

The Geneva County Commission met in regular session on Monday, April 11, 2022, 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 Fulford 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; Solid Waste Director, Dawn Smith; EMA Director, Brian Smith and County Administrator, Cindy Williams was also present. The following business was transacted:

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approve Minutes of March 24, 2022. Commissioner Spivey made a motion to approve the minutes of March 24, 2022. Commissioner Brannon seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.
2. Public Hearing to vacate Elijah Road - Attorney Eldridge stated that notice of hearing was given as required by law regarding vacating Elijah Road North of County Road 45 and East of Highway 167 above Hartford, Alabama. According to the sworn petition this vacation would not deprive other property owners of any right they may have to convenient and reasonable means of ingress and egress to and from their property and is in the interest of the public that said road be vacated and all the landowners abutting said road have requested or consented to the vacation. Mr. Eldridge then asked if anyone was present regarding the vacation of Elijah Road. No one was present regarding this matter. Commissioner Brannon, in whose district said road is located, made a motion to adopt the resolution to vacate Elijah Road North of County Road 45 and East of Highway 167 in Hartford, Alabama. Commissioner Wilks seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0. Mr. Eldridge then stated that notice must be published once more in the newspaper before it becomes final.
3. Proclamation/Resolution: Ms. Kate Lewis with Wiregrass Angel House was present for a proclamation on Crime Victims' Rights Week. Chairman Seay read the proclamation. Commissioner Fulford made a motion to recognize April 24 –

30, 2022 as Crime Victims' Rights Week. Commissioner Wilks seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

Chairman Seay stated that as previously discussed the County can claim a Standard Allowance on the ARPA funds up to the amount of the counties award since it is below the \$10,000,000.00 threshold which would allow the County to expend the funds for government services. A resolution must be adopted regarding the election of the standard allowance for revenue loss for the County's American Rescue Plan Act Fiscal Recovery Funds. Commissioner Brannon made a motion to adopt the resolution regarding the election of the standard allowance for revenue loss from the County's American Rescue Plan Act Fiscal Recovery Funds and to allow Chairman Seay to sign. Commissioner Spivey seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

4. Board Appointments: None
5. Bids/Quotes: None

Sheriff: The Sheriff discussed his departments efforts in preparing items for auction. Once all items are collected a list will be provided to the Commission for approval to make items surplus.

County Administrator: Mrs. Williams reminded all present that are subject to the Statement of Economic Interest to go online to complete the form by the deadline of April 30, 2022. The Administrator also informed the Commissioners of an ACCA class in Prattville on May 18-19, 2022 titled a Legal Primer on County Roads and asked that anyone interested please let her know so her department could make the class and hotel reservations.

County Engineer: The Engineer stated that the ATIPPII project in Hartford at Shiloh Road LET on Friday, March 25, 2022 is moving forward. During the rain event last week there were eleven (11) roads with downed trees. Clean up went quickly.

The department worked last Friday blading roads.

Still in contact with FEMA regarding the bridge replacement projects.

The Engineer stated the proceeds from the sale of his equipment at the JM Wood Auction has been received and deposited into the Gasoline Equipment Fund.

There are currently five (5) driveway pipes in line for installation.

On the personnel front he still has one Motor Grader Operator still out on medical leave and should be returning in a few weeks.

The herbicide spraying is complete.

The Engineer stated he now has two more employees certified for the landfill. Now there are four employees that are certified.

The new driveway pipe policy went into effect April 1st. The Engineer presented the Commissioners with an approved driveway pipe list he would like to add to the website and an application so that citizens can complete the application and submit online or bring to the Road & Bridge department. This will help citizens to better understand the requirements and help the department to have a better handle on driveway pipe installations so that they are not wasting trips when the installation is not what was

described. After review Commissioner Spivey made a motion to allow the Engineer to put the information and application on the website. Commissioner Wilks seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

The Engineer stated the Assistant Engineer Mike Shirah has been diligently working on the design project at the Industrial Park. Chairman Seay added that is a savings to the County because the P&E fees for the project would be 10 – 15% of the total project.

County Attorney: Attorney Eldridge gave the Commissioners a couple of sample draft letters he had prepared for their approval to send to the E911 Director and Mayors of the four cities concerning ambulance services in the County. He stated that the letters were stating the County does not, nor does it intend to provide ambulance services and the cities should continue to do so as is required by Alabama Department of Public Health Administrative Code. The General Counsel Office of the Alabama Department of Public Health has stated a city ambulance provider must respond to an emergency medical service call anywhere in its licensed county if a unit is available, and if the cities do not respond to a call there will be an investigation and they could lose their license. Chairman Seay stated that it is the desire of the Commission to still assist the cities as best as possible. He is hopeful that within the next few weeks we will have an idea of costs of infrastructure projects that are needed for the County and at that time could see what assistance may be offered to the cities from the American Rescue Plan Act Funds. Attorney Eldridge stated a motion to approve sending the letters to the E911 Director and Mayors of the four cities was needed. Commissioner Brannon made a motion to send the letters to the E911 Director and Mayors of the four cities. Commissioner Fulford seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

Commission Chairman: Chairman Seay stated that the Industrial Access Grant for road work at the Industrial Park was completed and submitted. It is a \$1,400,000 project. The Chairman recognized Assistant Engineer Mike Shirah again for saving the County the design fee for the project which would have been around \$150,000.00. Chairman Seay said the Commission had discussed using JMR+H for the architectural services for the Courthouse and Farm Center projects. Attorney Eldridge stated IAC sent out requests for quotes to the architects on the Farm Center and Courthouse projects and received quotes from JMR+H Architecture; CMH Architecture; Godwin Mills Architects; LaBella Associates and PH&J Architecture. They are all comparable and committed to the same fee schedule from the IAC. The IAC said the county could accept a quote from any of the five. Commissioner Spivey asked since the County would be using the Standard Allowance exemption on the American Rescue Plan funds if it could be written in the specs to allow for local contractors to bid if they maintain all the proper credentials. Attorney Eldridge explained that by using the IAC they will oversee all the bidding process and the County would not have to write any specifications. Commissioner Spivey made a motion to accept the quote from JMR+H for all architectural services for the project at the Farm Center and Courthouse. Commissioner Wilks seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0. Chairman Seay stated that 70% of the design work is complete on the sidewalk grant project. Once the design work is complete it will be sent to ALDOT for review. It will

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
COUNTY OF GENEVA
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then be submitted to the FHA for approval. If all flows smoothly it will be mid-summer before work will begin on the project.

Execution of the agreement regarding the State Incentive Package between the State and Lessee of the Speculative Building should occur this week or next.

The Chairman has been in discussion with the insurance carrier regarding the claim on the Maintenance Shop. That building was the only building that had an agreed value and not replacement value. He is hopeful the claim will be closed soon, and payment will be favorable. Preparation needs to begin for building a new Maintenance Shop. Attorney Eldridge stated that it would require advertising in the newspaper and on the Courthouse bulletin board for sealed bids. Commissioner Brannon made a motion to advertise for bids on a new Maintenance Shop. Commissioner Spivey seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

EMA Director: Mr. Smith stated that he was with the National Weather Service this past Tuesday regarding the recent weather event and destruction in the town of Malvern. The weather service concluded that there was an EF1 tornado. The shelter grant is still in process. In the past citizens the government portion was 75% and the citizen paid 25%. There is word that the President has signed off that the government will pay up to 90% and the remainder will be owed by the citizen. He is not in receipt of confirmation of this currently.

Revenue Commissioner: Not present.

Solid Waste Director: Mrs. Smith asked about Free Day at the Landfill. This event usually takes place the weekend before the River Festival, but she has not had any notification yet. The Engineer stated that it is usually scheduled for the Friday and Saturday before the River Festival which would be April 22nd and April 23rd. Commissioner Fulford made a motion to have Free Day at the Landfill on April 22-23, 2022. Commissioner Spivey seconded the motion. There are stipulations which include no electronics, no contractors, and no cities hauling for citizens. Hours of operation will be Friday 8am – 4pm and Saturday 7am – 2pm. The Engineer will prepare the flyer and post on the website.

Mrs. Smith stated that she has her two garbage trucks that were previously approved as surplus ready to sale. They will be posted on GovDeals.

The Director presented to the Commissioners a list of uncollectible accounts she is asking to be charge offs. All the accounts are over five years old, and her department has exhausted all means of trying to collect. Commissioner Wilks made a motion to allow Mrs. Smith to charge off the accounts presented. Commissioner Spivey seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

E-911: Mr. Williams was not present.

Auburn Extension: Ms. Marks stated Ag Day was a success and thanked Commissioner Wilks for his participation.

The Ground Water Festival is scheduled for May 6, 2022 at Troy University Dothan.

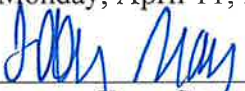
She is organizing her calendar to have all agents that cover Geneva County to do a presentation on their area of work so that citizens will be aware of all that is available through the Extension Office.

Commissioner's: Commissioner Spivey thanked Mr. Joey Williams for attending today's meeting to see the workings of the Geneva County Commission. He also thanked the Sheriff and Road & Bridge departments for their efforts during the recent weather event. Commissioner Spivey also asked the Engineer to investigate intersection improvements at County Road 4 and State Highway 103. There have been several accidents and some with fatalities at this intersection. The Engineer stated the State is aware of the intersection and conducts studies.

Commissioner Fulford asked the Engineer about the striping on Goose Hollow Road. It has disappeared since the road was completed. Engineer Barfield said he was aware, and he is already in discussion with the contractor.

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

The above constitutes the minutes of the meeting of the Geneva County Commission held on Monday, April 11, 2022.




Chairman, Toby Seay



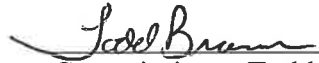
Commissioner Weston Spivey



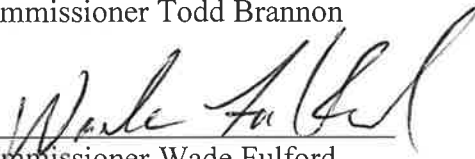
Commissioner Bart Wilks



Cindy Williams
County Administrator



Commissioner Todd Brannon



Commissioner Wade Fulford

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