

STATE OF ALABAMA)
COLBERT COUNTY)

Minutes of a Regular Meeting

of the

Colbert County Commission

06/02/2026

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 6:02 p.m., the time and place previously scheduled for such work session and regular meeting. All Commissioners answered “present” at the call of the roll, with the exception of Commissioner Gardiner who was absent. Commissioner Barnes 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

Chelsea Lawson with the Cramer Center addressed the Commission, thanking Commissioner Mansell and the entire Commission for supporting Child Abuse Awareness Month. She outlined the services the Cramer Center provides to the community, handling more than 1,000 cases per year, 25% of which are from Colbert County. Ms. Lawson pointed out the need for financial resources to provide these services and requested that the Commission consider increasing the budget appropriation for FY27 from \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00.

Bonita McCay spoke about the Leighton Community Clinic. Ms. McCay stated that it is a nonprofit health care clinic with no geographic qualifications for being seen at the clinic. They partner with the United Way, UNA’s Nursing program, and the Tri County Dental Society Study Group, where Commissioner Gardiner acts as a liaison and helps to obtain volunteer dentists for the program. The Florence Housing Authority provides facilities, as does the town of Leighton. Strong partnerships allow them to remain sustainable and offer doctor’s visits for \$20.00. The Clinic tries to keep costs affordable because its patients are generally low income, have little available to help with their health care needs, and often put off treatment for other pressing budgetary needs and end up in the emergency room. Keeping them out of the ER is one of the focuses of the Clinic, which provides a high level of care and dedication to its patients. The ribbon cutting will be on June 12.

Kelly Aday with the Colbert County Fire Department Association spoke about a statewide event coming up June 12 and June 13 at the Fairgrounds. There are more than 100 exhibits available and 70 different vendors. A state competition will be held Saturday morning. Aday thanked the Commission for what they do for the association.

BOARD APPOINTEE REPORTS

None

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

None

PUBLIC HEARING

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Isom announced that the business before the Commission was the approval of the consent agenda. Commissioner Mansell made a 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 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. Approved May 19, 2026, meeting minutes, with necessary changes, and waived reading of same.
2. Approved June 2, 2026, bills as presented by the County CFO.
3. Approved request for payment for absentee election supplies in the amount of \$137.09.
4. Approved requests for payment for absentee election management to Jordan Thompson in the amount of \$400.00, Lydia Haygood in the amount of \$350.00, and Blakely Green in the amount of \$350.00.
5. Approved request for payment to absentee election manager Mark Eady in the amount of \$8,050.00.
6. Approved the Funding Agreement for the MPO Paving Project.
7. Adopted the following resolution authorizing the purchase of real property located on Rose Trail (County Road #1) in the amount of \$35,000.00, authorizing the Chairman to execute all documents necessary to complete the purchase, and authorizing the County Attorney to proceed to close the transaction:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-0030

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED ON ROSE TRAIL (COUNTY ROAD #1) AND AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNTY ATTORNEY TO COMPLETE AND CLOSE THE TRANSACTION

WHEREAS, the Colbert County Commission is authorized to acquire real property for public purposes on behalf of Colbert County; and

WHEREAS, there has been made available for purchase by Colbert County a certain parcel of real property situated south and west of County Road #1 (Rose Trail) in Section 26, Township 2 South, Range 15 West, Colbert County, Alabama, consisting of approximately 0.90 acre and being a 250-foot by 300-foot irregular lot, identified on the records of the Colbert County Revenue Commissioner as Parcel No. 03-07-26-0-000-010.002.U1 (PIN 55359), and being a portion of the lands described in the deeds recorded at Deed Book 354, Page 668; Deed Book 408, Page 234; and Deed Book 88-14, Page 743, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Colbert County, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, the purchase price for said property is Thirty-Five Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$35,000.00); and

WHEREAS, the Commission has determined that the acquisition of said property is in the best interest of Colbert County and serves a public purpose.

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

1. The purchase by Colbert County of the above-described real property for the purchase price of Thirty-Five Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$35,000.00) is hereby authorized and approved.
2. The Chairman of the Colbert County Commission is hereby authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of the Commission, all deeds, agreements, instruments, and other documents necessary or appropriate to complete the purchase of the property.

3. The County Attorney is hereby authorized and directed to proceed to close the transaction and to take all actions necessary or appropriate to carry out the purpose and intent of this Resolution.

8. Approved the appropriation request from the Sheffield Library for Mental Health & Addiction, September 26, in the amount of \$500.00.
 9. Adopted the following resolution authorizing the expenditure of 287(g) funds for the repair of radios used by the Sheriff's Department in the amount of \$1,400.00:
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RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-0029

A RESOLUTION APPROVING EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS RECEIVED FOR COLBERT COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT PARTICIPATION IN ICE / 287(g) PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Sheriff of Colbert County entered into a Service Agreement with the United States Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement for specific enforcement actions; and

WHEREAS, the General Fund of Colbert County was paid a One Time Stipend / Reimbursement in the amount of \$130,000.00 as a result of the Colbert County Sheriff's Department participation in the 287(g) program; and

WHEREAS, the Colbert County Commission has responsibility for the allocation and expenditure of monies contained in the County General Fund; and

WHEREAS, Eric Balentine, the Sheriff of Colbert County, is requesting the expenditure of 287(g) funds for law enforcement purposes, specifically, the repair of radios used by the Sheriff's Department at a cost of \$1,400.00; and

WHEREAS, the Commission recognizes the necessity of maintaining reliable communications equipment for Sheriff's Department personnel to enhance public safety. Therefore, the Commission desires to approve the allocation of 287(g) funds for the repair of radios.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Colbert County Commission, having deemed that the repair of radios is a necessary, reasonable, and proportionate expenditure of the 287(g) funds, elects to allocate \$1,400.00 of the 287(g) funds for the repair of radios used by the Sheriff's Department.

10. Approved request from Probate Judge Daniel Rosser for certification of the registered voters list to be used by the absentee clerk for the runoff election, in the amount of \$2,262.45.

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:

County Administrator Creekmore informed the Commission that he would present appointments for the hospital board after verifying the expiration dates.

County CFO:

CFO Eaton reported that the auditors had started the county's FY25 federal audit.

County Attorney:

Absent

E-911/EMA Director:

No Report

County Engineer:

Engineer Robison informed the Commission that the Colbert County Road Department and the Lauderdale County Road Department were pursuing a joint “Safe Streets for All” grant through NACOLG using Garver Engineers. First Friday in Florence would be held this Friday night, and Garver Engineers would have a booth set up where attendees could scan a QR code to submit projects they would like to see done in the area. The QR codes were shared on the county’s Facebook pages, and Commissioner Bailey would announce it on her radio station, WZZA. Robison also reported that the second round of herbicide spraying had started. The weather had affected the timing of finishing the pavement markers, which were expected to be done by the end of the week. Robison also addressed concerns that Chairman Isom had regarding trees hanging over roads. Chairman Isom wanted to know what the County planned to do to stay on top of it. Robison informed him that he had only 17 employees in the Road Department and did not have a tree-cutting crew. He asked that any low-hanging limbs be reported to him, and the Road Department would address them.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Commissioner Mansell and seconded by Commissioner Bendall for approval of the purchase of a Times Daily “Living Here” advertisement in the amount of \$877.00. The Chair stated that the matter before the Commission was the purchase of this advertisement and called for any discussion. There being none, Chairman Isom asked the County Administrator to call the roll, and a roll call vote was had as follows:

District 1, Barnes	Nay
District 2, Mansell	Yea
District 3, Gardiner	Absent
District 4, Bailey	Nay
District 5, Bendall	Abstain
District 6, Isom	Abstain

The Chair announced that the motion to approve the advertisement purchase received one (1) vote in favor, two (2) votes against, and two (2) abstentions, and therefore the motion failed.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Barnes informed the Commission of an article he read in a wastewater publication stating that PFAS, PFOA, and PFOS had a limit of 0.4 parts per trillion, which was expected to remain at that level. He noted that the County may have to take steps to come into compliance at some point and that it was something for the Commission to be aware of.

Barnes also announced a Keep the Shoals Beautiful litter pickup scheduled in Ford City on Saturday from 8:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M., meeting at Ace Hardware. The trailer and all supplies would be available. He thanked the Commission for its support.

Commissioner Mansell thanked the Commission for its support with the ACCA board. He had decided to run for Vice President of the ACCA and would appreciate the Commission’s support. Mansell stated that he was willing to make a commitment on the state level and would appreciate the prayers and votes of confidence. Isom thanked Mansell for representing the county and stated that he believed Mansell had the votes of the Commission and the county.

Commissioner Bailey noted the passing of Colbert County icon and legendary singer Jimmy Hughes, who was known worldwide and was an inspiration to the Rolling Stones. She encouraged everyone to make a trip to Leighton and listen to the memorial recording on the wall.

With no further business to be conducted, the meeting was duly adjourned at 6:08 P.M.

COMMISSIONER BARNES, DIST. 1

COMMISSIONER MANSELL, DIST. 2

COMMISSIONER GARDINER, DIST. 3

COMMISSIONER BAILEY, DIST. 4

COMMISSIONER BENDALL, DIST. 5

CHAIRMAN ISOM, DIST. 6