

Cleburne County Commission Meeting
Cleburne County, Alabama
April 13, 2009

M I N U T E S

Regular Commission Meeting The Cleburne County Commission met in regular session on Monday, April 13, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Room, Room 207 of the County Courthouse, Heflin, Alabama.

Chairman Ryan Robertson called the meeting to order and open for business.

Roll Call There were present:
 Chairman Ryan Robertson
 Commissioner Joel Robinson
 Commissioner Tracy Lambert
 Commissioner Rex Nolen

There were absent:
 Commissioner Dwight Williamson

Public Comment from Citizens Mr. Harrison with Gadsden State Community College spoke with the Commission about National Community College Month for April 2009.

Commission Discussion The Commission addressed items from the consent agenda from the agenda of today's meeting: a) Approve the March 2009 Check Registry Listing, b) Approve March 2009 minutes as presented, c) Approve an alcohol license for Cheaha State Park Restaurant at 19644 Highway 281, Delta Alabama, d) Approve appointment of Pam Richardson, District 3 Representative, and Rebecca Forney and Keith Turner, District 4 representatives, to the Cleburne County Hospital Board, e) Approve to modify and amend the following resolution passed in the regular March meeting: Advertise for local legislation to introduce a bill to be entitled an act relating to Cleburne County, providing for additional court costs in civil and criminal cases in the county in order to provide additional financial support for county services, f) Approve to enter into an agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation to utilize the funds and authorize the Commission Ex-Officio Chairman to sign said agreement for resurfacing project on County Roads 23 and 36, g) Approve to declare May 3rd – 9th as County Government Week in Cleburne County, h) Approve to proclaim the month of April 2009 as National Community College Month in Alabama and to urge all Alabamians and business and industry leaders, who are committed to developing Alabama's workforce for the 21st century, to use and support their local community colleges, i) Approve to support the Sheriff in his application for up to three full time COPS funded law enforcement officers and authorize the Chairman, County Executive Officer and County Finance Officer to sign in the respective capacities in whatever way may be required in support of this grant initiative of the Sheriff. Resolutions c and h are moved to New Business of the agenda for today's meeting.

Resolution # 4242 **On a motion by Commissioner Tracy Lambert and seconded by Commissioner Rex Nolen, the Commission passed the following resolution:**

Be it resolved by the Cleburne County Commission to approve the following resolutions from the items of the consent agenda:

a) **The Commission resolves to approve the March 2009 Check Register Listing.**

b) **The Commission resolves to approve the March 2009 minutes as presented.**

d) **The Commission resolves to appoint the following individuals to the Cleburne County Hospital Board with terms lasting until April 2015:**

Pam Richardson - District 3 Representative

Rebecca Forney - District 4 Representative

Keith Turner - District 4 Representative

e) **The Commission resolves to modify and amend the similar resolution passed in the regular March meeting to read:**

STATE OF ALABAMA

COUNTY OF CLEBURNE

Notice is hereby given that a bill substantially as follows will be introduced in the next session of the Legislature of Alabama and application for its passage an enactment will be made to-wit:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Relating to Cleburne County, providing for additional court costs in civil and criminal cases in the county in order to provide additional financial support for county services.

Section 1. In addition to any court costs and fees now or hereafter authorized in Cleburne County, the Cleburne County Commission may impose by resolution of the Commission an additional fee in an amount not to exceed thirty-dollars (\$30) to be assessed and taxed as costs on each traffic case filed in the Circuit Court, District Court, or any municipal court in Cleburne County. These fees shall not be waived by any court unless all other fees, assessments, costs, fines, and charges associated with the case are waived.

Section 2. The additional fees when collected by the clerks or their collection officers of the courts shall be paid into the General Fund of Cleburne County.

Section 3. This act shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming a law.

f) **Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission recognizes the need to continually provide the citizens of Cleburne County with the best possible infrastructure available for the safety and economic advancement for the county;**

Whereas, County Roads 23 and 36 are important Major Collectors in the Cleburne County transportation system;

Whereas, the Federal Government, through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), has made available \$265,000 to be used on projects administered by the Alabama Department of Transportation.

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission intends to enter into the agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation, to utilize the ARRA funds as required on County Road 23 and County Road 36 to construct the resurfacing project.

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission agrees to enter into an agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation to utilize the funds and authorizes the Commission Ex-officio Chairman to sign said agreements and supporting documentation as required.

g) **Whereas, Alabama's 67 counties provide a variety of essential public services to communities and take seriously their responsibility to protect and enhance the health, safety and welfare of our citizens in sensible and cost-**

effective ways; and

Whereas, many of Alabama's local government initiatives directly touch the lives of Alabama's citizens on a daily basis, but many residents do not realize the impact of many of local government programs; and

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission has a duty to find and provide value added services to all its local residents; and

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission provides not only essential services to its county residents, but also programs such as:

The County road and bridge system; Public safety initiatives to include: Disaster preparedness, response and recovery, Funding of the Sheriff's Department & Jail, 911 emergency phone service and central dispatching services for all county response agencies for all residents; and The County Compliance Office and Semi-Annual Cleanup Program; Rural Transportation; The County Library; and Funding of the County Extension Office;

Whereas, National County Government Week has been celebrated since 1991 to raise public awareness and understanding about the roles and responsibilities of the nation's counties to meet the needs of the community; and

Be It Resolved, that the Cleburne County Commission declares May 3rd – 9th, 2009 County Government Week in Cleburne County.

h) Whereas, the County Sheriff's Department has an opportunity to obtain considerable federal funds in support of additional law enforcement officers through the Department of Justice COPS Program; and

Whereas, the COPS Program provides three years of funding of an officers salary and benefits under the condition that local government provide funding of a fourth year for each officer hired by the program prior to termination; and

Whereas, in order to meet the local financial requirements of the grant, the County Sheriff has agreed to operate these positions out of the Sheriff's Department Fund, funding any local requirements for salary and benefits for the four year period out of the same, held by the County Commission but allocated under the sole authority of the Sheriff; and

Whereas, in order to assist the Sheriff in obtaining sufficient funds required to meet this expense to the Sheriff's Department Fund, the Commission agrees to sweep all residual funds allocated to the Sheriff's General Fund budgets to the Sheriff's Department Fund at the end of FY09, FY10 and FY11;

Therefore, the Commission agrees to support the Sheriff in his application for up to three full time COPS funded law enforcement officers and authorizes the Chairman, County Executive Officer and County Finance Officer to sign in the respective capacities in whatever way may be required in support of this grant initiative of the Sheriff. Be it also understood that these COPS funded positions should be considered temporary with an eliminating sunset provision upon conclusion of the fourth year of the obligation and fulfillment of grant provisions.

All members present voted for the resolution and none against. The motion carried.

Commission
Discussion

The Commission addressed items of New Business from the agenda of today's meeting: a) Approve an alcohol license for Cheaha State Park Restaurant at 19644 Highway 281, Delta Alabama, b) Approve to proclaim the month of April 2009 as National Community College Month in Alabama and to urge all Alabamians and business and industry leaders, who are committed to developing Alabama's workforce for the 21st century, to use and support their local community colleges.

Resolution #
4243

On a motion by Commissioner Rex Nolen and seconded by Commissioner Joel Robinson, the Commission passed the following resolution:

**Be it resolved by the Cleburne County Commission to approve the following resolution for an alcohol license for Cheaha State Park Restaurant at 19644 Highway 281, Delta Alabama: Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission has the authority to establish general rules and regulations regarding the licensing of establishments which sell alcoholic beverages; and
Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission's only criteria at this time for approving or denying these applications is a general prohibition of licensing of such a facility if within 1,000 linear feet from a school or house of worship as measured via the 911 address system; and
Whereas, having received notification from the State of Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Board of an Alcoholic License being requested (Confirmation number 20090309154422223) by The Cheaha State Park Restaurant at 19644 Highway 281, Delta, Alabama; and
Whereas, no apparent violation of the County's criteria is evident and the application received from the Board appears in order; and
Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission approves an alcohol license for the said location. Commissioners Joel Robinson and Rex Nolen voted for the resolution and Commissioner Tracy Lambert voted against. The motion carried.**

Resolution #
4244

On a motion by Commissioner Rex Nolen and seconded by Commissioner Joel Robinson, the Commission passed the following resolution:

**Be it resolved by the Cleburne County Commission to approve the following resolution to proclaim the month of April 2009 as National Community College Month in Alabama and to urge all Alabamians and business and industry leaders, who are committed to developing Alabama's workforce for the 21st century, to use and support their local community colleges:
Whereas, Alabama's public community college system is the state's single largest system of public higher education and is Alabama's most affordable and accessible system of higher education; and
Whereas, ninety-five percent of the credit students enrolled are Alabama residents; and
Whereas, more than 500,000 students in Alabama's community colleges have utilized the Statewide Articulation and Transfer Reporting System to assure the transfer of their academic work toward bachelor's degrees at four-year institutions since the articulation agreement's reception in 1998; and
Whereas, the community college system remains committed to public service and works daily to help individuals reach their personal goals, and in the process, helps build communities; and**

Whereas, Alabama's 26 public community and technical colleges, including Marion Military Institute; Athens State University; the Alabama Industrial Development Training Institute; and the Alabama Technology Network provided a broad array of educational services for more than 300,000 persons in 2008, meeting diverse and changing local needs and fulfilling a vital function within their service areas; and

Whereas, the Alabama Community College System, partnering with business, industry, and government, provides customized training, job skills training, and workforce development services for more than 225,000 Alabama workers and job seekers, providing an essential contribution to the state's economic development; and

Whereas, Alabama's public community colleges are the primary source of specialized transition services and retraining for more than 10,000 employees who have been adversely affected and dislocated by industrial downsizing in 2008; and

Whereas, the Chancellor of the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education recommends this action:

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Cleburne County Commission hereby recognizes the accomplishments of Alabama's public community college system as it continues to live up to its mission of providing a unified system of institutions delivering academic education, adult education, and workforce development; and

Be It Further Resolved, That the Cleburne County Commission hereby proclaims April 2009 as National Community College Month in Alabama and urges all Alabamians and business and industry leaders, who are committed to developing Alabama's workforce for the 21st century, to use and support their local community colleges.

All members present voted for the resolution and none against. The motion carried.

Commission
Discussion

There were no reports from staff at this time.

There was no further business to come today before the Commission for the meeting.

Resolution #
4245

On a motion by Commissioner Joel Robinson and seconded by Commissioner Rex Nolen, the Commission passed the following resolution:

Be it resolved by the Cleburne County Commission to adjourn the meeting. All members present voted for the resolution and none against. The motion carried.

