

The Geneva County Commission met in regular session on Monday, July 27, 2020 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 present. Commissioner Wilks opened the meeting with prayer. Chairman Seay led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no elected officials requesting to make public comment.

Citizen requesting to make public comment –

Commission Chairman Seay called the roll and the following members were present: Commissioners Sandy Hammer, Weston Spivey, and Bart Wilks. Commissioner Todd Brannon was not present. The County Attorney Phil Eldridge; County Engineer, Justin Barfield; Assistant County Engineer, Mike Shirah; EMA Director, Eric Johnson; Revenue Commissioner, Mary Ann Ellison; County Administrator Cindy Williams were also present. The following business was transacted:

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approve Minutes of July 13, 2020. Commissioner Wilks made a motion to approve the minutes of July 13, 2020. Commissioner Hammer seconded the motion. Vote was 3-0.
2. Proclamations: None
3. Bids: At the last meeting the bid for the Sitework at the Industrial Park was awarded to S & E Site Development, LLC and the Chairman advised the Commission that he had purchased the ADEM permit this morning. At the previous meeting the award of the Spec Building had been table until further discussions could be had. Commissioner Spivey made a motion to accept the lowest bid on the Spec Building which was presented by Hughes Brothers Construction. Commissioner Wilks seconded the motion. Vote was 2-0. Commissioner Hammer abstained.
There will be a ground-breaking ceremony at the Industrial Park on August 10, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.
Phillip Santora with Northstar Engineering will be delivering the contracts today.
4. Board Appointments: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Recorded in OFFICE BK 1075 PG 312 08/31/2020 02:49:15 PM
TOBY L. SEAY, PROBATE JUDGE, GENEVA COUNTY, ALABAMA

1. Jail Construction. Still in progress. Should be turned over by the beginning of September. The furniture is scheduled to be installed August 24, 2020. The punch list is still being worked out and there are several minor repairs needed.

REPORTS OF STAFF:

Sheriff: Not present

County Administrator: Cindy Williams notified the Commission that the nominee for the 2020-2021 ACCA Legislative Committee needed to be submitted to the ACCA by August 1, 2020. Chairman Seay stated that currently Commissioner Brannon and Commissioner Hammer had rotated the duty. Commissioner Spivey made a motion to nominated Commissioner Brannon to serve as the 2020-2021 ACCA Legislative Committee representative for Geneva County. Commissioner Wilks seconded the motion. Vote was 3-0.

County Engineer: Engineer Justin Barfield requested that Chairman Seay be allowed to sign the ACCA report showing who contracts have been awarded to. He has received all the paperwork for the two additional dump trucks. All resurfacing has been completed for the Federal Aid Fund projects. At the July 13, 2020 meeting Engineer Barfield had been tasked with giving the Commission some options for the issues on County Road 19. Commissioner Spivey spoke up that he had spoken to a contractor, not involved in any way with this project, and had been told that the project the County paid for was what was received and it was completed. Ginger Stephens and several other residents of County Road 19 were present again to continue discussion on County Road 19. These residents were in attendance to continue discussions regarding County Road 19 and if any decisions had been reached or could be reached about their road. The residents of County Road 19 again asked why their road was not paved like Jackson Road which Engineer Barfield pointed out again, the County did not pay for that project, the residents of that road paid personally to pave Jackson Road. He again also pointed out that County Road 19 is not a heavily traveled road mainly traveled by the residents of the road and a traffic count had been done again the week of July 4, 2020. The treatment done on the road is a means to keep the moisture out of the road bed causing potholes which will cause the road to deteriorate at a more rapid rate. The residents are still not satisfied with the finished product and want to see something else done to their road. After continued discussion Chairman Seay asked what was the desire of the Commission. Commissioner Hammer explained that the Commission is trying to work with them to come to a satisfactory resolution, however money has been spent to improve their road and the County has limited funds to spare, so he is asking that they accept the work that has been done to County Road 19. After much discussion from the citizens and Commissioners it was agreed that the Commissioners would make every effort to try and work with the citizens for a reasonable solution to the issues they are having with their road. County Engineer Justin Barfield will continue to look for and recommend any probable solutions to the Commission that could satisfy both the citizens and the Commission.

OFFREC 1075 313

County Attorney: Attorney Eldridge asked if all notices for the increase in millage rate for the Wiregrass Medical Center to be placed on the November ballot had been posted in the Courthouse, forwarded to the municipalities and forwarded to the newspaper publication, and sent a copy of the order to the judge and the board of Registrars.

County administrator said this had been done.

He had represented Sheriff Helms at the grievance hearing for Correction Officer and the grievance was settled. The Correction officer withdrew her grievance and county will pay her for all her leave time. The Sheriff was in agreement with this. The Personnel Board has approved this settlement which was to pay out to the Correction Officer one administrative day to make her have the ten days per the Personnel Handbook, her remaining 40 hours of Emergency Leave and her 32 hours Sick Leave. Commissioner Hammer made a motion to accept the settlement to the Correction Officer.

Commissioner Wilks seconded the motion. Vote was 3-0.

Chairman Seay: Chairman Seay stated he had a for the architect that needed to be approved. Commissioner Hammer made a motion to accept the service agreement for the architect. Commissioner Spivey seconded the motion. Vote was 3-0.

Samson would be completing their water grant this year and their would be a CDBG grant available. There will \$350,000 available for roads but it must be used in low to moderate income areas.

He would like to apply for the alternate grant program for sidewalks to improve the sidewalk in front of the Courthouse. Commissioner Wilks made a motion to allow Chairman Seay to apply for the sidewalk grant. Commissioner Hammer seconded the motion. Vote was 3-0. Chairman Seay requested that Engineer Barfield research a temporary fix on the sidewalk in front of the Courthouse.

Revenue Commissioner: Nothing to report.

EMA Director: Eric Johnson stated our County is considered a Very High-Risk County for Covid cases. We currently have 70 cases on the board. Geneva County is still low compared to surrounding counties in number of cases. There will be another Covid testing in Hartford at the Recreational Park on Thursday, July 30 from 8:30 – 10:30. The Geneva County School Board has been working with him and the Health Department regarding the reopening of Geneva County Schools in late August. There could possibly be overflow patients from Southeast Health and Flowers Hospital in Dothan to the Wiregrass Hospital. Both hospitals in Dothan are at capacity. since the beginning. There have been forty new cases in the last fourteen days. The number of active cases is 38. The west end of the County is a real hot spot now. It is a possibility that we could have one death related to Covid-19 in the next week. Mr. Johnson is currently working with the school boards to try and figure out the best measures for re-opening the schools in August.

Solid Waste: Not present.

E-911: Not present.

Auburn Extension: Not present.

Commissioner Brannon: Not present.

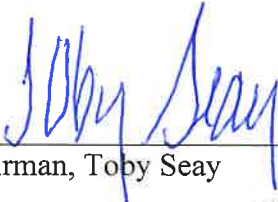
Commissioner Hammer: Nothing to report.

Commissioner Spivey: Nothing to report.

Commissioner Wilks: Nothing to report.

Commissioner Hammer made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Wilks seconded the motion. Vote was 3-0.

The above constitutes the minutes of the meeting of the Geneva County Commission held on Monday, July 27, 2020.



Chairman, Toby Seay



Cindy Williams
County Administrator



Commissioner Weston Spivey



Commissioner Todd Brannon



Commissioner Bart Wilks



Commissioner Hammer