

**Cleburne County Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**Regular Commission Meeting April 13, 2021**  
**Cleburne County Mountain Center**

**Roll Call**

Present:

Chairman Ryan Robertson  
Commissioner Laura Cobb  
Commissioner Emmett Owen  
Commissioner Terry Hendrix  
Commissioner Roger Hill

Absent:

None

**Comments from Citizens**

**Agency for Substance Abuse-**

Informs the Commission about the upcoming raffle to help citizens that struggle with substance abuse.

**Dr. Murphy (Gadsden State Community College)**

Is grateful of the Commission for all the support that goes into helping the students adjusting to college life.

**John Williamson**

Mr. Williamson expresses his concerns about grading and logging on CR84 and how it is damaging the road.

**Consent Agenda**

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The Commission passes the April 2021 Consent Agenda including:

Action as related to **Resolution #5116- 1-6** April 2021 Consent Agenda:

Motion made by Commissioner Emmett Owen, Seconded by Commissioner Laura Cobb

In Support: Commissioners Laura Cobb, Emmett Owen, Roger Hill, and Terry Hendrix

In Opposition: None

Motion Passed

**Resolution #5116-1**

The Cleburne County Commission hereby resolves to approve the minutes of:

March 2, 2021, March 9, 2021, and March 29, 2021

as presented.

**Resolution #5116-2**

The Cleburne County Commission recognizes the following board appointment statuses as of this meeting:

**Resignations:**

**Vacancies:**

Library Board

Pamela Payne

**Board Reappointments:**

Library Board

Pamela Payne

**Resolution #5116-3**

Whereas, the Commission has previously passed a Continuity of Operations Plan for the duration of the State of Emergency declared as a result of the COVID-19 situation or until the April meeting, whichever comes first; and

Whereas, we have reached the April meeting and the State of Emergency is still active.

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission extends the Continuity of Operations Plan for the duration of the State of Emergency, or the Commission's May meeting, whichever comes first.

**Resolution #5116-4**

Whereas, the Cleburne County Search and Rescue service is the lawful owner of a said 1996 Ford F-450 XLT truck outfitted as a Mobile Command Unit, bearing the Vehicle Identification Number of 1FDLF47FXTEB36071; and

Whereas, the Cleburne County Search and Rescue wishes to transfer ownership of a said 1996 Ford Mobile Command Unit to the Cleburne County Emergency Management Department for the sole purpose of providing support to local emergency responder agencies in Cleburne County; and

Whereas, the Cleburne County Search and Rescue has asked that said Mobile Command Unit, should the Cleburne County EMA no longer have use for it, be transferred only to another "first responder" agency; and

Whereas, the Mobile Command Unit will be a great asset that may be utilized by Cleburne EMA at emergency and community events and for training purposes.

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission accepts the donation, and authorizes the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the Cleburne County Search and Rescue.

**Resolution #5116-5**

Whereas, budget needs have changed during the course of the year due to COVID-19 expenses and grant funds; and

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission authorizes the County Administrator to adjust the budget as necessary for the increase listed below:

EMA Budget - COVID-19 Revenues & Expenditures - \$275,000

EMA Budget – DHS Grant Revenues & Expenditures - \$30,00

**Resolution #5116-6**

Whereas, establishing separate checking accounts for the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 is necessary for accounting for the receipts and expenditures in the fund.

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission authorizes the County Administrator to work with Metro Bank as necessary to create the new checking account.

**Resolution #5116-7**

Whereas, the Cleburne County Commission believes that Cleburne County is in need of defined rules and regulations for the relocation of manufactured buildings / homes into the County; and

Whereas, to pursue this during the next legislative session, the County must have a reasonable document to submit for consideration.

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission tasks the County Administrator with creating a "Manufactured Building Regulation" document and submitting it to the County Commission for review at the July Work Session.

**Resolution #5116-8**

Whereas, the County Boards are appointed by the Cleburne County Commission; and

Whereas, the County Commission wishes to be better informed of the County business of the local boards.

Therefore, the Cleburne County Commission tasks the County Administrator with contacting the County Boards to request that they submit their minutes to the County Commission after each meeting.

**New Business:**

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**A. Proclaim Community College Month**

Action as related to **Resolution #5117** Proclaim Community College Month

Motion made by Commissioner Emmett Owen Seconded by Commissioner Laura Cobb

In Support: Commissioners Laura Cobb, Emmett Owen, Roger Hill, and Terry Hendrix

In Opposition: None

**Resolution #5117**

WHEREAS, Alabama's public community college system is the State's largest system of higher education and is Alabama's most affordable and accessible system of higher education; and

WHEREAS, the three foundational pillars of the Alabama Community College System – academic transfer, workforce development and adult education – enable ACCS to make a positive impact on people served annually and the great people of the State of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, having a unified network of 24 community and technical colleges and more than 130 locations, ACCS is firmly planted within easy reach of every community in the state; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the Alabama Community College System offered 330 degree and certificate programs, served more than 159,000 people (95% of them being from Alabama) and awarded 47,695 credentials; and

WHEREAS, Gadsden State Community College is a part of ACCS serving over 4,000 students in Calhoun, Cleburne, Cherokee, Etowah and St. Clair counties and offering 70-plus programs that require two years or less to complete and prepares graduates for direct entry into the workforce; and

WHEREAS, Gadsden State Community College offers dual enrollment opportunities through the ACE Institute, which provides high-achieving students with rigorous courses beyond those offered at the secondary level, increasing college access to those who would not otherwise be college bound and preparing them for high-wage, high-demand occupations; and

WHEREAS, Gadsden State Community College and ACCS utilize the Statewide Articulation and Transfer Reporting System to assure the transfer of academic work toward a bachelor's degree at four-year institutions since the articulation agreement's inception in 1998; and

WHEREAS, Gadsden State Community College offers adult education programs, skills training and continuing education to working-age adults to enhance their skills and earn gainful employment; and

WHEREAS, Gadsden State Community College remains committed to its mission of preparing students from all backgrounds for success through quality education, innovative workforce development and inclusive community and global engagement; and

WHEREAS, April is recognized nationally as Community College Month; and

WHEREAS, ACCS Chancellor Jimmy Baker and GSCC President Dr. Kathy Murphy recommend this action:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cleburne County Commission hereby recognizes the accomplishments of Alabama's public community College system, including Gadsden State, as it continues to fulfill its unique and distinctive mission of providing a unified system of institutions delivering accessible, affordable and superior educational opportunities and workforce training and services to all of Alabama, yielding a well-educated, productive citizenry and a better prepared workforce; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Cleburne County Commission hereby proclaims April as National Community College Month in Alabama and urges all Alabamians and business industry leaders, who are committed to developing Alabama's academic transfer and workforce for the 21st century, to use and support local community colleges.

## **B. Proclaim Spring Clean-Up Month**

Action as related to **Resolution #5118** Proclaim Spring Clean-Up Month

Motion made by Commissioner Emmett Owen, Seconded by Commissioner Laura Cobb

In Support: Commissioners Laura Cobb, Emmett Owen, Roger Hill, and Terry Hendrix

In Opposition: None

**Resolution #5118**

WHEREAS, Alabama PALS (People Against A Littered State) is a statewide organization dedicated to making our state more beautiful by sponsoring programs focused on cleaning up litter in Alabama's streets, streams, campuses, and coastlines; and

WHEREAS, Alabama PALS' mission statement is "Alabama Communities Working Together for a Cleaner and More Beautiful Alabama"; and

WHEREASs, the largest Alabama PALS' initiative is the "Don't Drop It On Alabama" Spring Cleanup, which is held annually in April and open to participation by all of Alabama's 67 counties and all Alabama cities and municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the focus of the Spring Cleanup extends beyond environmental impact to education, youth, community and volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, this includes instilling environmental responsibility in Alabama's youth and creating within all Alabamians a sensitivity to the need to care about, and take responsibility for the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cleburne County Commission hereby proclaims April 2021 as "Don't Drop It On Alabama" Spring Cleanup Month.

**C. Oppose SR1 and HR1**

Action as related to **Resolution #5119** Oppose SR1 and HR1

Motion made by Commissioner Terry Hendrix, Seconded by Commissioner Emmett Owen

In Support: Commissioners Laura Cobb, Emmett Owen, Roger Hill, and Terry Hendrix

In Opposition: None

**Resolution #5119**

WHEREAS, H.R.1 / S.1, bearing the deceptive title of "For the People Act 2021", currently being considered by the United States Senate is misleading as it contains provisions that are unhelpful, unnecessary, and unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS, elections in the United States are currently administered in a highly decentralized process among the 50 individual, sovereign states; and

WHEREAS, H.R.1 / S.1 unconstitutionally federalizes the election process; and

WHEREAS, the Cleburne County Commission takes pride in its responsibility to oversee the Election Services and the sanctity of counting ballots inside the county's distinct boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the Cleburne County Commission represents the County's interests in the governance that collectively serves the people of Cleburne County; and

WHEREAS, the Cleburne County Commission believes that H.R.1 / S.1 will compromise the safety, security, and accuracy of future elections; and

WHEREAS, the Cleburne County Commission strongly opposes H.R.1 / S.1, a bill bearing the deceptive title of "For the People".

THEREFORE, the Cleburne County Commission wishes to urge the Members of Congress to uphold their oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States and to oppose H.R.1 / S.1 by the strongest means necessary.

FURTHERMORE, the Cleburne County Commission authorizes the County Administrator to forward this resolution to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, the U.S. Senate Majority Leader, the U.S. Senate Republican Leader, the U.S. House of Representatives Republican Leader, the U.S. Senate Democratic Leader, and the U.S. House of Representatives Democratic Leader.

#### **D. Executive Session**

Action as related to **Resolution #5120** Executive Session

Motion made by Commissioner Emmett Owen, Seconded by Commissioner Terry Hendrix

In Support: Commissioners Laura Cobb, Emmett Owen, Roger Hill, and Terry Hendrix

In Opposition: None

#### **Resolution #5120**

The Commission goes into Executive Session.

#### **Reports from staff:**

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- A.** County Administrator Kim Brown informs the Commission that the Auditor's will here soon to start the process and about increasing the budget to cover the cost of the Federal Audit. She also informs the Commission that the May meeting will be held May 18<sup>th</sup>.
- B.** County Engineer Lee Estes updates the Commission on the Rebuild Alabama contracts and asks about holding a Special Meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup> to go over it all.

*Commissioner Cobb asks about an update on the current road projects.*

*County Engineer Lee Estes informs the Commission that most projects are waiting on bids and CR10 will be getting paved soon as well as CR71 being cleared out.*

*Commissioner Hendrix asks about hiring an extra worker to help for the projects and asks about maintenance on the watersheds.*

*Commissioner Laura Cobb states that the ACCA does not allow the County to be responsible for maintenance.*

*Commissioner Hendrix informs that the County got the inspection letters for the watersheds and asks about making a resolution to take the responsibility away from the County.*

*County Attorney Jason Odom informs the Commission that the County would need all the previous resolutions and contracts on the watersheds before making a resolution and passing it over.*

*Commissioner Laura Cobb asks about Emergency Manager Crystal Cavender loaning out the gator to EMS for Search and Rescue purposes*

County Attorney Jason Odom states there would need to be a resolution to pass for legal purposes.

C. County Attorney Jason Odom has no updates.

**Old Business:**

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There is no Old Business to attend to this meeting.

Action as related to **Resolution #5121**

Motion made by Commissioner Emmett Owen, Seconded by Commissioner Roger Hill

In Support: Commissioners Laura Cobb, Emmett Owen, Roger Hill, and Terry Hendrix

In Opposition: None

Motion Passed

**Resolution #5121**

Meeting Adjourned.

Certified by:

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Ryan Robertson – Chairman

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Laura Cobb – District 1

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Emmett Owen – District 2

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Terry Hendrix – District 3

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Roger Hill – District 4