

**Cleburne County Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**Regular Commission Meeting December 8, 2020**  
**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:**

**A. Pete Conroy**

Mr. Conroy is here to ask the Commission to consider pursuing funding for developing a new spur to the Pinhoti trail.

**B. Jacki Lowry**

Ms. Lowry speaks about her position with Alabama Power and wants the Commission to know she is still very present and will help answer any questions about future projects.

**Consent Agenda**

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The Commission passes the December 2020 Consent Agenda including:

Action as related to **Resolution #5082- 1-3 & 5-7** December 2020 Consent Agenda:

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 #5082-1**

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

November 12, 2020 & November 30, 2020

as presented

**Resolution #5082-2**

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

<b>Resignations:</b>	None
<b>Vacancies:</b>	None
<b>Board Appointments:</b>	None

**Resolution #5082-3**

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 December meeting, whichever comes first; and

Whereas, we have reached the December meeting and the State of Emergency is still active; and

Whereas, the CDC has published sanitizing and disinfecting guidelines for public buildings; and

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission believes the COOP should be amended to include those recommendations.

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission amends the policy to include recommendations for sanitizing and disinfecting and extends the Continuity of Operations Plan for the duration of the State of Emergency, or the Commission's January meeting, whichever comes first.

**Resolution #5082-5**

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission is authorized to declare property as surplus when said property is deemed to be of no further use or value to the County; and

Whereas, the County has identified the following items which have been deemed to be of no further use to the County:

- 1997 Dodge 3500 Van
- 1999 Dodge 1500 Pickup
- 1996 Dodge SLT 1500 Pickup
- 2007 Ford Crown Vic
- 2010 Ford Crown Vic
- 2013 Ford Taurus
- 2010 VW Jetta
- 2003 Ford F350 Flat Bed
- International Dump Truck

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission declares the equipment to be surplus property and authorizes the County Administrator to oversee the disposition processes.

**Resolution #5082-6**

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission has been asked to update the operating hours of the Mountain Center to align with the operating hours of other county buildings.

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission approves to establish the operating hours of 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday for the Cleburne County Mountain Center.

**Resolution #5082-7**

Whereas, the Cleburne Engineer has solicited bids for the County Road 71 Truss Bridge; and

Whereas, the County Engineer has made his recommendations.

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission hereby awards the bids as follows:

**The Bridge Builders of Alabama**

**New Business:**

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**A. Beason Mill Property**

Action as related to **Resolution #5083** Beason Mill Property

Motion made by Commissioner Emmett Owen, Seconded by Commissioner Terry Hendrix

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

In Opposition: None

**Resolution #5083**

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission currently owns a .12 acre piece of real property with a small building that has previously been used as the Beason Mill Vote House; and

Whereas, the property is no longer being used by the Cleburne County Commission for election purposes; and

Whereas, the original owners have approached the County about transferring the property back, since it is no longer needed, and the original transfer in 1952 contained a reversionary clause to be triggered upon the building no longer being used as a polling location.

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission authorizes that the aforementioned property be deeded and transferred to the original owner, Ms. Alice Sue Lee Brown and that the Chairman is authorized to sign said conveyance to be prepared by the County Attorney.

**B. Letter of Support**

Action as related to **Resolution #5084** Letter of Support

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 #5084**

Whereas, Chairman Robertson has been approached by a representative of JSU concerning the Commission's support in pursuing the development of a new, four mile, trail spur that would connect the Pinhoti to the Cleburne County Mountain Center; and

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission believes the extension of the trail will promote economic development in Cleburne County.

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission authorizes the Chairman to send a letter of support as requested by JSU, upon same being approved by the County Attorney.

*Commissioner Terry Hendrix asks if the resolution is to just approve to send the letter*

*Chairman Robertson answers affirmatively.*

### **C. Employee Travel**

Action as related to **Resolution #5085** Employee Travel

Motion made by Commissioner Terry Hendrix, Seconded by Laura Cobb

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

In Opposition: None

### **Resolution #5085**

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission has restricted employee travel during the FY21 Budget year; and

Whereas, the Assistant Engineer is in need of a Bridge Inspection Recertification course; and

Whereas, the aforementioned travel has not been preapproved during the FY21 Budget planning process.

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission approves the travel expense of the Assistant Engineer for his Bridge Inspection Recertification Course.

### **D. Tax Exemption**

Action as related to **Resolution #5086** Tax Exemption

Motion made by Commissioner Emmett Owen, Seconded by Roger Hill

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

In Opposition: Commissioner Terry Hendrix

### **Resolution #5086**

Whereas, Act No. 2012-256 authorizes the County Commission to provide for an exemption of county sales and use taxes on covered items as defined in the Act and in the Severe Weather Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday Rule 810-6-3-.66; and

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission has affirmatively voted to grant the exemption of county sales and use taxes on purchases covered by the aforementioned Act and Rule during the last full weekend in February; and,

Whereas, ALA. CODE 11-51-210(e) (1975) requires that the County Commission notify the Alabama Department of Revenue of any new local tax or amendment to an existing local tax levy at least 30 days prior to the effective date of the change;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Cleburne County Commission does hereby provide for an exemption of the county sales and use tax on purchases of items covered by Act No. 2012-256 and Rule 810-6-3-.66 beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, February 26, 2021, and ending at twelve midnight on Sunday, February 28, 2021.

**Furthermore**, be it resolved that a copy of this resolution be immediately forwarded to the Alabama Department of Revenue in compliance with ALA. CODE 11-51-210(e) (1975).

*Commissioner Emmett Owen thinks that senior citizens and low-income families would benefit from the exemption.*

#### **Reports from staff:**

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- A. County Administrator Kim Brown updates the Commission about the lighting grant savings. She gives the Commission fund balances for FY20 close out, and she reminds them of the upcoming December 30 CARES ACT expiration.
- B. County Engineer Lee Estes is not present.
- C. County Attorney Jason Odom has no updates.

#### **Old Business:**

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There is no Old Business to attend to this meeting.

#### **Discussion Items from the Chairman and Commission:**

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Commissioner Emmett Owen talks about wanting to build an extra office space for the courthouse to allow for better social distancing.

County Attorney Jason Odom informs the Commission depending on which office is moved there will have to be security put in place, especially for Probate Judge Ryan Robertson.

Chairman Ryan Robertson asks the Commission to consider using Chulifanee Baptist for a voting site in the future.

Action as related to **Resolution #5087**

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

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

In Opposition: None

Motion Passed

**Resolution #5087**

Meeting Adjourned.

Certified by:

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Ryan Robertson – Chairman

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Laura Cobb – District 1

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Emmett Owen – District 2

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Terry Hendrix – District 3

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Roger Hill – District 4