

**Cleburne County Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**Regular Commission Meeting April 12, 2022**  
**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**

**Fred Couch**

Mr. Couch spoke to the Commission about putting a primitive campsite at County Road 18 bridge where the only access would be from the water. He told the commission that there are 389 campsites mostly on the river.

*Commissioner Hendrix asks County Attorney about the liability.*

*Mr. Odom states there would be no guarantees, but he will look into the issue.*

**Consent Agenda**

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The Commission passes the April 2022 Consent Agenda including:

Action as related to **Resolution #5231 1-4** April 2022 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 #5231-1**

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

March 8, 2022

as presented.

**Resolution #5231-2**

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

**Vacancies:**

DHR Board (2)

**Resolution #5231-3**

Whereas, the Cleburne County Administrator has requested the purchase of a laptop, to be used only for County business;

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission recognizes the need for a laptop, to allow for access to the server and continue work during travel times or as necessary;

Whereas, a quote has been received, for approximately \$1250, for purchase from the state bid list;

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission agrees to the purchase of the laptop to be used by the County Administrator.

**Resolution #5231-4**

WHEREAS, Cleburne County Commission in Cleburne County, Alabama wishes to submit a request to the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) for a Formal Amendment to CDBG CY-CM-PF-20-009 For the Cleburne County Water Authority to conduct a water system extension: and

Whereas, official authorization of the Formal Amendment is required, and

Whereas, no additional matching funds will be required to accomplish the activities associated with the Formal Amendment, and

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission understands that the proposed amendment activities must also be properly carried out in a timely and expeditious manner in order to complete the project, and

Now therefore be it resolved, by the Cleburne County Commission that the above Formal Amendment be adopted and that Ryan Robertson, Chairman is hereby authorized and empowered to sign all necessary forms and assurances related to the Formal Amendment, and

Be it further resolved, that the Cleburne County Commission agrees to maintain the proposed improvements and covenants that it has an adequate number of employees and equipment to maintain the activities in an appropriate manner.

**New Business:**

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**A. Community College Month**

Action as related to **Resolution #5232** Community College Month

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

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

In Opposition: None

**Resolution #5232**

WHEREAS, Alabama's public community college system is the State's largest system of higher education and is Alabama's most affordable and accessible system of higher education; and

WHEREAS, the three foundational pillars of the Alabama Community College System – academic transfer, workforce development and adult education – enable ACCS to make a positive impact on people served annually and the great people of the State of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, a unified network of 24 community and technical colleges and more than 130 locations, ACCS is firmly planted within easy reach of every community in the state; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, the Alabama Community College System offered 303 degree and certificate programs, served more than 144,000 people (95% of them being from Alabama) and awarded 34,480 credentials; and

WHEREAS, Gadsden State Community College is a part of ACCS serving over 4,000 students in Calhoun, Cleburne, Cherokee, Etowah, and St. Clair counties and offering 70-plus programs that require two years or less to complete and prepares graduates for direct entry into the workforce; and

WHEREAS, Gadsden State Community College offers dual enrollment opportunities through the ACE Institute, which provides high-achieving students with rigorous courses beyond those offered at the secondary level, increasing college access to those who would not otherwise be college bound and preparing them for high-wage, high-demand occupations; and

WHEREAS, Gadsden State Community College and ACCS utilize the Statewide Articulation and Transfer Reporting System to assure the transfer of academic work toward a bachelor's degree at four-year institutions since the articulation agreement's inception in 1998; and

WHEREAS, Gadsden State Community College offers adult education programs, skills training, and continuing education to working-age adults to enhance their skills and earn gainful employment; and

WHEREAS, Gadsden State Community College remains committed to its mission of preparing students from all backgrounds for success through quality education, innovative workforce development and inclusive community and global engagement; and

WHEREAS, April is recognized nationally as Community College Month; and

WHEREAS, ACCS Chancellor Jimmy Baker and GSCC President Dr. Kathy Murphy recommend this action:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Cleburne County Commission hereby recognizes the accomplishments of Alabama's public community College system, including Gadsden State, as it continues to fulfill its unique and distinctive mission of providing a unified system of institutions delivering accessible, affordable, and superior educational opportunities and workforce

training and services to all of Alabama, yielding a well-educated, productive citizenry and a better prepared workforce; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Cleburne County Commission hereby proclaims April as National Community College Month in Alabama and urges all Alabamians and business industry leaders, who are committed to developing Alabama's academic transfer and workforce for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, to use and support local community colleges.

### **B. Fuel Tanks**

Action as related to **Resolution #5233** Fuel Tanks

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

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

In Opposition: None

*Commissioner Cobb states it would have to be controlled of who and when can access.*

*Commissioner Owen requests that it be covered for weather purposes.*

### **Resolution #5233**

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission realizes the fuel cost due to inflation;

Whereas, fuel can be purchased at a lower price, if purchased in large quantities;

Whereas, having a fuel tank owed by the County could possibly save the County money;

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission hereby asks that County Engineer, Lee Estes, research fuel tank design options and the cost involved.

### **C. Litter Pick Up**

Action as related to **Resolution #5234** Litter Pick Up

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

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

In Opposition: Commissioner Roger Hill

*Commissioner Hendrix asks for the wording to say all "paved roads" rather than "all roads".*

*Commissioner Owen asks to check to see about using ARPA money.*

**Resolution #5234**

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission recognizes that there is a serious problem with litter piling up on some County Roads;

Whereas, the County Engineer was asked to prepare specifications and obtain proposals for bids concerning litter pickup;

Whereas, the County Engineer previously stated that he had gotten a quote of \$40,000 for 160 miles, picked up two times or \$60,000 for 175 miles (all roads) picked up once;

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission resolves to have litter picked up along all County roads, one time, at a cost of \$60,000.

*Commissioner Hendrix states there is a \$15,000 bid for vehicle maintenance and that the Sheriff refuses to use Engineer Maintenance unless they have a certified mechanic. He also updates the Commission on speaking with Sonny Brasfield about the watersheds.*

*Commissioner Owen updates the Commission about the black Explorer and states that it needs to possibly have a new transmission.*

*The Commission suggested that County Administrator Lisa Copeland drive the Black Explorer at least once a week once it is fixed.*

**Reports from staff:**

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- A. County Administrator Lisa Copeland no updates.
- B. County Engineer Lee Estes no updates.
- C. County Attorney Jason Odom has no updates.

**Old Business:**

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There is no Old Business to discuss.

No further Old Business to attend to this meeting.

Action as related to **Resolution #5235**

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

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

In Opposition: None

Motion Passed

**Resolution #5235**

The meeting is 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