALABAMA

GENEVA COUNTY

I, Toby L. Seay, Chairman of the Geneva County Commission, hereby certify that the above is a true, correct and exact copy of a Resolution duly and legally adopted by the Geneva County Commission, at a meeting on the 25th day of October, 2021.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman of Geneva County Commission

OFFREC 1131 447

**GENEVA COUNTY COMMISSION, ALABAMA  
CDBG-CV RECAPTURED FUNDS GRANT APPLICATION**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER:** 20211025-2

**WHEREAS**, the Geneva County Commission is hereby making known its intention to apply to the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs for grant assistance from the CARES Act Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) Grant Fund; and,

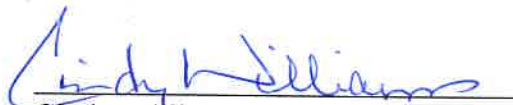
**WHEREAS**, the Geneva County Commission will be utilizing the grant assistance to prevent, prepare for, and/or respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and other infectious diseases in Geneva County; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Geneva County Commission understands that the total estimated cost associated with the proposed equipment purchases to benefit Wiregrass Medical Center is \$485,000, therefore,

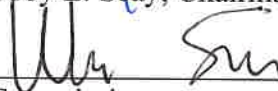
**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Geneva County Commission, that the county approves the submission of the FY 2021 CARES Act CDBG-CV Grant application requesting \$485,000 in federal grant assistance, and that this legislative body of Geneva County hereby authorizes Toby L. Seay, Chairman of the Geneva County Commission, to act as the appropriate County Official on behalf of the Geneva County Commission, in dealings with the State of Alabama and to sign any and all necessary application papers for the CDBG-CV Grant funds as well as any necessary contracts and other agreements relative to the implementation of the proposed project.

This resolution is hereby passed and approved by the Geneva County Commission in official session on this 25th day of October, 2021.

(SEAL)

  
Cindy Williams, County Administrator

  
Toby L. Seay, Chairman

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner