

The Geneva County Commission met in regular session on Monday, August 27, 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 Seay 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, Todd Brannon, Toby Seay and Sandy Hammer. The County Attorney, Phil Eldridge; County Engineer, Justin Barfield; and Chief Administrative Officer, Marietta Webster were also present. The following business was transacted:

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

#### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approve Minutes of August 13, 2018. Commissioner Hatton made a motion to approve the minutes August 13, 2018. Commissioner Hammer seconded the motion. Vote was 3-1 (abstain by Commissioner Seay).
2. Proclamations: N/A
3. Bids: N/A

#### OLD BUSINESS:

1. Jail Construction: Commissioner Hatton made a motion to move subject to the end of agenda due to Architect and Engineers coming for the meeting and are running behind. Commissioner Brannon seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0. Mr. Mike Rutland, JMR+H, spoke with the commission concerning the General Contractor Bid after they had evaluated the numbers. Bear Brothers, Incorporated was the lower bid of \$10,393,259.00. Mr. Rutland stated that after evaluating the bids that there was an increase in the values that caused the bids to be above what was expected and with the cost of the modules that were already bid, that the total was more than the budget of \$8.7 million. Mr. Rutland spoke of three options: 1. To award the contract as stands. 2. Award and negotiate the lower contract not changing specifications. 3. Value Engineering and re-advertise. Attorney Eldridge commented that he cannot recommend or advise to do this because Valued Engineering: 1. Alabama Building Commission Manuel does not generally recommend this. 2. Alabama Building Commission only deals with projects involving State Funds and this only involves local sales tax. 3. The Attorney General said in an opinion to the Cherokee County Commission on

10/4/1994, after the opinion of 6/15/1979 cited in the Alabama Building Commission Manuel, in the same situation we have here on construction of a jail, that the Cherokee County Commission could only negotiate a lower contract price with the successful bidder, provided that the specifications remain the same and there is no change in the specifications.

Commissioner Hammer made a motion recommend that the PBA accept the Option 2 of awarding the bid to Bear Brothers and allow Mike Rutland, JMR+H, to negotiate cost with contractor. Commissioner Seay seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

2. Courthouse: Chairman updated the commission on the work is being done at the Chancellor Community Center. The free paint for exterior was not available at the time the other paint was picked up, so Mrs. Webster will contact the paint store and find out when available to be picked up.
3. Board Appointments: N/A
4. Bids: N/A
5. Commissioner Seay made a motion to allow Mrs. Gillespie with Geneva City School to speak. Commissioner Hatton seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0. Mrs. Gillespie stated that they are willing to pay \$25,000 to the county to supplement cost of a qualified resource officer because the person must be hired through law enforcement agency. Commissioner Seay made a motion the County provide a qualified Resource Officer through the Sheriff's Department who will work the set school hours and days for 2018-2019 school year for Geneva City School and in return they will reimburse County with \$25,000 which would cover the cost of a retired officer paid \$23,000 per year, contingent upon resolution from Geneva City School Board approving this. Commissioner Hammer seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

#### REPORTS OF STAFF:

**Sheriff:** Sheriff Helms reported that the jail is full and that he has three slots open for correctional officers.

**County Administrator:** Mrs. Webster reported that at the conference meeting for workers compensation and liability that each county was given a letter showing the amount of refund of premiums that would be received. Geneva County will be getting a total of \$28,527.98. Discussion continued concerning the incentive payment that is also received from the Safety Incentive Program if all the criteria is met. Mrs. Webster stated that the Jail, Sheriff, Solid Waste and Road and Bridge are required to have quarterly safety meeting and provide documentation to her before September 1 of each year. All required training for deputies and correctional officers must be met to qualify as well as the Safety Director having quarterly meetings with a representative from each department where information is provided for them to take back to their departments. Commission was told that the safety meetings for all departments was not being held timely and she needed this to be done to qualify for our incentive money each year which a significant amount of money. Commissioner Hammer made a motion that a meeting is set with Safety Director to discuss this issue since it involves the county losing funds.

Commissioner Hatton seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0. Commission decided to meet back with the director at 12:30 p.m. to discuss the issue.

**County Engineer** County Road 49 has been completed and department is waiting on the final inspection.

Bush hogging is taking place and will be followed up with spraying.

At the first of the year, approval of paving for Skyline Avenue had been done. The road was paved in prior years by City of Geneva and the question has been as to the responsibility of the up keep and repaving again. County Attorney reported that legislative passed an Act that gives good argument that the City of Geneva would be responsible for maintenance of the road. Engineer stated that the Federal allocation for the year at \$550,000 to be used for the paving with the County coming up with the match of \$100,000. The City of Geneva has offered to pay the County \$50,000 to cover part of the match to help with the paving project and the county will still maintain. Engineer was asked to give his opinion on the matter and he feels that the \$50,000 would be helpful with the project. Commissioner Seay made a motion to accept the \$50,000 from City of Geneva for the project of Skyline Avenue. Commissioner Hammer seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

County Engineer updated the commission on information he received at the conference. He stated that there will be some type of increase in the gasoline tax at State level to assist with infrastructure in the next year. This money will only assist with roads only.

County Engineer stated that he has been appointed as Vice President of the ACEA.

**County Attorney:** Attorney Eldridge reported that he had been asked by Commissioner Brannon to do paperwork concerning an election on doing a mileage increase for the hospital. Question was asked if it was too late for this to be put on ballot and Chairman stated that it would have had to be sent by last Wednesday to the State. Revenue Commissioner stated that if it had been entered and passed that it would be 2020 before collections would be done.

**Chairman Hamic:** Chairman commented on the activities of the conference that was held last week.

**EMA Director:** Reported late after roll call for the meeting. Mrs. Wise stated that they are offering a training class at Cullman this week and she wanted to make sure that the commission was aware that she was attending. The commission was told that a Flood Plains Conference was being held Oct 22-24 if they were interested. LEPC meeting will be held on September 19 at 5:00 P. M. at Café Med.

**Personnel Director:** Nothing to report.

**Revenue Commissioner:** Revenue Commissioner updated the commission that the department was getting prepared for the upcoming tax year. Exemptions were explained as to income and age.

**Solid Waste Director:** Nothing to report.

**E-911 Director:** Nothing to report.

**Auburn Extension:** Nothing to report.

**Commissioner Seay:** Nothing to report.

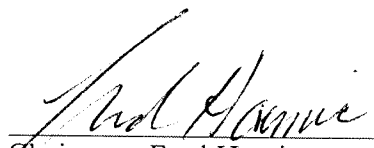
**Commissioner Hatton:** Nothing to report.

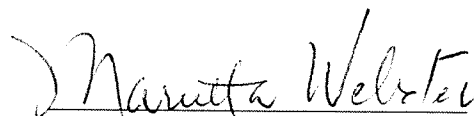
**Commissioner Hammer:** Nothing to report.

**Commissioner Brannon:** Nothing to report.

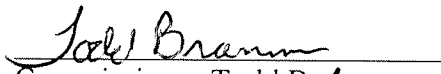
Commissioner Hammer made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hatton seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

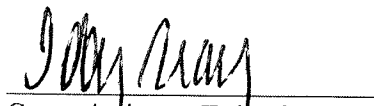
The above constitutes the minutes of the meeting of the Geneva County Commission held on Monday, August 27, 2018.

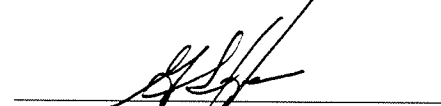
  
Chairman, Fred Hamic

  
Marietta Webster  
Chief Administrative Clerk

  
Commissioner Bryan Hatton

  
Commissioner Todd Brannon

  
Commissioner Toby Seay

  
Commissioner Hammer

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STATE OF ALABAMA

COUNTY OF ALABAMA

CITY OF GENEVA

RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, the Geneva City Board of Education desires to hire two (2) School Resource Officers, during the 2018-2019 school year, in an effort to provide a safe and productive educational environment for our students and staff; and

**WHEREAS**, one officer will be located at the elementary school and one officer will be located and shared between the Middle and High Schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the Geneva City Board of Education has sought financial assistance with both the City of Geneva and Geneva County, Alabama, and

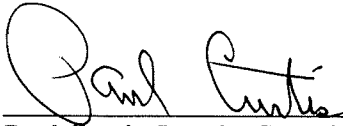
**WHEREAS**, the Geneva City Board of Education and Geneva County, Alabama, have agreed that Geneva County, Alabama, will provide one School Resource Officer through the Geneva County Sheriff's Department and the Geneva City Board of Education will pay unto Geneva County, Alabama, the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to be reviewed annually prior to the start of school.


**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Geneva City Board of Education as follows:

That the Geneva City Schools will pay unto Geneva County, Alabama, the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) towards the salary of one (1) School Resource Officer to be employed through the Geneva County Sheriff's Department and to be made available to the Geneva City Schools.

That the employment of the School Resource Officer shall be examined on an annual basis in June preceding the start of the new school year.

**DONE, DATED AND APPROVED** on this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018.

  
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Paul Curtis, Interim Superintendent  
Geneva City Board of Education

  
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Russell Claussell, Board Chairman  
Geneva City Board of Education

FRANKIE LINDSEY  
MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

RUFUS LEE  
FREDDY MCCOY  
JOHN HUGHES  
RYAN TIDWELL  
BART WILKS  
JUNIOR MIXON  
BRAD WEEKS



# CITY OF GENEVA

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LISA JOHNSON, CMC  
CITY CLERK/TREASURER

TONY CLEMMONS  
CHIEF OF POLICE

BEN LATIMER  
FIRE CHIEF

LEE KNOWLES  
CITY ATTORNEY

August 21, 2018

Geneva County Commission  
c/o Honorable Fred Hamic  
Post Office Box 430  
Geneva, Alabama 36340

Dear Commissioners:

I would like to express my appreciation to County Attorney Phil Eldridge and County Engineer Justin Barfield for working with the City on a proposed resurfacing project for Skyline Avenue/County Road 33.

Engineer Barfield submitted a letter to the City dated August 14, 2018, outlining two proposals for the project; however, due to budget constraints the Council voted to offer an alternate funding proposal. The City Council would like for the County to consider a proposal of the City paying 50% of the required match, not to exceed \$50,000.00. This proposal would also stipulate that the City's participation in the funding should not be construed by the County, in any manner, that the City would be assuming any ownership or future maintenance of said road.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Frankie Lindsey  
Mayor

Cc: Geneva County Engineer, Justin Barfield  
Geneva County Attorney, Phil Eldridge

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