

SUMMARY OF MINUTES  
CALHOUN COUNTY COMMISSION  
September 26, 2024

Chairwoman Henderson called to order the regular meeting of the Calhoun County Commission at 10:00 a.m., and all Commissioners were present. Commissioner Patterson gave an invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Commissioners approved the payment of warrants issued, to wit:

Commissioner Shears motioned to adopt the agenda, followed by a second motion from Commissioner Wilson. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote.

Commissioner Howell presented a special recognition to Ms. Michele Hornsby, owner of Redbird Willow Farm and author of the children's book *Just In Time To Be Kind*. He commended her for her dedication to the community and her efforts to inspire compassion and empathy through both her storytelling and the farm's initiatives.

Commissioner Howell made a motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting. Commissioner Shears seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote.

Environmental Programs Manager, Mr. Kraig Mize, recommended proceeding with the public nuisance abatements on the following properties: (1) 401 Weaver Lane, Weaver, owned by Nell S. Abeyta (Est.) c/o Robin Lang; (2) 4500 Asbury Avenue, Anniston, owned by Grace A. McKinney c/o Brandy Bryant; (3) 419 Rowan Street, Anniston, owned by Betty, David and Emily Surrett; and (4) 150 Old County 109, Anniston, owned by Michael S. Dempsey. Owners were adequately notified of the meeting. Mr. Patrick Ritchie, a local investor, addressed the Commission regarding property #2, 4500 Asbury Avenue, stating his intention to improve the property for resale. Ms. Kathy Colorado, a neighbor of the 4500 Asbury property, voiced her concerns, stating she believes the house should be condemned rather than resold due to suspicions that drugs were manufactured there. Mr. Michael Dempsey, owner of property #4, 150 Old County 109, states he had moved from the residence and was uncertain about the cleanup requirements. Commissioner Shears motioned to table the discussion on property #2, 4500 Asbury Avenue, with Commissioner Wilson seconding. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Commissioner Patterson also motioned to table property #4, 150 Old County 109, with Commissioner Shears seconding, and the motion was again carried unanimously by voice vote. Finally, Commissioner Shears motioned to proceed with the abatement of properties #1 and #3 as recommended, and Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote. (2 RESOLUTIONS IN FILE)

Mr. Kraig Mize recommended dismissing public nuisances on the following properties: (1) 304 Rowan Street, Anniston, owned by Elizabeth Keef; (2) 117 Bailey Street, Oxford, owned by Gloria Goodson; and (3) 4434 Bryan Avenue, Anniston, owned by Jacob Duane Farly. Owners were adequately notified of the meeting but were not present, and no one spoke on behalf of the owners. Commissioner Howell motioned to dismiss as recommended. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote.

Mr. Kraig Mize recommended declaring public nuisances on the following properties: (1) 1879 Parkwood Drive, Anniston, owned by Avery Properties LLC; (2) 2603 Eulaton Road, Anniston, owned by WJ Ponder (Est.) c/o Irene and Pats Ponder; (3) 192 West Point Road, Jacksonville, owned by Wendy K. Gann Snider; (4) 2425 Griffis II Street, Anniston, owned by Bobby Woodrow; (5) 0 S. Marshall Street, Anniston, owned by Linda Chesson; (6) 4206 Bynum Leatherwood Road, Anniston, owned by Patricia Woodrow; and (7) 315 Medders Drive W., Anniston, owned by James Fredrick Lucas III. Property owners were properly notified of the meeting. Ms. Donna Konkel, representing property #2 at 2603 Eulaton Road, attended as the granddaughter of the owner to inquire about resolving the nuisance issue. Mr. Mize offered to meet with her after the meeting to discuss solutions. Mr. Gene Ward, resident of the 0 S. Marshall Street property, explained that he had installed a privacy fence to conceal the nuisance. County Attorney Ms. Gloria Floyd offered to speak with Mr. Ward after the meeting to address his concerns. Commissioner Howell motioned to declare properties as recommended. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote. (7 RESOLUTIONS IN FILE)

County Administrator Mr. Jonathan Gaddy presented an ABC Board a transfer license to sell 050 – Retail Beer and 070 – Retail Table Wine, off-premises only, submitted by Bethlehem Mart LLC, d/b/a One Stop Mart, located at 10171 US Highway 78 E., Anniston, AL, 36207. Commissioner Shears motioned to deny the application. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote. (APPLICATION IN FILE)

Mr. Gaddy presented a resolution to extend the EMA Custodial Services with Diversified Maintenance effective from October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025, with no modifications to the terms. Commissioner Shears motioned to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote. (RESOLUTION ATTACHED)

Mr. Gaddy presented a resolution to award the bid for Micro Surface Paving to Asphalt Paving Systems Inc. as recommended by the County Engineer. Commissioner Howell motioned to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Patterson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote. (RESOLUTION ATTACHED)

Mr. Gaddy presented a resolution to award the bid for General Landscape Maintenance for the EMA to All Green Lawn Care as recommended by the EMA Director. Commissioner Shears motioned to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote. (RESOLUTION ATTACHED)

Mr. Gaddy presented a DYS Grant Resolution for the Robert E. Lewis Academy, a program of Coosa Valley, allowing the County to be the payee for the FY2025 diversion grant for \$433,160.00. Commissioner Wilson made a motion to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote. (RESOLUTION IN FILE)

Mr. Gaddy presented a DYS Grant Resolution for the Family Court Success Academy, a program of United Way, allowing the County to be the payee for the FY2024 diversion grant for \$265,788.00. Commissioner Howell motioned to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Shears seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote. (RESOLUTION IN FILE)

Mr. Gaddy presented a grant application resolution for a joint grant with the City of Anniston for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant. The total grant amount for both entities is \$47,875.00, with the County's portion being \$17,178.00, and will be utilized by law enforcement. Commissioner Howell motioned to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote. (RESOLUTION ATTACHED)

Mr. Gaddy presented a Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant Resolution for the County to submit a grant application for \$71,502.00 to continue funding the VAWA program for use by the 7th Judicial Circuit Domestic Violence Crime Unit. Commissioner Patterson motioned to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote. (RESOLUTION ATTACHED)

Mr. Gaddy presented a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to formalize an agreement with United Way for the distribution of funds from the DYS Diversion Grant, which was approved earlier in the meeting. Commissioner Shears motioned to authorize the Chairman to sign the contract for and on behalf of Calhoun County. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote. (MOU IN FILE)

Mr. Gaddy presented the FY25 Diversified Computer Services Agreement for the Calhoun County Highway Department, effective from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025. Commissioner Shears motioned to authorize the chairman to sign for and on behalf of the Commission. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote. (AGREEMENT IN FILE)

Mr. Gaddy presented an Open Records Procedure Resolution to adopt procedures for accepting public records requests to comply with Alabama's Open Records Act, as amended by Ala. Act No. 2024-278. Commissioner Shears motioned to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote. (RESOLUTION ATTACHED)

Mr. Gaddy presented a resolution designating the County Attorney as the Public Officer responsible for fulfilling the mandates of the Open Records Act. Commissioner Howell motioned to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Patterson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote. (RESOLUTION ATTACHED)

Mr. Gaddy introduced the need to fill the Public Library Board of Trustees at-large appointment. This is a four-year term that will expire October 1, 2028. Commissioner Wilson motioned to reappoint Mr. David Boyd. Commissioner Shears seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote.

Mr. Gaddy presented an employment contract modification for the Maintenance Supervisor. This three-year modification commences September 23, 2024, and extends until September 23, 2027. Commissioner Wilson motioned to authorize the Chairman to sign the contract for and on behalf of Calhoun County. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote. (AGREEMENT IN FILE)

Mr. Gaddy presented an agreement with Piedmont EMS for temporary supplemental funding from the Commission. Commissioner Shears motioned to authorize the Chairman to sign the

contract for and on behalf of Calhoun County ONCE IN FINAL FORM. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote. (AGREEMENT IN FILE)

Ms. Melissia Wood, Chief Financial Officer, presented the FY2025 Budget Resolution with a balanced budget. Commissioner Shears motioned to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote. The Commissioners commended Ms. Wood and the Administration for their diligent efforts in preparing the budget. (RESOLUTION ATTACHED)

Chairwoman Henderson opened the floor for public comments.

Mr. Jakob Williamson, Chamber of Commerce Public Affairs Coordinator, thanked Mr. Jonathan Gaddy for attending the Chamber Board meeting earlier that morning. He also announced that the Business Expo will be on October 22 from 10:00-4:00 at the Anniston Meeting Center.

Commissioner Shears motioned to adjourn, which Commissioner Howell seconded. The motion was carried unanimously by a voice vote Accordingly, the meeting adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

The next meeting was announced for Thursday, October 10, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.