

The Geneva County Commission met in regular session on Monday, January 8, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. at the Geneva County Courthouse in Geneva, Alabama.

Commission Chairman Fred Hamic called the meeting to order and welcome guests and media present. Commissioner Hatton opened the meeting with prayer. Chairman Hamic led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no citizens requesting to make public comment.

There were no elected officials requesting to make public comment.

Chairman Hamic called the roll and the following members were present: Commissioners Bryan Hatton, Toby Seay, Sandy Hammer and Todd Brannon. The County Attorney, Phil Eldridge; County Engineer, Justin Barfield; Chief Administrative Officer, Marietta Webster and EMA Director, Misty Wise were also present. The following business was transacted:

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approve Minutes of December 11, 2017. Commissioner Seay made a motion to approve the minutes December 11, 2017. Commissioner Hammer seconded the motion. County Attorney requested the addition of one word on page 3. Vote was 4-0 with correction.
2. NRCS: Mr. Vaughan presented a request concerning the county assuming the cost of their employee at NRCS as an exempt employee through the county with benefit because of their funding and what they put back into the county. Attorney Eldridge and commissioners have looked over the contract request and made corrections on requirements that the commission agree with. County Attorney noted that his opinion given in an earlier meeting stood that he was of the opinion that she was a State employee not a county employee and an Attorney General's Opinion it would take several months. Commissioner Brannon made a motion for Geneva County to assume the cost of the NRCS employee with benefits which will do away with the budget appropriation of \$25,000 each year. Commissioner Seay seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.
3. Commissioner Hatton made a motion to allow Attorney Christie Crowe to speak concerning the opioid epidemic. A group of lawyers are trying to help the cities and counties by litigation against companies that make and distribute the drugs. If such litigations are won the funds will pay the lawyers back and go to the counties and cities to help with programs and law enforcement. Commissioner Hammer made a motion to table until Attorney has time to go over the papers. Commissioner Seay seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.
4. Proclamations: N/A
5. Bids: N/A

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Jail Construction: Sheriff stated that he had met with the architects at which time several changes were made. The architect will be coming back for a meeting with jail concerning the layout. The East Campbell Avenue road that was vacated has a section on the east end at the intersection of Borland and Campbell that was not vacated and needs to be done. Discussion continued with whether there is a need to vacate the section of Borland that runs behind the new jail. Commissioner Seay made a motion to allow the County Attorney to draw up papers requesting the east end at intersection at Borland to be vacated by the City of Geneva to complete the process of getting the road available. Commissioner Hatton seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.
2. Courthouse: Mrs. Webster stated that the problem of the light covers in the Courtroom will cost over seventy dollars each to have special made and if they do not fit we will have to keep them. Another solution was given by the vendor to take the new magnetic lights that were installed out and use in another area and order the all in one light fixture for just the courtroom which has a five-year warranty and will only require the removal of the old units. The new light being used elsewhere will not increase cost since we have not ordered all the lights for the courthouse. This would be a wash situation since we can use what is there somewhere else and have a better all in one unit with no covers to worry about.
3. Board Appointments: Commissioner Seay made a motion to reappoint Tony Clemmons to the E-911 board. Commissioner Hatton seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.
4. Bids: Pipe Bids were readdressed. County Engineer stated that he had done a spreadsheet to compare cost as requested and that all companies have certain pipe size that they can provide at the best cost therefore all companies will be used for this bid.

REPORTS OF STAFF:

Sheriff: Sheriff Helms stated that there have been issues with the jail that has kept maintenance busy. Sheriff noted that the jail had a visit from PREA who gave him several issues that had to be added or updated such as more cameras.

Reported that the trash pickup is being handled with quite a lot of trash being picked up.

Sheriff wanted to bring up the issue of several Voting Houses that need some repair before the next election.

County Administrator: Nothing new to report.

County Engineer: Noted that the bids have been sent out for the construction on road at Industrial Park.

The bridge contract on Emmett Bridge is around 60 percent with the ALFO bridge still having prep work done by the county.

Bush hogging should be completed within the next couple of weeks.

There will traffic delays due to paving on 52 to Hartford.

Commissioner Hatton made a motion to sell two 2500 Chevrolet trucks at auction. Commissioner Brannon seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

County Engineer stated that the road issue concerning a fence has been handled.

The department has five 2007 Mack Dump Trucks and he has spoken to several sources on the Kenworth dump trucks that this would be a good deal to buy three trucks and then resale them after a year. Engineer stated that the Mack trucks will resale for around \$70,000 each but with the new trucks resale could be more than the purchase price. The trucks are on the State Joint Bid. Request was made to lease purchase the three Kenworth Dump Trucks. Commissioner Brannon made a motion to allow Engineer to proceed with lease purchase of three Kenworth Dump Trucks. Commissioner Hammer seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0. Engineer stated the old motor graders should be sold around March.

County Engineer gave each commissioner a copy of a map concerning a road located at Eunola which is having problems with motorist running at excessive speed. Sheriff noted that there is not a sign indicating the speed limit. Engineer stated that he felt that due to it being more of a subdivision that the speed limit needed to be set at twenty-five miles an hour due to small children and houses. County Attorney was asked to look at the legal issues pertaining to this.

Equipment Operator II 's will be announced again due to five openings in the department.

County Attorney: Attorney Eldridge stated that he had received a call from Mr. Graham, with ALDOT, concerning the Rails to Trails agreements and the county's involvement. A request was made to speak with the county and the other counties and cities involved with Rails to Trails in the area about the possibilities of cost that could arise from this involvement.

Chairman Hamic: Chairman noted that EMA had done a good job with the warming station with only a couple of people participating. According to Mrs. Wise, The Purpose and Promise ministry was the ones that handled the shelter.

EMA Director: Mrs. Wise stated that she had reached out to the ministry and they were willing to provide a warming center which was located here in Geneva. Mrs. Wise thanked the Sheriff for providing a few inmates to help with unloading of supplies.

Personnel Director: Nothing to report.

Revenue Commissioner: Ms. Ellison spoke to commission regarding the Revenue Department 2018 budget with a request to allow her to increase her budget to accommodate a Revenue Clerk I position that she has but did not put in budget due to thinking she would be able to use another position to help cover. The other position ended up being closed and the job was out sourced. Because of this and the fact she has a part-time person ready to retire, the department needs to fill this position and request that her budget be increased as needed for the pay and expenses associated to the position of \$30,624.84 Commissioner Seay made a motion to allow the salary and expenses for a Clerk I to be put back in her budget for 2018 due to the changes and being left off her original budget. Commissioner Brannon seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

Solid Waste Director: Nothing to report.

E-911 Director: Mr. Williams has entered into a contract for a new CAD system which should be in by May.

Auburn Extension: Nothing to report.

Commissioner Hatton: Nothing to report.

Commissioner Brannon:

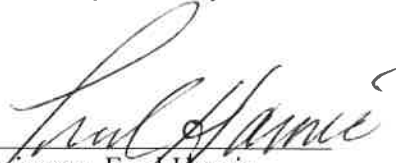
Commissioner Seay:

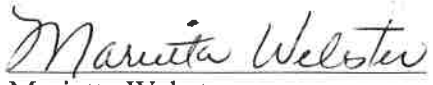
Commissioner Hammer: Nothing to report.

Commissioner Hatton made a motion to allow Stephen Earl Holloway to speak. Commissioner Seay seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0. Mr. Holloway spoke with concerns on how people are not providing horses with enough grazing land and food and having dogs that they cannot provide for. Commission discussed the issue.

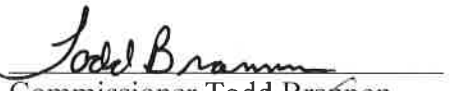
Commissioner Hammer made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hatton seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

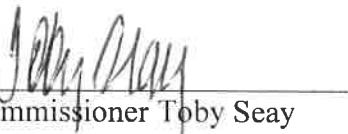
The above constitutes the minutes of the meeting of the Geneva County Commission held on Monday, January 8, 2018.


Chairman, Fred Hamic


Marietta Webster
Chief Administrative Clerk


Commissioner Bryan Hatton


Commissioner Todd Brannon


Commissioner Toby Seay


Commissioner Hammer

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