

THE BULLOCK COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, November 11, 2020

9:00 A.M.

Call of Roll to Establish Quorum: All members present, namely: Chairman Alonza Ellis, Jr., District One Commissioner Don Larkins, District Two Commissioner John L. Adams, District Four Solomon Marlow and County Administrator Patrick D. Smith, who recorded the minutes; County Attorney John Waters was also present. District Three Commissioner John McGowan was absent. A quorum was established.

Before the regular meeting, the following were sworn in:

Board of Education member Orlando Johnson was sworn in by Probate Judge Tatum;

Bullock County Commissioner John L. Adams was sworn in by Probate Judge Tatum;

Bullock County Commissioner Solomon Marlow was sworn in by Probate Judge Tatum.

The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was done by Pastor Jasper.

On a motion from Commissioner Larkins, seconded by Commissioner Adams to approve the agenda. All in favor; motion carried.

On a motion from Commissioner Larkins, seconded by Commissioner Adams to approve the October 2020 Regular Meeting minutes. All in favor; motion carried.

On a motion from Commissioner Larkins, seconded by Commissioner Adams to approve the October 2020 Expenditures, including payroll totaling \$659,354.95. All in favor; motion carried.

D.H.R. Director Tracy Larkins approached the commission to ask for a proclamation from the Bullock County Commission for National Adoption Awareness Month which will be observed annually in the month of November. On a motion from Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Marlow to approve the proclamation for National Adoption Awareness Month. All in favor with one abstention from Commissioner Larkins due to a related party issue with Mrs. Tracy Larkins; majority vote passed.

Commissioner Marlow came before the commission to seek approval to advertise for the Franklin Field Airport Authority Board of Directors seat that he appoints. Commissioner Marlow did not make a decision regarding the appointment and will make that appointment at a later date. On a motion from Commissioner Marlow, seconded by Commissioner Larkins to table the Franklin Field Airport Authority's board appointment to a later date. All in favor; motion carried.

Also, regarding the Franklin Field Airport Authority Board of Directors, Commissioner Adams recommended Mr. Hunter Smith to sit on the Board of Directors. On a motion from

Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Larkins to approve the appointment of Mr. Hunter Smith to sit on the Franklin Field Airport Authority's Board of Directors. All in favor; motion carried.

BCDA Director David Padgett came before the commission to get permission to fund the Fitzpatrick Greenhouse in the amount of \$4,000 to expand its operation; the funds will be paid from the Industrial Sales Tax fund. On a motion from Commissioner Marlow, seconded by Commissioner Adams to approve the funding for the Fitzpatrick Greenhouse in the amount of \$4,000 to be paid from the Industrial Sales Tax Fund. All in favor; motion carried.

Director Padgett also approached the commission to seek approval to enter into an agreement with the Smitherman Trust to exercise a renewable option at \$2,000 for "right of first refusal" on a parcel of land on Highway 110. On a motion from Commissioner Marlow, seconded by Commissioner Larkins to approve the agreement with the Smitherman Trust. All in favor; motion carried.

County Administrator Patrick D. Smith came before the commission to seek permission to advertise and accept bids regarding the Bullock County Jail inmate phone system. On a motion from Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Larkins to allow Administrator Smith to advertise and accept bids regarding the inmate phone system. All in favor; motion carried.

Administrator Smith also approached the commission to get approval for the county's depository institutions. Smith recommended to continuously use our local banks, AmeriFirst and Community Bank & Trust as the county's depository institutions. On a motion from Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Larkins to approve the use of AmeriFirst Bank and Community Bank & Trust as the county's depository institutions. All in favor; motion carried.

Smith came before the commission to seek approval for the Bullock County Commission's regular meeting dates. Smith stated that the commission currently meets on the second Monday of each month at 9 a.m. and the agenda setting is held on the Thursday prior to the regular meeting date. On a motion from Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Larkins to approve the regular meeting dates as the second Monday of each month at 9 a.m. and the agenda setting to be held on the Thursday prior to the regular meeting. All in favor; motion carried.

County Engineer Jason DeShazo came before the commission to get approval to submit Rebuild Alabama Local Grant Application. Engineer DeShazo stated that the grant application will be in the amount of \$250,000; however, DeShazo feels that the county should contribute \$353,000 in matching funds. Commissioner Larkins feels that the funding should go towards highly traveled, high residential roads where county citizens reside instead of low traffic, low residential roads. After a thorough discussion, Commissioner Adams feels that the county's matching portion should be reduced to \$50,000. On a motion from Commissioner Larkins, seconded by Commissioner Adams to allow the County Engineer to

submit the Rebuild Alabama Local Grant Application for \$250,000 with a county match/contribution of \$50,000. All in favor; motion carried.

The commission amended the agenda to include the appointment for Public Building Authority. On a motion from Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Marlow to amend the agenda to appoint a candidate to the Public Building Authority. All in favor; motion carried.

On a motion from Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Larkins re-appoint Mr. Tony Cooper to the Public Building Authority for term of six (6) years. All in favor; motion carried.

Administrator Smith approached the commission on behalf of the Bullock County Board of Registrars in reference to an Agency Agreement regarding mailing notices to voters as required by Act 95-769 and collecting reimbursements from the State Elections Fund. On a motion from Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Larkins to approve the Agency Agreement. All in favor; motion carried.

Administrator Smith also came before the commission to get approval regarding a resolution from the above Board of Registrars Agency Agreement. On a motion from Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Larkins to approve the resolution for the Board of Registrars Agency Agreement. The resolution number will be 2020-12. All in favor; motion carried.

Bullock County Aging Services Manager Miranda Townsend came before the commission to ask for permission to advertise for a Bullock County Aging Department Van Driver. She stated that Mr. James Glaze, the county's sole full-time Van Driver will be retiring at the end of the 2020 calendar year. On a motion from Commissioner Larkins, seconded by Commissioner Marlow to approve the advertisement for hiring a Bullock County Aging Department Van Driver. All in favor with one abstention from Commissioner Adams due to the fact that he has a vested interest in the local newspaper where the Bullock County Commission advertises; majority vote passed.

Commissioner Adams approached the commission regarding purchasing audio/visual equipment for the Bullock County Courthouse courtroom. He stated that Circuit Judge Smithart feels that the equipment will help mitigate the potential spreading of COVID as court cases can be handled through those audio/visual means instead of in-person cases. On a motion from Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Larkins to approve the purchase of the audio/visual equipment for the Bullock County Courthouse courtroom. All in favor; motion carried.

On a motion from Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Marlow to adjourn the November 2020 regular meeting. All in favor; motion carried.

