

Minutes of a Regular Meeting
of the
Colbert County Commission
11/15/2022

The Colbert County Commission met today in regular session at the Colbert County Courthouse. Chairman Barnes called the work session to order at 5:00 p.m. with the regular meeting following at 5:38 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 invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Barnes declared that a quorum was present for the purpose of the transaction of business.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD APPOINTEE REPORTS

None

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

None

PUBLIC HEARING

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Barnes announced that the business before the Commission was the approval of the consent agenda. Commissioner Mansell made motion to adopt and approve the matters placed on the consent agenda during the work session. The motion was duly seconded by Commissioner Bailey. Chairman Barnes 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 Nov 1, 2022 minutes and approved the same as written.
2. Approved payment of Nov 15, 2022 bills as presented by the Chief Financial Officer.
3. Approved award of Volunteer Fire Department EMS Scholarship to Renee Wyatt.
4. Approved payment to Judge Daniel Rosser for Certification of Voter List (43,563 registered voters) in the amount of \$2,178.15.
5. Approved payment to Circuit Clerk Mark R. Eady for services performed as Absentee Election Manager in the amount of \$5,750.00 (46 days × \$125/day).
6. Approved payment to Circuit Clerk Mark R. Eady for election supplies reimbursement in the amount of \$396.00.
7. Approved payment for absentee clerical assistance in the amount of \$1,225.00, payable as follows:

Name	Amount
Chrystal Johnson	\$375.00
Cierra Abernathy	\$850.00

A RESOLUTION ALLOCATING AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT REVENUE REPLACEMENT FUNDS TO CONDUCT AN EVALUATION OF CURRENT AND FUTURE NEEDS FOR THE COUNTY'S WATER SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE

WHEREAS, Colbert County, Alabama (the "County") has received an award of Coronavirus State and Local Physical Recovery Funds under the American Rescue Plan Act from the U. S. Department of the Treasury ("Treasury"), \$10,000,000 of which have been duly designated as revenue replacement funds ("ARPA revenue replacement funds") in accordance with the final rule issued by Treasury on January 6, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Colbert County Commission (the "Commission") is charged with ensuring the expenditure of the County's ARPA revenue replacement funds in accordance with state and federal law; and

WHEREAS, ARPA revenue replacement funds may be used for the purpose of providing governmental services, including costs that the County typically bears to provide the services to its citizenry; and

WHEREAS governmental services provided by the County include ensuring that its citizens have access to clean, safe water through the maintenance and improvement, as needed, of the County's water infrastructure system; and

WHEREAS, one of the costs associated with providing this governmental service is the assessment and prioritization of the County's current and future water system needs; and

WHEREAS, the County in the adoption of its 2022-23 budget set aside funds for needed upgrades to its water system; and

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to ensure that these budgeted funds are expended on legitimate and objectively prioritized water system needs; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has received a proposal from Engineers of the South ("EOS") to conduct a review of the County water system to identify current and future water system needs, to provide preliminary cost opinions regarding identified needs, and to provide recommendations to assist the County and prioritizing the implementation of projects to address identified needs; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has determined that EOS is qualified to provide these professional services; and

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to enter into the attached agreement with EOS, including Attachment A thereto, to provide these professional services at the proposed cost of \$58,800; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has determined that the cost of services to be provided by EOS is an eligible, necessary, and reasonable expenditure of the County's ARPA revenue replacement funds.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Colbert County Commission as follows:

1. The Commission hereby authorizes its Chair or his designee to enter into an agreement with EOS, in the form of the agreement attached to this Resolution, to provide the professional services described therein for a total cost of \$58,800 (the "Agreement").
2. The Commission hereby allocates up to \$58,800 of its ARPA revenue replacement funds to cover the agreed-upon cost for the services to be provided to the County pursuant to the Agreement.
3. Notwithstanding any provision of this Resolution to the contrary, ARPA revenue replacement funds allocated by this Resolution shall not be used for the following purposes:
 - a. To make deposits into a pension fund;
 - b. To service debts or replenish rainy day funds;
 - c. To satisfy judgments and settlements; or
 - d. 2 fund programs, services, or capital expenditures that undermine efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19.
4. Expenditure of ARPA revenue replacement funds, as authorized by this Resolution, shall be contingent on the continued appropriation and availability of ARPA revenue replacement funds for this purpose and in no event shall be used for expenditures not obligated by December 31, 2024, and expended by December 31, 2026.

12. Approved Kelley Group, Task Order #6, to proceed with work on the TVA Reservation Water Main.

13. Approved \$3,264.48 to be paid to Florence Hazmat for reimbursement based on a previous grant receipt and agreement.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Chairman Barnes 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 Revenue Commissioner has hired Amanda Lindsey as appraisal value analysis starting at grade 5 step 1. Mr. Tommy Mills will replace Blaine Melton as mental health officer at a compensation rate of \$600.00/Mo. He also reported that there was an accident involving a garbage truck which led to the termination of an employee. The truck is a potential total loss. Garbage Department will borrow a truck from Colbert County Board of Education until a new truck can be acquired. The LaGrange Volunteer Fire Department has requested a security light be placed at the Department, there was no objection from the Commissioner on this request, EMA Director will work on obtaining light.

Chief Financial Officer:

NR

County Attorney:

Attorney Black gave an update on the opioid litigation. Colbert County will receive \$199,573.22 over a period of 10 years. He also announced that Johnson and Johnson's litigation will be coming up as well.

EMA Director:

Chief EMA Director Michael Smith reported that in 2020, the Colbert County HazMat Team received an AMAS Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$10,500 of which a portion of the Hazmat training was paid for by the Florence Fire Department in the amount of \$3,264.48.

County Engineer:

County Engineer Jeremy Robison reported that work on Boy Scout Rd. has started.

NEW BUSINESS

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Bendall provided the Commissioners with a handout and discussed Dyslexia and other learning disabilities. Mr. Bendall provided statistics on the literacy level, and learning disabilities of persons incarcerated. He stated that as the new Justice Center is completed that he would like to see at least one classroom added, and that the Commission should be on the forefront of providing educational opportunities to inmates. All Commissioners concurred.

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Gardiner, seconded by Commissioner Bailey, and unanimously approved by voice vote, the meeting was adjourned.

CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 2

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 3

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 4

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 5

COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 6