

The Geneva County Commission met in regular session on Monday, January 11, 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 Spivey 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. The County Attorney Phil Eldridge; Assistant County Engineer, Mike Shirah; EMA Director Eric Johnson and County Administrator Cindy Williams were also present. The following business was transacted:

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approve Minutes of December 14, 2020. Commissioner Wilks made a motion to approve the minutes of December 14, 2020. Commissioner Spivey seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.
2. Proclamations: None
3. Bids: None
4. Board Appointments: None

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Board Appointments – Commissioner Fulford had tabled his E911 Board Appointment at the December 14, 2020 Commission meeting and is ready to recommend someone to fill the appointment. Commissioner Fulford made a motion to appoint Mark Day to the E911 Board. Commissioner Spivey seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.
2. Bids – None
3. Spec Building – Mr. Phillip Santora with Northstar Engineering and Mr. Mike Hughes with Hughes Brothers Construction were present to discuss the Spec Building. Mr. Santora began with an apology regarding the collapse of the red iron at the Spec Building site. On Christmas Eve winds took down the red iron that had been installed. The superintendent on the project, Mr. W. C. Turvin, had been at the site earlier that day to inspect and everything was fine, later that day there were strong winds that came through and took the red iron beams down.

Mr. Turvin had stated he had been doing this for forty years and had never experienced anything like this. Mr. Hughes had contacted the insurance company immediately but with the Christmas holidays and New Year's and Covid the insurance company had not been out to inspect yet. They are due to be on site this week. The crew will be back on site as soon as the insurance company comes out to inspect and gives the go ahead. They will be looking through all the metal to see if any is salvageable and replace the remaining beams. Northstar will make certain everything meets the contractual obligations. The project was in a vulnerable state at the time the winds came through. Chairman Seay asked Mr. Santora and Mr. Hughes to please return and address the Commission after they have met with the insurance company and Mr. Santora agreed. Commissioner Spivey asked about the soundness of the foundation since the anchor bolts for the beams were pulled from the foundation. Mr. Santora explained that those anchor bolts could not be used, and they would install larger plates and anchor in different places and if there are any foundation issues they would be corrected. Attorney Eldridge stated that there should be no application for payment until the project is back where it should be. Mr. Santora acknowledged and agreed there would not be any application for payment sent until the project was back on schedule. As of this point it looks as if there will be at least a sixty-day delay in the project. The original completion date was scheduled for February 28, 2021. After inspection Hughes Brothers will come to the Commission to ask for an extension.

4. Courtroom Renovation – Renovation has begun and is in the demo stage.
5. Step Raises – The step raise issue was tabled from the December 14, 2020 Commission meeting. An employee brought it before the Personnel Director that they are due a step raise every year for the first five years, meaning they would receive an annual step raise through step 6. The program set by the Personnel Board was that employees would receive an annual step raise through Step 5, then every two years from Step 6 through Step 15. Administrator Cindy Williams presented the Commission with copies of the minutes from the January 20, 2015 Personnel Board meeting which discussed the step raise program and tasked Personnel Director Hazel Odom with developing a plan. Mrs. Williams also presented the Commission with the changes for the step raises recommended and minutes from the March 9, 2015 Commission meeting where the Commission voted to approve the changes to the step raise program. It was voted unanimously that a step raise would be given every year through step 5 and then from step 6 through step 15 a step raise would be given every two years. After reviewing the Commission would like to have more information regarding the number of employees that would be affected by the step raise and the cost to implement if any changes are warranted.
6. Mr. Scott Farmer with Southeast Alabama Regional Planning & Development was present to speak about the Rails to Trails Project. Commissioner Brannon made a motion to allow Mr. Farmer to speak. Commissioner Spivey seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0. Mr. Farmer stated that the Rails to Trails corridor was forty-three miles from Andalusia to Geneva on the old CSX Railroad bed. CSX wants to sell the entire corridor or nothing at all. The corridor would be converted

to a multi-use, non-motorized trail. There are ten jurisdictions along the corridor, three counties and seven cities. A Cooperative District for the funding project has been created by Andalusia and Opp and they are asking for the City of Geneva and Geneva County to join. This is a long-term project. Jacksonville State University has completed a study on a similar project in North Alabama and that trail would have a \$1,000,000.00 economic on that area. There is no economic obligation to the County at this point. The City of Samson will meet on this next week, the City of Geneva is interested, and Coffee County has already voted and passed the project. Attorney Eldridge asked if the Commission wants to come to the table for discussions at what point would there be a request for funding. Mr. Farmer explained the Commission could participate and if they choose to opt out it is possible without any investment. A resolution would come later. Mr. Farmer also discussed the four-lane project on Highway 167 from the State Line to Enterprise and on Highway 52 from the end of the four lane in Malvern to Highway 167 in Hartford. Application for a Federal Government Field Grant was made for the project last year and the U.S. Dot would conduct a feasibility study. Due to a lot of interest and assistance this project was granted the funding and hopefully would set the project for a ten to fifteen-year project instead of a forty-year project. This was a win for the area since normally construction projects are chosen for funding and not study projects. ALDOT will be a pass through and hire an Engineering firm to conduct the study. It will be a few weeks before the grant agreement is received and then it will be a 13-18-month process. Wiregrass Economic Development Partners applied for the grant and this will be the start of the forward moving process.

REPORTS OF STAFF:

Sheriff: Not present

County Administrator: Mrs. Williams reported she had provided the Commissioners with a Trial Balance for FY2020 and Revenue and Expense statements for the first quarter of FY2021 and stated FY2020 ended better than expected and to date the finances are in order.

County Engineer: Engineer Justin Barfield was not present so Assistant Engineer Mike Shirah reported for the Road and Bridge Department. Mr. Shirah stated that the ATRIPIII project on County Road 69 had received final design approval. The FY2020 Rebuild Alabama year-end report is being given to Administrator Williams to be made part of the minutes for today's meeting and will be made public on the website with the Commission's approval. Commissioner Spivey made a motion to accept the FY2020 Rebuild Alabama Report and make it a part of the minutes and have it posted on the website. Commissioner Brannon seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0. The new lowboy tractor trailer has been delivered and they are requesting to make the old lowboy surplus so it can be sold on GovDeals. The assigned inventory numbers are 14-5 and 15-1. Commissioner Spivey made a motion to make inventory items 14-5 and 15-1

(the old lowboy truck and trailer) surplus items to be sold on GovDeals. Commissioner Wilks seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

Mr. Shirah wanted to remind everyone that beginning February 1, 2021 the Landfill will operate under new hours. The Landfill will be on a ten hour per day, four day per week schedule like the Road & Bridge department.

Workplace modification is continuing at the Engineering office. Waiting for the security glass to be installed and painting to be completed.

Work continues on the Hurricane Sally FEMA process. All correspondence is by email or telephone. To date approval of Category B items (emergency items – barricades, etc.) has been approved for \$27,532.75.

Mowing has been completed.

Commissioner Fulford stated he had received calls about Lowery Road in his District and asked that someone please address the issues. The citizen also asked who was responsible for the maintenance on the State Forestry roads. Mr. Shirah stated that the County maintains some of those roads and the department would investigate the concerns.

County Attorney: Nothing to report

Chairman Seay: Chairman Seay stated that the parking lot project at the Annex would begin next week.

The local bills have been delivered to Representative Jeff Sorrells who will present them when the Legislative session begins

Revenue Commissioner: Not present

EMA Director: EMA Director Eric Johnson reported that the vaccinations for Covid 19 have arrived and are being given at the Health Department in Geneva on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Citizens must call for an appointment and the number to call is 855-566-5333. The vaccine being given is the Moderna vaccine which requires two shots.

Wearing masks is extremely important and is asking all officials to help spread the word about masks and please set an example for the citizens.

Solid Waste: Not present.

E-911: The new generator has been installed. The E-911 Board is exploring upgrading the current system.

Auburn Extension: The Farmers Market will begin again April 16, 2021 and will only be held on Saturdays.

Commissioner Brannon: Nothing to report.

Commissioner Fulford: Nothing to report.

Commissioner Spivey: Nothing to report.


Commissioner Wilks: Nothing to report.

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

The above constitutes the minutes of the meeting of the Geneva County Commission held on Monday, January 11, 2021.



Chairman, Toby Seay



Cindy Williams
County Administrator



Commissioner Weston Spivey



Commissioner Todd Brannon



Commissioner Bart Wilks



Commissioner Wade Fulford



FY 2020 County Rebuild Alabama Annual Report

Geneva County



Map Index	Project No.	Road Name/Number	Begin		End		Project Details			Amount of Rebuild Alabama Funding Expended in Current Fiscal Year	Method in Which Rebuild Funds Were Utilized			Percent Complete	Original CTP (Yes or No)	CRAF or FAEF	CRAF Amount	FAEF Amount	
			Lat.	Long	Lat.	Long	Road Improvement Project	Bridge Improvement Project	Project Length (miles)		Description of Work	Amount Expended Utilizing Competitive Bid Contracts	Amount Expended Utilizing Public Works Contracts						Amount Expended Exempt From Competitive and/or Public Works Contracts
										Beginning Balance							\$0.00	\$0.00	
										Annual Revenue Received by County **							\$421,025.94	\$448,588.66	
										2020 Bond Amount *							\$3,000,000.00		
										Rebuild Funds Received From Municipalities through MOUs							\$0.00	\$0.00	
1	GCP 31-04-19	CR-4	31 0147	85 7906	31 0092	85 7439	X		2.84	Resurfacing and Traffic Striping/Marking from CR-53 to CR-61	\$95,898.02		\$95,898.02		100%	Y	FAEF	\$95,898.02	
2	GCP 31-05-19	CR-53	30 9944	85 7794	31 0147	85 7906	X		1.59	Resurfacing and Traffic Striping/Marking from the FL line to CR-4	\$59,095.37		\$59,095.37		100%	Y	FAEF	\$59,095.37	
3	GCP 31-10-19	CR-31	30 9937	85 6993	31 0207	85 6929	X		2.01	Resurfacing and Traffic Striping/Marking from the FL line to SR-27	\$169,517.97		\$169,517.97		100%	Y	CRAF	\$169,517.97	
4	GCP 31-11-19	CR-70	31 1584	85 4958	31 1606	85 4856	X		0.57	Resurfacing and Traffic Striping/Marking from the SR-52 to Houston County Line	\$67,601.08		\$67,601.08		100%	Y	CRAF	\$67,601.08	
5	GCP 31-12-19	CR-105	31 0147	85 6316	31 0787	85 6585	X		5.00	Resurfacing and Traffic Striping/Marking from CR-9 to CR-69	\$699,854.59		\$699,854.59		100%	Y	CRAF	\$699,854.59	
6	GCP 31-13-19	CR-17	31 1131	86 0605	31 1793	86 0665	X		4.94	Resurfacing and Traffic Striping/Marking from the SR-52 to CR-25	\$410,374.45		\$410,374.45		100%	Y	CRAF	\$410,374.45	
7	GCP 31-14-19	CR-73	31 1373	85 5563	31 1644	85 5446	X		2.32	Resurfacing and Traffic Striping/Marking from the SR-52 to CR-49	\$194,480.08		\$194,480.08		100%	Y	CRAF	\$194,480.08	
8	GCP 31-15-19	CR-19	31 0654	85 9875	31 0929	85 9846	X		1.94	Resurfacing and Traffic Striping/Marking from the SR-52 to CR-16	\$118,643.49		\$118,643.49		100%	Y	CRAF	\$118,643.49	
9	GCP 31-16-19	CR-67	31 0370	85 6793	31 0948	85 6701	X		4.20	Resurfacing and Traffic Striping/Marking from CR-69 to SR-167	\$515,294.17		\$515,294.17		100%	Y	CRAF	\$515,294.17	
10	GCP 31-19-19	CR-16	31 0715	85 7016	31 0686	85 6786	X		1.40	Resurfacing and Traffic Striping/Marking from CR-61 to CR-47	\$196,956.06		\$196,956.06		100%	Y	CRAF	\$196,956.06	
11	GCP 31-20-19	CR-34	31 1052	85 7960	31 0936	85 7345	X		4.25	Resurfacing and Traffic Striping/Marking from CR-41 to SR-52	\$560,656.14		\$560,656.14		100%	Y	CRAF	\$560,656.14	
Note: Only Rebuild Alabama Funds are intended to be reported.			Total Miles Addressed this Fiscal Year (Total Mileage Does Not Include Bridge Projects)						31.06		Total Rebuild Funds Expended this Fiscal Year	\$3,088,571.42	\$0.00	\$3,088,571.42	\$0.00	Total CRAF/FAEF Remaining		\$487,448.91	\$293,595.47
										Percent of Rebuild Funds Expended in Compliance with Section 7c(2)(d) of the Rebuild Alabama Act						100%			
Remarks										<p>* A bond payment of \$226,409.57 was paid in FY2021; a maximum of one-half of each annual CRAF revenue will be applied to the bond payment for the duration of the bond.</p> <p>** \$48,588.86 is the amount that was remaining in our ALDOT Federal Aid. Therefore, we received the annual \$400,000 plus the remaining \$48,588.86 in our ALDOT Federal Aid.</p> <p>All Publics Works Projects are covered by Geneva County bid tabulations received according to established policies and procedures.</p>									

