

The Geneva County Commission met in regular session on Monday, May 13, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. at the Geneva County Courthouse in Geneva, Alabama.

Commission Chairman Toby Seay called the meeting to order and welcome guests and media present. Commissioner Spivey opened the meeting with prayer. Chairman Seay 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 Seay called the roll and the following members were present: Commissioners Weston Spivey, Todd Brannon, Bart Wilks and Sandy Hammer. The County Attorney, Phil Eldridge; County Engineer, Justin Barfield; Chief Administrative Officer, Marietta Webster were also present. The following business was transacted:

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approve Minutes of April 23, 2019. Commissioner Hammer made a motion to approve the minutes April 23, 2019. Commissioner Brannon seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.
2. John Mazyck, Lee Garretson- Frazier Lanier Company: Mr. Mazyck talked with the commission concerning the opportunities of securing a bond with the new gas tax bill funds that will allow fifty percent to be used for payment. County Engineer spoke on the matter with information of what he knows will be available and how it can be used. He stated that engineers are working out policies on new gas tax that is expected to be fully funded by 2021. Frazier Lanier stated that a tax anticipation bond could be done before the money starts to come in so that you are ready to move. Engineer stated that auditors spoke at conference last week with concerns on this matter and the engineers and others are working through the policies to make sure that it is done correctly. Options were discussed with no decision at this time.
3. Commissioner Hammer made a motion to allow Ken Funderburk and Reid Cavnar with Stiefel to speak. Commissioner Wilks seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0. Reid Cavnar introduced his company and explained to those who did not know that they have already worked with the county on funding the jail and local hospital. Mr. Cavnar talked to the commission concerning the options available with the new gas tax that is coming available to the county. The county is to receive approximately \$750,000 per year with fifty percent being able to be used to repay bond payment. Options were talked about with no decision on the subject at this time.
4. Proclamations: Denise Hanks, DHR, Foster Parent Appreciation Month. Denise Hanks updated the commission about the number of (40) Foster children and (13) homes in the system at this time. Chairman read proclamation for Foster Parent Appreciation Month for approval. Commissioner Wilks made the motion to proclaim

May, Foster Parent Appreciation Month. Commissioner Brannon seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

Wiregrass Medical Center Rehabilitation Center & Nursing Home: Teresa Hogan-Nursing Home Week: Chairman Seay recognized Teresa Hogan and Nursing Home resident President Gwen Haney who will be representing the Nursing Home at State level recognition. Commissioner Hammer made the motion to proclaim Nursing Home Week, May 12-18, 2019. Commissioner Brannon seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

5. Bids: N/A

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Jail Construction: Chairman stated that at the last meeting with contractor, that the few next weeks would be block and mortar work.
2. Courthouse: N/A
3. Board Appointments: N/A
4. Bids: N/A

REPORTS OF STAFF:

Sheriff: Sheriff Helms stated that a law enforcement simulator had been demonstrated to the department and commission last week.

Sheriff Helms and County Attorney discussed with the Commission Inmate Phone Bid that is due to be sent out. Attorney stated that he had sent the specifications to the Architect to make sure they were correct for the new jail. Architect was to let him know whether to proceed but he has not heard from him at this point. Commissioner Hammer made a motion to move forward with bid to be opened on June 10, 2019 Commissioner Brannon seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

Sheriff Helms stated that he has a part-time correction job that closed on Friday.

County Administrator: Mrs. Webster reminded the Commission that Auburn Extension Office was holding forestry day at the State Forest, Thursday at 8:30 a. m.

County Engineer: Engineer stated that he had one new hire that had been processed and started last Monday. Personnel is advertising for EOII's and EOIII positions currently.

Twenty thousand yards of debris was collected for hurricane Michael. The county should receive around \$300,000 Federal and \$50,000 State funds. This money will help with equipment purchases due to cost on repairs for old machinery. The funds should arrive before the end of summer.

Herbicide is complete but bush hogging is not scheduled at this time.

River Road is still closed.

Engineer stated that the department has had a lighting strike causing damage to the fuel tank and phone systems. The phone system cost \$1700 and the phone company has found that a copper wire run to the building underground is the source of so many lighting issues. This will be replaced this week by different wiring to help solve the problem.

Engineer discussed the issue of helping an employee with CDL license and whether to make it a contractual situation. In checking with other counties, they do not require a contract or obligation from the employee. After discussing the subject, commission decided to have Attorney to draw up a contract that would have the employee obligated by contract to repay for county training and help in obtaining the CDL license.

Traffic counters have been put out to see the priority list of roads that could be used for the bond money.

Chairman Seay: Chairman noted that the Personnel Director has resigned from her position and would like to recognize her fifteen years of service with the county.

County Attorney noted that the Personnel Director's job is under the classified employees per Personnel Board. Attorney recommended that the job be put back as an exempt position to put it in line with all other department heads. Commissioner Hammer made a motion to recommend to the Personnel Board to move the Personnel Director from the classified position to exempt as all other department heads. Commissioner Spivey seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0. Job position will be posted this week.

Chairman noted that he had a position open for an employee who resigned due to not knowing if she would be able to return timely but wanted to leave in good standing.

County Attorney: Attorney Eldridge stated that there is a legal matter that needs the commission to go into executive session pursuant section 36-25A-7 Code of Alabama, 1975 as noted in the attached letter. Also, Judge will discuss matter of Commerce and Economic Development with the County in competition with other entities.

Time: 11:10 a. m.

Commissioner Brannon made the motion to go into Executive Session.

Commissioner Wilks- Yah

Commissioner Hammer- Yah

Commissioner Spivey- Yah

Commissioner Brannon-Yah

Reconvened at 11:46 By Commissioner Hammer with all in agreement.

Commissioner Spivey: N/A


Commissioner Wilks: N/A

Commissioner Hammer: N/A


Commissioner Brannon: N/A

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

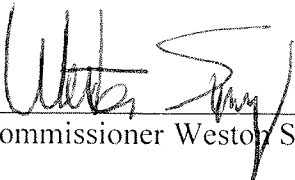
The above constitutes the minutes of the meeting of the Geneva County Commission held on Monday, May 13, 2019.




Chairman, Toby Seay



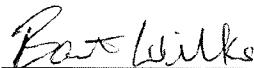
Marietta Webster
Chief Administrative Clerk



Commissioner West Spivey



Commissioner Todd Brannon



Commissioner Bart Wilks



Commissioner Hammer

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May 13, 2019

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Members of the Geneva County Commission
Geneva County Courthouse
200 North Commerce Street
Geneva, AL 36340


RE: Opinion on Applicability of Executive Session

Dear Geneva County Commission Members

This is to advise the members of the Geneva County Commission that I have reviewed the matter on which the County Commission is considering convening an executive session for discussion with legal counsel regarding a legal matter, have determined that, in my legal opinion, this matter is appropriate for executive session under Section 36-25A-7(a)(3), Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended.

Pursuant to Section 36-25A-7(a)(3), Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended, a copy of this letter should be attached to the minutes of the County Commission meeting wherein the body considers a motion to convene an executive session to discuss this matter.

Sincerely,


W. Phil Eldridge
Geneva County Attorney
(Alabama Bar No. ELD001)

WPE/bje

GC 10A:executive-session.ltr

WHEREAS our beloved citizens of Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center and Nursing Home have contributed immeasurably to the heritage, success and growth of our community; and

WHEREAS nursing home residents of any age or ability are themselves living history and a precious resource; and

WHEREAS member skilled nursing care centers of the American Health Care Association and the Alabama Nursing Home Association are holding events in observance of Nursing Home Week guided by this year's national theme of "Live Soulfully" and

WHEREAS Nursing Home Week begins on Mother's Day, May 12 and ends on May 18 2019;

THEREFORE do I, Toby Seay, as Probate Judge of Geneva County urge everyone in the community to visit their loved one, friend or neighbor currently residing in a skilled nursing care center to show respect for all that they have given to society and to us. Let no elderly and disabled person sit alone during this time to wonder if they are valued, appreciated and loved. Visiting or volunteering your time at a local care facility is a testament to community spirit, brings honor to our fathers, mothers, grandparents and everyone in residence and lifts the spirits of caregivers who value your involvement.

Signed this 13th day of May, 2019



Toby Seay, Probate Judge