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TOBY L. SEAY, PROBATE JUDGE, GENEVA COUNTY, ALABAMA  
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The Geneva County Commission met in an emergency called session by the Chairman on Monday, March 30, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. at the Geneva County Courthouse in Geneva, Alabama.

Commission Chairman Toby Seay called the meeting to order and welcomed guests present. Commissioner Wilks opened the meeting with prayer. Chairman Seay led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commission Chairman Seay called the roll and the following members were present: Commissioners Todd Brannon, Sandy Hammer, Weston Spivey, and Bart Wilks. The County Attorney, Phil Eldridge; County Engineer, Justin Barfield; Sheriff Tony Helms, EMA Director, Eric Johnson, Revenue Commissioner Mary Ann Ellison, Solid Waste Director Dawn Smith; County Administrator Marietta Webster and Assistant County Administrator Cindy Williams were also present. The following business was transacted:

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

#### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Extension of closing of Courthouse and other public buildings - First topic of discussion was to discuss the extension of closing the Courthouse to the public. It is due to open back to the public on April 6, 2020. Given the daily changes with COVID-19 and national closures the Commission discussed extending the closure of the Courthouse to the public. Also given the new developments with COVID-19 the Commission discussed the staff in the Courthouse. Chairman Seay stated his office remained active with telephone calls and citizens ordering tags via telephone and online. After discussion Commissioner Wilks made the motion to extend the closure of the Courthouse to the public until further notice pursuant to the Emergency Management Act. Commissioner Brannon seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.
2. Leave for County employees - With the continued closure and more risks of the spread of the virus Commissioner Wilks suggested the employees work split shifts during this crisis allowing employees to work two-and-one-half days per week and receive two-and-one-half days of Administrative or Annual Leave. County Attorney Eldridge stated the leave could not be Administrative since it does not fit under the classes of administrative leave outlined in the Personnel Handbook. It might be considered Emergency leave pursuant to the Governors proclamation and the Emergency Management Act. County Attorney said this is new territory and has never been done before. He heard Dale County did this. Emergency Management Act says County Commission has the power and authority to appropriate and expend funds for Emergency Management purposes and to provide for the health and safety for persons. This appears to apply but

can't be sure if it does Commissioner Brannon made a motion to adopt the following resolution: Pursuant to the power and authority of the County Commission under the Alabama Emergency Management Act, the declaration of the Governor on March 13, 2020, of the state public health emergency based on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus, the amended order of the State Health officer, dated March 27, 2020, that his order would apply to non-essential employees of local governments, and the extension of the closing of the Courthouse to the public the County Commission does hereby order that only enough essential employees as determined by each Department Head shall work during this temporary closing and as a result each employee of the County is granted two-and-one-half days per week of emergency leave which shall be used by each employee during the temporary closing or during this annual year as determined by the Department Heads. This will continue through out the closing until terminated by the Commission. The Chairman is authorized to end sooner upon advising the Commission. This leave cannot be paid out or carried over. Commissioner Spivey seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.

In the discussion it was also brought up that the next regular scheduled Commission meeting will be April 14, 2020. This is a public meeting and if the Courthouse is closed to the public, they will not be able to attend. There could be a telephone conference per the open meetings law, and it could then be posted to the County website. There are no major items on the agenda for the April 14, 2020 meeting. If several Commissioners are unable to attend the meeting it would require the meeting to be rescheduled. For now, the regular scheduled meeting will remain for April 13, 2020.

**EMA Director:** EMA Director Eric Johnson gave an update on the COVID-19 crisis. He stated there remain no cases in Geneva County. At this point he believes we are good on supplies. The Wiregrass Medical Center has two ventilators and there are two portable ventilators in the County.


Commissioner Spivey made a motion adjourn. Commissioner Hammer seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0.


**STATE OF ALABAMA  
COUNTY OF GENEVA**

**EMERGENCY SESSION  
March 30, 2020**

The above constitutes the minutes of the meeting of the Geneva County Commission held on Monday, March 30, 2020.

  
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Chairman Toby Seay

  
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Marietta Webster  
Chief Administrative Clerk

  
Cindy Williams  
Assistant  
Administrator

  
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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

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