

Cleburne County Commission Meeting  
Cleburne County, Alabama  
April 12, 2010

**M I N U T E S**

- Regular Commission Meeting The Cleburne County Commission met in regular session on Monday, April 12, 2010, 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 Dwight Williamson  
Commissioner Rex Nolen  
There were absent:  
None
- Public Comment from Citizens Mr. Joe Cavender with Gadsden State Community College was present to give the Commission a brief update and to ask them to endorse a resolution presented to recognize April 2010 as National Community College Month. Mr. Jerry Gibbs was present to thank Commissioner Dwight Williamson for the efforts that he has made for a solution on County Road 663.
- Commission Discussion The Commission addressed items from the consent agenda from the agenda of today's meeting: a) Approve the Commission meeting minutes of March 2010 as presented, b) Approve the March 2010 Check Registry Listing, c) Authorization for Cleburne County Highway Department to post "No thru trucks" signs on each end of County Road 49 (North of US 78), and south ends of County Roads 35 and 65, d) Authorizes the Commission Chairman to go into an agreement with the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences in order for the county to receive a pro rata share of the earmarked decedent transport funds allocated by the Alabama State Legislature for FY 2010, e) Approve to endorse and support the reported plans of the Alabama Scenic River Trail and wish the organization great success and God speed in its endeavors; encourages each of the counties, cities and towns along the trail to support and assist in the development of the Alabama Scenic River Trail and support and endorse the development of the addition of the Tallapoosa River Trail to the Alabama Scenic River Trail, f) Approve to acknowledge April 2010 as National Community College Month in Alabama and urge all Alabamians and business and industry leaders committed to developing Alabama's workforce for the 21<sup>st</sup> century to use and support their local two-year colleges, g) Authorize the Commission Chairman to go into an agreement with the City of Piedmont to provide maintenance of the Cleburne County section of the Chief Ladiga Trail with the provision that the cost be no more than \$4,800 per year, h) Authorize the County Administrator to solicit proposals for support and documentation services related to the CSEPP Phase I & II EAR Project, funded by the Army and serving the six-county CSEPP region.
- Resolution # 4298 On a motion by Commissioner Dwight Williamson and seconded by Commissioner Tracy Lambert, 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:**
- 4298-1 The Commission resolves to approve the March 2010 minutes as presented,**
- 4298-2 The Commission resolves to approve the March 2010 Check Registry Listing,**
- 4298-3 Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission recognizes the need to occasionally evaluate the infrastructure system of the county to better serve its citizens;**
- Whereas, the transportation network within Cleburne County is under the stress of increased traffic and heavy loads on a daily basis and the Cleburne County Commission must consider the preservation of the infrastructure for the benefit of the traveling public;**
- Whereas, the Code of Alabama, 1975, grants the Cleburne County Commission the legal authority to govern the type traffic that is permitted to use the infrastructure and must erect signage for such;**

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission, due to many public complaints and the damaged condition of County Roads 35, 49, and 65, has noted the need to preserve the public roads of the county;

Therefore, in the interest of serving the traveling public, the Cleburne County Commission desires to restrict thru truck traffic on Cleburne County Roads 35, 49, and 65 by prohibiting trucks from utilizing the routes as a short cut, due to the fact that access is available on the existing State/Federal Highway System. By passing of this resolution, the Commission intends to have "No thru Trucks" signs placed on each end of County Road 49 (North of US 78), as well as the south ends of County Road #35 and County Road #65.

4298-4 The Commission hereby authorizes its Chairman to go into agreement with the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences in order for the County to receive a pro rata share of the earmarked decedent transport finds allocated by the Alabama State Legislature for FY 2010.

4298-5 Whereas, the Alabama Scenic River Trail, an Alabama unincorporated nonprofit association, has brought to the attention of this Commission the possible development of the Tallapoosa River as a river trail for small boats along Tallapoosa River from a beginning near Muscadine in Cleburne County, Alabama, passing through Cleburne, Randolph, Chambers, Tallapoosa, Elmore, Macon and Montgomery Counties, to the place where the Tallapoosa River intersects the Coosa River near Wetumpka, Alabama in Montgomery and Elmore Counties and at that point to the Alabama Scenic River Trail; and

Whereas, the County Commission of Cleburne County, Alabama applauds the establishment of a 631 Mile River Trail developed by the Alabama Scenic River Trail Association for Small Boats along the Coosa, Alabama, Mobile and Ten-saw Rivers and Mobile Bay; and

Whereas, said Tallapoosa River Trail will be about 215 miles long and will connect to and expand the influence of the 631 Mile Alabama Scenic River Trail; and

Whereas, this Trail will be of substantial benefit to the owners of land near the rivers by, among other things, the following:

- Increasing tourism along the Trail; and
- Enhancing industrial and commercial development; and
- Developing better recreational facilities on our rivers, and making them accessible to, more inviting to and safer for family outings;
- Making known the facilities along the rivers such as sporting goods stores, outfitters, gasoline stations, put in and take out paths, ramps and roads intersecting the Trail; and
- Advertising this state's wonderful and storied history in such places as Fort Strother, Fort Toulouse, Fort Mims, Cahaba and other historical places of renown or which deserve to be of such renown; and

Whereas, all of the above will necessarily inure not only to the benefit of this County but likewise to the benefit of all Counties, Cities, towns and communities along or near the Trail and, indeed, the entire State of Alabama;

Now, Therefore, this the County Commission of Cleburne County, Alabama does hereby:

1. Endorse and support the reported plans of the Alabama Scenic River Trail and wishes that organization great success and God speed in its endeavors;
2. Encourages each of the Counties, Cities and Towns along the Trail to support and assist in the development of the Alabama Scenic River Trail;
3. Endorses and supports the development of the addition of the Tallapoosa River Trail to the Alabama Scenic River Trail

4298-6 WHEREAS, Alabama's 26 public community and technical colleges, Athens State University, the Alabama Industrial Training Institute, and the Alabama Technology Network provide a broad array of education services to more than a quarter million people annually; and

**WHEREAS, the two-year college system works in partnership with business, industry, and government to provide job-specific training assistance and economic development; and**

**WHEREAS, through these services, Alabama's two-year colleges meet diverse and changing local needs, and fulfill a vital function within their service areas; and**

**WHEREAS, ninety-five percent of the credit students enrolled are Alabama residents; and**

**WHEREAS, Alabama's public two-year 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, more than 379,000 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 inception in 1998; and**

**WHEREAS, the two-year 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, The Alabama Community College System provides customized training, job skills training, and workforce development services for more than 60,000 Alabama workers and job seekers, serving more than 700 Alabama businesses and industries through their technical assistance and training efforts; and**

**WHEREAS, Alabama's public two-year colleges are the primary source of specialized transition services and training for employees adversely affected and dislocated by industrial downsizing and workforce reductions; and**

**WHEREAS, Gadsden State Community College opened its Cherokee Campus in Fall of 2008 to serve the students of Cherokee County and the surrounding communities; and**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Cleburne County Commission hereby recognizes the accomplishments of Alabama's public two-year college system as it continues to live up to its mission of providing accessible quality education opportunities, promoting economic growth, and enhancing the quality of life for the people of Alabama; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Cleburne County Commission hereby acknowledges April as National Community College Month in Alabama and urges all Alabamians and business and industry leaders committed to developing Alabama's workforce for the 21<sup>st</sup> century to use and support their local two-year colleges.**

**4298-7 The Commission hereby authorizes its Chairman to go into an agreement with the City of Piedmont to provide maintenance of the Cleburne County section of the Chief Ladiga Trail with the provision that the cost be no more than \$4,800 per year.**

**4298-8 The Commission hereby authorizes the County Administrator to solicit proposals for support and documentation services related to the CSEPP Phase I & II EAR Project, funded by the Army and serving the six-county CSEPP region.**

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

Commission  
Discussion

Reports from staff were as follows: A) County Administrator Steve Swafford gave the Commission an update, B) County Engineer Shannon Robbins updated the Commission on current projects and asked the Commission to consider adding to the agenda of today's meeting the discussion of entering into an agreement with the Cleburne County Soil and Water Conservation District to perform the various maintenance activities needed on the access road and parking lot of Dryden's Mill recreational area. C) County Attorney Doug Ghee reported to the Commission that has received notice from the United State Justice Department that the voting house changes are approved.

Resolution  
# 4299

**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 add to the agenda of today's meeting the discussion of entering into an agreement with the Cleburne County Soil and Water Conservation District to perform the various maintenance activities needed on the access road and parking lot of Dryden's Mill recreational area. All members present voted for the resolution and none against. The motion carried.

**Resolution # 4300** 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 authorize the following resolution to enter into an agreement with the Cleburne County Soil and Water Conservation District to perform the various maintenance activities needed on the access road and parking lot of Dryden's Mill recreational area:

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission recognizes the need to occasionally assist various organizations within the county to better serve its citizens;

Whereas, the Dryden's Mill recreational area was established for the benefit of the public and is overseen by the Cleburne County Soil and Water Conservation District;

Whereas, the Dryden's Mill recreational area and access road are in need of minor maintenance to preserve the infrastructure and allow better access to the facilities;

Whereas, the Cleburne County Soil and Water Conservation District has secured funding for minor repairs and maintenance to the access road and parking lot, and desires to have Cleburne County Highway Department forces perform the required work;

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission enters into an agreement with the Cleburne County Soil and Water Conservation District to perform the various maintenance activities needed on the access road and parking lot. The required materials, man hours, and equipment time shall be reimbursed at the normally charged rates and Blue Book rental rates as charges in other work activities for various entities within the county.

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

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

**Resolution # 4301** 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.