

The Geneva County Commission met in regular session on Monday, November 25, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. at the Geneva County Courthouse in Geneva, Alabama.

Commission Chairman Toby Seay called the meeting to order and welcomed guests and media present. Commissioner Wilks 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; EMA Director, and Eric Johnson were also present. The following business was transacted:

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Approve Minutes of November 12, 2019. Commissioner Hammer made a motion to approve the minutes November 12, 2019. Commissioner Spivey seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.
2. Proclamations: N/A
3. Bids: N/A

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Jail Construction: Chairman updated that construction was progressing according to schedule. Brick is being installed on the building, the roof is now being installed and the cables and wiring are also being installed.
2. Board Appointments: N/A
3. Bids: N/A

#### **REPORTS OF STAFF:**

**Sheriff:** Not present.

**County Administrator:** Not present

**County Engineer:** Update on the ATRIP II Grant working with ALDOT and they have sent a design for the project last week for review. Mr. Barfield and Assistant Engineer Mike Shirah have reviewed made comments and it has been returned. .

Crews worked at the landfill on Friday to begin digging a new cell. The current cell has about three or four more weeks of use before it reaches capacity. The new cell will be ready for the new year.

They have received the final paperwork for the Wiregrass RC&D Grant which was submitted for erosion on the west end of the county on County Road 5. The final draft is ready for the Commission to sign off on. Chairman Seay stated he needed a resolution from the Commission to allow him to sign the agreement with Wiregrass RC&D for the ditch stabilization project on County Road 5. Commissioner Hammer made a motion to allow Chairman Seay to sign the agreement. Commissioner Spivey seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

In the process of collecting and compiling information for a generator grant.

CRSII liquid asphalt tank. One thermostat is out and there are two other tubes that are blocked and liquid pours out so currently there is no way to regulate the temperature. The tank has been drained and shut off so at this time the department does not have a patch wagon for road service. One can be borrowed from Coffee County but that is a two hour delay due to the drive there and back. Mr. Barfield has seen one on the current bid for \$60,000.00 and the tank should last around thirty years which would average out to \$2000.00 per year. Commissioner Spivey asked if the money could come from the Capital Improvement account. Chairman Seay stated he did not believe the money could come from the Capital Improvement account but possibly could come from the 113 account. Chairman Seay will try and have information for the next meeting regarding funding. The current tank is an 8000 gallon tank but Mr. Barfield stated if necessary they could probably use a 7000 gallon tank. Chairman Seay noted that the budget for the current year has already been approved and would need to be amended if funding could be located and if the money is not available they will have to look at other options. No one is opposed to the purchase it is just a matter of finding available funds. Mr. Barfield stated at this time they are not desperate it is coming up winter and they do less of this process in the winter. There are no immediate needs and if needed they do have the option to borrow a tank from Coffee County.

The MPO project on North County Road 49 is scheduled to be completed next Friday, December 6, 2019, at a cost of around \$28,000.00.

Several cross drains are being replaced across the county. A gas line project is underway in the east end of the county and a water line project in the Samson area.

In reviewing the holiday schedule for FY2020 the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday falls on a Friday so the Road & Bridge department would be off on Thursday.

**County Attorney:** Attorney Eldridge stated he had filed a request for an extension with the Department of Revenue for a sales tax exemption for the contractors for the jail and even though the current estimation of completion is March 31, 2019 they requested he make the request effective through May 1, 2019. Marietta should receive notification of the extension. Slocomb Mayor Rob Hinson has requested to temporarily move the voting precinct from the armory to the First Baptist Church in Slocomb for the next election cycle. He has prepared a resolution and order for this and needs a motion to adopt the resolution and order to temporarily move the voting precinct in Slocomb from the armory to the First Baptist Church. The reason for the move is due to the conditions of the armory. The town is working on a grant for revitalizing the armory, but it has not been obtained to date. The First Baptist Church has agreed that they will allow their church to be used for a voting precinct on an election by election cycle until the armory is revitalized or another location has been found. Commissioner Spivey made a motion to adopt the attached resolution and order to temporarily move the voting precinct in Slocomb from the armory to the First Baptist Church in Slocomb. Commissioner Brannon seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0

**Chairman Seay:** Chairman Seay stated that he has received an analytics report on the County website. To date this month there have been close to 2000 visits to the website and since its inception there have been 7933 visits to the website. The website is being looked at and we need to continue to provide updated information to the citizens.

The landscaping project around the courthouse has begun. Buds and Blossoms will be here after the Thanksgiving holiday to begin installing the new landscaping.

Repairs at the Farm Center are almost complete. New heaters have been installed, the painting has been completed and new ceiling tiles installed. Updates will continue to be done to the facility as needed.

Chairman Seay had spoken with the Coroner and he has stated the cooler at the jail would be sufficient. The architect was working on a portico on the side of the jail, but it may require something additional. This can be decided at a later date. This option did save over \$6000.00. Some racks may have to be purchased later.

The job posting for the Solid Waste Director did not make it to the newspaper the first week but will be in the paper this week. The advertising may have to be extended for one more week so Chairman Seay will advise Cindy Williams to extend it. The posting will also be on the website and Chairman Seay will notify the Commissioners so they can share the posting on their Facebook pages.

Chairman Seay will check on his reservations for the upcoming conference, the funding for the liquid asphalt tank and the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday for the Road & Bridge department

**EMA Director:** Eric Johnson updated the commission that Mrs. Mixon is no longer with him, but he feels confident and all is going well at this time. He has spent time speaking with other County EMA Directors to gain knowledge about their activities. He has also

been visiting the cities in the county to get to know the local volunteers with the various agencies. Commissioner Spivey thanked Mr. Johnson for his assistance with a fire on Sunday in his district.

**Auburn Extension:** Gloria Marks attended the annual meeting last week. The agriculture department will be bringing in workshops on Hemp in the next year. The nutrition programs will continue and be going to the schools in the county. A new workforce program will also begin in the county along with financial workshops. The 4-H agent is planning new workshops for the new year. She will have an archery class second Monday of each month. Mrs. Marks did state she was concerned for the safety of the participants due to the lack of outside lighting at the Farm Center. Chairman Seay stated the grant was approved for the lighting, but the funds have not been received yet. As soon as the funds are received the lighting will be updated with LED lights and security lighting all the way around the building.

**Commissioner Hammer:** Nothing to report.

**Commissioner Brannon:** Nothing to report.

**Commissioner Spivey:** Nothing to report.

**Commissioner Wilks:** Nothing to report.

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

**STATE OF ALABAMA  
COUNTY OF GENEVA**

**REGULAR SESSION  
November 25, 2019**

The above constitutes the minutes of the meeting of the Geneva County Commission held on Tuesday, November 12, 2019.

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Chairman, Toby Seay

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Marietta Webster  
Chief Administrative Clerk

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Commissioner Weston Spivey

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Commissioner Todd Brannon

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Commissioner Bart Wilks

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Commissioner Hammer