

STATE OF ALABAMA )  
COLBERT COUNTY )

Minutes of a Regular Meeting  
of the  
Colbert County Commission  
7/05/2022

The Colbert County Commission met today in regular session at the Colbert County Courthouse. Chairman Isom called the work session to order at 5:00 p.m. with the regular meeting following at 6:29 p.m., being the time and place previously scheduled for such work session and regular meeting. All Commissioners answered "present" at the call of the roll. Commissioner Mansell offered the prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Isom declared that a quorum was present for the purpose of the transaction of business.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**BOARD APPOINTEE REPORTS**

None

**AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Lacefield were presented a plaque and a resolution was read and presented in appreciation for the Cane Creek Nature Preserve for all they have done for Colbert County.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Isom announced that the business before the Commission was the approval of the consent agenda. Commissioner Gardiner made motion to adopt and approve the matters placed on the consent agenda during the work session. The motion was duly seconded by Commissioner Mansell. Chairman Isom stated that the adoption and approval of a consent agenda comprised of the following items of business was properly before the Commission and stated the matters as follows:

1. Waived reading of June 21, 2022 minutes and approved the same as written.
2. Approved payment of July 5, 2022 bills as presented by the Chief Financial Officer.
3. Approved Resolution honoring Jim and Faye Lacefield for their efforts in preserving and maintaining Cane Creek Nature Preserve, as follows:

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**RESOLUTION NUMBER 2022-0044**

*A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JIM AND FAYE LACEFIELD FOR THEIR  
DEVELOPMENT OF THE CANE CREEK NATURE PRESERVE*

WHEREAS, the Colbert County Commission recognizes the natural beauty that exists within Alabama and Colbert County; and

WHEREAS, the preservation of these areas of natural beauty are important to our community, state, and nation; and

WHEREAS, significant efforts are made by individuals and groups to enhance access to these areas for the enjoyment of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the fruit of these efforts is evident at the Cane Creek Nature Preserve, which encompasses over 700 acres of land in the New Bethel Community of Colbert County; and

WHEREAS, Colbert County residents Jim and Faye Lacefield have, for over 40 years, given richly of their time, energy, and money in creating, preserving, and maintaining the Cane Creek Nature Preserve and in opening it to the public for individuals from Colbert County and around the world to enjoy and experience the natural beauty of Colbert County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Lacefield have ensured that the nature preserve they created will remain open to the public in perpetuity by generously and selflessly donating the land encompassing the Cane Creek Nature Preserve to the Land Trust of North Alabama.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Colbert County Commission, on behalf of the citizens of Colbert County, hereby recognizes and honors Jim and Faye Lacefield for their unfaltering dedication to the development, maintenance, and preservation of the Cane Creek Nature Preserve.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Colbert County Commission appreciates and applauds Jim and Faye Lacefield for their decision to place the Cane Creek Nature preserve in a trust so that this wonderful area may continue to be enjoyed by future generations.

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4. Approved participation in the Tennessee RiverLine Pilot Community Program by adoption of the following Resolution:
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**RESOLUTION NUMBER 2022-0045**

*A RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TENNESSEE RIVERLINE PILOT COMMUNITY PROGRAM*

WHEREAS, Colbert County's location on the Tennessee River has played and continues to play an important role in the history, economy, and lifestyle of the residents of Colbert County; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee RiverLine is a vision for a continuous system of multi-modal trail experiences that provide users with continuous access to the 652-mile river and its 470,000-acre system of nine reservoirs, as well as national and state parks, wildlife refuges, TVA recreational land, and existing trails that line its banks; and,

WHEREAS, Colbert County believes that the Tennessee RiverLine is a worthwhile endeavor with great potential for improving the lives of residents and increasing tourist exposure to the history, culture, and natural beauty of the Tennessee River; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee RiverLine is currently accepting applications for the Tennessee RiverLine Pilot Community Program in which the Colbert County Commission wishes to participate.

NOW THEREFORE, the Colbert County Commission resolves as follows:

**SECTION 1. Statement of Intent to Apply for Participation in the Program.**

The Colbert County Commission hereby states its intent to complete the necessary application process for participation in the Tennessee RiverLine Pilot Community program.

**SECTION 2. Statement of Tasks Associated with Program.**

The Colbert County Commission will support the tasks associated with being designated as a Tennessee RiverLine Pilot Community.

**SECTION 3. Compliance with Open Meetings Act.**

The Colbert County Commission finds and determines that all formal actions relative to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of said body and that all deliberations, if any, which resulted in formal action, were in meetings open to the public in full compliance with applicable legal requirements.

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5. Approve amendment to FY 2022 Budget to allow for ARPA Premium Pay.
6. Approved request for payment for Absentee Election Manager to Mark Eady, in the amount of \$2,750.00.
7. Approved Request payment, Absentee Election Supplies to Election Manager Mark Eady, in the amount of \$225.04.
8. Approved request for payment for Absentee Election Management as follows: Chrystal Johnson: \$350.00, Cierra Abernathy: \$300.00, Jordan Thompson: \$300.00.
9. Approved request for accrued Annual Leave to be paid to Health Holcomb's Estate in the amount of \$8,841.60.
10. Approved Water Quality Litigation, Fee Agreement with Bedford, Rogers, Bowling & McReynolds; Friedman, Dazzio & Zulanis, P.C.; and Black & Hughston, P.C..
11. Approved County levies for new ABC license types as follows: Hospitality Management Program License -- \$1,000.00; Food or Beverage Truck License -- \$300.00.
12. Approved Bluffs at Bear Creek Phase 3 Plat.
13. Approved Times Daily Ad Purchase for Living Here Magazine in the amount of \$827.00.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

## REPORTS FROM STAFF

Chairman Isom announced that the Commission would hear reports from staff. Upon being recognized by the Chair, the following reports were heard by the Commission:

### **County Administrator:**

Administrator Roger Creekmore reported that the Sheriff's Department sent a letter stating effective July 1<sup>st</sup> Ricky Moore was hired as a Jailer with a starting pay of \$29,773.44. Tommy Oswalt has hired Kayla Brewer as an Appraisal Value Analysis for the Revenue Commissioners Office.

### **Chief Financial Officer:**

CFO April Eaton announced that the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the fiscal year has ended, she will present budget update at next Commission meeting. Department of Public Examiners has assigned an auditor to perform the 2021 Commission audit.

### **County Attorney:**

None

### **EMA Director:**

EMA Director Michael David reported that the 911 Autism Database Project has created an online data base for public to enter data and photos into. The heat advisory continues through the

end of the week. The head index is around 110 degrees and it is possible that it will be upgraded to an excessive heat warning by the end of the week. He asked the Commission consider using the 4 large community storm shelters for cooling centers if needed. He also reported that the AAVFD Conference is Friday and Saturday July 8-9 and that on Saturday night, there will be a formal banquet.

**County Engineer:**

Chief Engineer Jeremy Robison reported that they may start moving dirt next week at the Leighton Ball field in hopes of it beginning to fix the standing water problems they are having there. He also thanked the Lawrence County Road Department for the loan of a road reclaimer. The yearly chip seal projects are progressing and will be completed soon.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Jimmy Gardiner gave an invite to the St. Jude's Trail Ride Event.

Commissioner Barnes as Commission representative on the SSWDA reported on his knowledge of the ongoing mediation between the Tri-Cities Solid Waste Board and CWI.

Commissioner Bailey as Commission representative on Colbert Animal Services Board, reported on recent social media allegations concerning the director of CAS and stated they were not substantiated by witness statements by other CAS employees.

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COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 1

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COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 2

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COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 3

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COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 4

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COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 5

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CHAIRMAN