

Cleburne County Commission Meeting Minutes
Regular Commission Meeting March 9, 2021
Cleburne County Mountain Center

Roll Call

Present:

Chairman Ryan Robertson
Commissioner Laura Cobb
Commissioner Emmett Owen
Commissioner Terry Hendrix
Commissioner Roger Hill

Absent:

None

Comments from Citizens

Casey Johnson-

Ms. Johnson expresses her concerns to the Commission about CR618 being very hazardous and asks the Commission to consider closing an entrance to the road that connects off of CR63.

Commissioner Cobb asks if there are any other landowners on the road.

Ms. Johnson informs the Commission that the only other landowners are willing to sign any documents necessary to help close the road.

County Engineer Lee Estes states there would have to be enough room on the road for necessary vehicles to turn around.

Chairman Ryan Robertson states there would have to be a public hearing to go any further on the closure.

Mr. Linwood Butler-

Mr. Linwood introduces himself to the Commission as the District Ranger for the US Forest Service Talladega office.

Consent Agenda

The Commission passes the March 2021 Consent Agenda including:

Action as related to **Resolution #5109- 1-6** March 2021 Consent Agenda:

Motion made by Commissioner Laura Cobb, Seconded by Commissioner Terry Hendrix

In Support: Commissioners Laura Cobb, Emmett Owen, Roger Hill, and Terry Hendrix

In Opposition: None

Motion Passed

Resolution #5109-1

The Cleburne County Commission hereby resolves to approve the minutes of:

February 9, 2021

as presented.

Resolution #5109-2

The Cleburne County Commission recognizes the following board appointment statuses as of this meeting:

Resignations:

Vacancies:

Water Authority
Water Authority

Danny Mobley
Roger Hand

Board Reappointments:

Water Authority
Water Authority

Danny Mobley
Roger Hand

Resolution #5109-3

Whereas, Section 28-3A-4, Code of Alabama requires the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to collect all county license fees for all new license applications and renewed licenses; and

Whereas, the Commission must periodically acknowledge the local rates as set by the Commission.

Therefore, the Commission establishes the FY 2021 - 2022 county rates as being equivalent to those fees charged as a "State License Fee" or in the case of there being a maximum county fee that is less than the "State License Fee", the county fee shall be the maximum amount permissible by law.

Resolution #5109-4

Whereas, the Commission has previously passed a Continuity of Operations Plan for the duration of the State of Emergency declared as a result of the COVID-19 situation or until the March meeting, whichever comes first; and

Whereas, we have reached the March meeting and the State of Emergency is still active.

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission extends the Continuity of Operations Plan for the duration of the State of Emergency, or the Commission's April meeting, whichever comes first

Resolution #5109-5

Whereas, Commissioner Terry Hendrix has been approached by the Town of Ranburne for assistance in purchasing a flag pole, recreational batting cages, and fence repairs; and

Whereas, Commissioner Hendrix has agreed to apply \$5000 from his discretionary funds for said purchases., with \$2500 to be used for the purchase of the flag pole and \$2500 to be used for the recreational batting cages and fence repairs

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission authorizes this application of funds, recognizing it as having a valid public purpose, being in agreement with the County's Discretionary Fund Policy adopted September 16th, 2013, and a valid use of the earmarked Tobacco Tax that funds the Commissioner's discretionary allocations.

Resolution #5109-6

WHEREAS, the Cleburne County Commission must from time to time seek bids for certain supplies and equipment in order to ensure efficient and effective operations of county initiatives while ensuring all state purchasing laws are abided by.

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission authorizes the County Engineer to seek bids for the following annual maintenance supplies:

Bituminous Treatment Resurface
Traffic Stripe
Microsurface
Inplace Asphalt

New Business:

A. Preliminary Study for Pinhoti Trail

Action as related to **Resolution #5110** Preliminary Study for Pinhoti Trail

Motion made by Commissioner Emmett Owen Seconded by Commissioner Laura Cobb

Commissioner Laura Cobb asks to table.

In Support: Commissioners Laura Cobb, Emmett Owen, Roger Hill, and Terry Hendrix

In Opposition: None

Commission tables resolution until a later date.

Resolution #5110

Whereas, Commissioner Owen is in support of pursuing the development of a new, four-mile, trail spur that would connect the Pinhoti Trail to the Cleburne County Mountain Center; and

Whereas, he believes the extension of the trail will promote economic development in Cleburne County and promote a benefit to the County, being a valid public purpose, so a request is made to the Commission to consider allocating up to \$25,000 for the preliminary study.

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission authorizes the Chairman to sign all necessary documents after having been reviewed by the County Attorney.

Furthermore, the Cleburne County Commission authorizes the County Administrator to adjust the Administrative Budget as needed for the study up to \$25,000.

B. Construct Storage Shed for EMA Equipment

Action as related to **Resolution #5111** Construct Storage Shed for EMA Equipment

Motion made by Commissioner Emmett Owen, Seconded by Commissioner Laura Cobb

In Support: Commissioners Laura Cobb, Emmett Owen, Roger Hill, and Terry Hendrix

In Opposition: None

Amended Resolution passes.

Resolution #5111

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission has concerns about the maintenance and housing of EMA equipment; and

Where, Emergency Manager Crystal Cavender has voiced her concerns that she lacks a readily accessible facility to safely store and maintain her EMA equipment at the Cleburne County Mountain Center; and

Whereas, Commissioner Owen believes the construction of a 30 x 30 metal building may be the most appropriate facility to house said equipment.

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission allocates up to \$8,500 for the construction of a storage shed at the Cleburne County Mountain Center for the purpose of housing EMA equipment.

Commissioner Owen asks to amend the resolution to reduce the amount of the allocation.

Commissioner Cobb is in support of the amendment.

Commissioner Hill asks about the possibilities of having the building fully enclosed, rather than 3-sides.

Commissioner Cobb prefers an open facility for accessibility.

Commissioner Hendrix asks if this will be purchased from the EMA Budget.

County Administrator Kim Brown informs the Commission that the funds are available as the Cares Act reimbursement has funded salaries which had not been anticipated. She tells them that the EMA Budget will need to be amended next month.

Reports from staff:

- A.** County Administrator Kim Brown informs the Commission that Search and Rescue has the original title for the EMA box truck and they are willing to transfer it over to the Commission with the understanding that the equipment is to be used for emergency services. She also informs the Commission that the federal audit will start very soon.
- B.** County Engineer Lee Estes informs the Commission the road department has been working on patching and grading roads.
- C.** County Attorney Jason Odom informs the Commission that he has emailed them an Ethics opinion concerning purchases from Cleburne County Parts / NAPA. He has not received a response from the February AG Opinion yet.

Commissioner Owen makes a motion to add to New Business to use up to \$3,000 of his discretionary funds for Library work.

Commissioner Cobb seconds motion.

C. Library patio work

Action as related to **Resolution #5112** Library patio work

Motion made by Commissioner Emmett Owen, Seconded by Commissioner Laura Cobb

In Support: Commissioners Laura Cobb, Emmett Owen, Roger Hill, and Terry Hendrix

In Opposition: None

Resolution #5112

The Cleburne County Commission authorizes \$3,000 from Commissioner Owen's discretionary fund for patio work at the Library, recognizing it as having a valid public purpose, being in agreement with the County's Discretionary Fund Policy adopted September 16th, 2013, and a valid use of the earmarked Tobacco Tax that funds the Commissioner's discretionary allocations.

County Attorney Jason Odom reminds the Commission that a resolution is necessary to accept the Search and Rescue donation.

Commissioner Hendrix is concerned about their stipulations.

County Attorney Jason Odom is certain that he, along with the County Administrator Kim Brown and Emergency Manager Crystal Cavender, can come to an understanding with Search and Rescue by the April meeting.

The Commission agrees to revisit the topic at a later date.

Old Business:

There is no Old Business to attend to this meeting.

Action as related to **Resolution #5113**

Motion made by Commissioner Emmett Owen, Seconded by Commissioner Laura Cobb

In Support: Commissioners Laura Cobb, Emmett Owen, Roger Hill, and Terry Hendrix

In Opposition: None

Motion Passed

Resolution #5113

Meeting Adjourned.

Certified by:

Ryan Robertson – Chairman

Laura Cobb – District 1

Emmett Owen – District 2

Terry Hendrix – District 3

Roger Hill – District 4