The Limestone County Commission met in a regular meeting today, at 9:53 a.m. at the Clinton Street Courthouse Annex, 100 South Clinton Street, Athens, Alabama.

Present: Danny Barksdale, Derrick Gatlin, and LaDon Townsend. Absent: Daryl Sammet. Collin Daly, Chairman, presided.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION was made by Derrick Gatlin and seconded by Danny Barksdale to approve the minutes of May 15, 2023.

The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion. The Administrator called the roll. Derrick Gatlin, aye; Danny Barksdale, aye; and LaDon Townsend, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

MOTION was made by LaDon Townsend and seconded by Danny Barksdale to approve the following claims:

5/19/2023	0069986 - 0070041	L	\$ 705,811.66
5/26/2023	0070042 - 0070092	2	\$ 438,157.07
5/30/2023	0070093		\$ 100.00
5/31/2023	0070094 - 0070144	1	\$ 1,328,316.40
5/31/2023	0070145 - 0070146	5	\$ 1,941.34
6/2/2023	0070147 - 0070189)	\$ 184,700.74
		TOTAL	\$ 2,659,027.21

The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion. The Administrator called the roll. LaDon Townsend, aye; Danny Barksdale, aye; and Derrick Gatlin, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

Commissioner Townsend noted a potential conflict of interest and stated that he would abstain from the vote of Landon Navas as a Temporary Laborer in the Engineering Department.

MOTION was made by Derrick Gatlin and seconded by LaDon Townsend to approve a 20% contribution in the amount of \$35,686.00 for the purchase of two (2) vans for Council on Aging through an ALDOT grant. If awarded, ALDOT will be responsible for 80% which will be in the amount of \$142,742.00.

The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. Chairman Daly expressed his appreciation to Attorney Dill and Christa McCurry for their hard work on the grant. The Administrator called the roll. Derrick Gatlin, aye; LaDon Townsend, aye; and Danny Barksdale, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

MOTION was made by LaDon Townsend and seconded by Derrick Gatlin to approve the following budget revision.

Department	Account Number	Title of Line Item	Amount
District 4	111-53500-116	Overtime Pay	+ \$3,000.00
	111-53500-190	Temporary Help	+ \$5,000.00
	111-53500-207	Safety Supplies	+ \$150.00
	111-53500-219	Other Misc. Supplies	+ \$8,000.00
	111-35910-400	Budgetary Fund Balance	\$ -16,150.00

The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion. The Administrator called the roll. LaDon Townsend, aye; Derrick Gatlin, aye; and Danny Barksdale, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

MOTION was made by Derrick Gatlin and seconded by LaDon Townsend to award the following bids:

Proposa I No.	ltem	Awarded to	Amount
2826	Printing- Security Envelopes with Window-License Commission	Currie Systems	\$898.00
2829	8.5'X25' Gooseneck Trailer	Lone Wolf Trailer Co.	\$15,500.00

The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion. The Administrator called the roll. Derrick Gatlin, aye; LaDon Townsend, aye; and Danny Barksdale, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

MOTION was made by Derrick Gatlin and seconded by LaDon Townsend to approve to hire the following:

- 1. Approve to hire Breanna Lipscomb as a Corrections Officer, effective June 6, 2023, pending a drug screening.
- 2. Approve to hire Montana McClendon as a Corrections Officer, effective June 6, 2023, pending a drug screening.
- 3. Approve to hire Amy Hamby as a Corrections Officer, effective June 6, 2023, pending a drug screening. This position will be paid through the ADPH Grant.
- 4. Approve to hire Konnar Hinton as a Corrections Officer, effective June 6, 2023, pending a drug screening. This position will be paid through the ADPH Grant.

5. Approve to hire Braxton Bowen as a Corrections Officer, effective June 6, 2023, pending a drug screening. This position will be paid through the ADPH Grant.

The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion. The Administrator called the roll. Derrick Gatlin, aye; LaDon Townsend, aye; and Danny Barksdale, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

MOTION was made by Derrick Gatlin and seconded by Danny Barksdale to approve to hire Landon Navas as a Temporary Laborer in the Engineering Department.

The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion. The Administrator called the roll. Derrick Gatlin, aye; and Danny Barksdale, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

MOTION was made by LaDon Townsend and seconded by Danny Barksdale to approve to hire William Laxson as a Temporary Laborer in the Engineering Department.

The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion. The Administrator called the roll. LaDon Townsend, aye; Danny Barksdale, aye; and Derrick Gatlin, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

MOTION was made by LaDon Townsend and seconded by Danny Barksdale to approve to promote Hayden Russell to Equipment Operator II in the Engineering Department.

The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion. The Administrator called the roll. LaDon Townsend, aye; Danny Barksdale, aye; and Derrick Gatlin, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

MOTION was made by Danny Barksdale and seconded by Derrick Gatlin to approve to promote Logan McMahan to Equipment Operator III in the Engineering Department.

The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion. The Administrator called the roll. Danny Barksdale, aye; Derrick Gatlin, aye; and LaDon Townsend, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

MOTION was made by LaDon Townsend and seconded by Derrick Gatlin to approve to amend the Staffing Plan under "Animal Control" to reflect the following:

- 1 Sheriff Corporal at a grade 17;
- 1 Deputy Sheriff (APOST Certified) at a grade 16; and
- 1 Animal Control Officer at a grade 11.

(The Staffing Plan previously listed 2 – Animal Control Officers at a grade 11.)



*EMA Officer

10 years' experience & required certifications: 19

**Real Property Appraiser

Trainee: 14; 18 months' experience: 17; State certified: 18

Under "Law Enforcement". "4 Corrections Officer - ADPH" are paid

through an ADPPH grant which will go through July 31, 2024.

Solid Waste Dept. voted 11/22/2022

SW job Descript voted. 1/3/2023

Acct. Specialist voted 1/3/2023

Grants, Comm. Relations, & Legal Spec. voted 1/3/2023

The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion. The Administrator called the roll. LaDon Townsend, aye; Derrick Gatlin, aye; and Danny Barksdale, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

MOTION was made by Danny Barksdale and seconded by LaDon Townsend to approve the following subdivision.

Name	S/D Type	Approval Type	Lots	District	Location
O'Neal School Subdivision	Minor	Preliminary & Final	3	4	On O'Neal Rd just east of the intersection of Lydia Corey Rd

The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion. The Administrator called the roll. Danny Barksdale, aye; LaDon Townsend, aye; and Derrick Gatlin, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

MOTION was made by Derrick Gatlin and seconded by LaDon Townsend to approve to sell the following on GovDeals.

Department	ltem	Inventory #	Serial #
Council on Aging	2005 Ford Taurus	18872	1FAFP53UX5A272628
District 3	2017 Chevrolet Silverado	18989	3GCUKREC9HG23618
District 3	2015 5x10 Dump Trailer	18877	5WUBU1024FF038570

The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion. The Administrator called the roll. Derrick Gatlin, aye; LaDon Townsend, aye; and Danny Barksdale, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

MOTION was made by Derrick Gatlin and seconded by Danny Barksdale to approve the insolvencies, errors, and taxes in litigation for 2022 as presented by the Revenue Commissioner's Office.

DFC 22 (Rev. 2-01)

INSOLVENTS, ERRORS AND TAXES IN LITIGATION FOR 2022 AND UNCOLLECTED INSOLVENTS AND TAXES IN LITIGATION FOR PREVIOUS YEAR(S)

THE STATE OF ALABAMA	
LIMESTONE COUNTY	County

BE IT RI	EMEMBERED, That	at the meeting of the Board of	f County Commissione	rs of said County, held	
on this	6TH	day of	JUNE,	20 23,	
		G.BRIAN PATTER	SON, Tax Collector of	said County, made his report of	f
'Insolven	ts", "Errors in Asses	sment" and "Taxes in Litigation	on" on taxes for the cu	rrent year 2022, as	
required	by Code of Ala. 1975	, Section 40-5-23. And after a	careful and rigid exam	ination of said reports by	
said Boa	rd, it was considered	and adjudged that said collect	tor be allowed credit or	n his final settlement with	
the Com	ptroller for the follow	ing amounts:			

Insolvents: State Taxes General	\$ \$46.40
··· Soldier	\$ \$18.56
··· School-····	\$ \$55.68
Errors in Assessments: State Taxes General	\$ \$63,309.20
Soldier	\$ \$25,323.68
··· School-····	\$ \$78,264.42
Taxes in Litigation: State Taxes General	\$ \$58.30
··· Soldier	\$ \$23.32
··· School-····	\$ \$69.96

And said Collector has also made his report for final allowance of the uncollected balances of Insolvent Taxes for the previous year 2021, as required by Code of Ala. 1975, Section 40-5-29; and the Board thereupon made the following allowances to said Collector of such Insolvent Taxes as he may have been unable to collect, as follows:

State Taxes General	\$ \$20.85
Soldier	\$ \$8.34
··· School·····	\$ \$25.02

And said Collector is also allowed credit for the following taxes in litigation for the previous year(s) which he has been unable to collect as follows:

PREVIOUS LITIGATIONS		eneral ,071.22 \$\$ \$\$	Soldier 6,028.49	\$ \$ \$	School 28,650.63
Given under my hand this6TH	day of	JUI	NE /	20 <u>23</u>	

Presiding Officer

COLLIN DALY, CHAIRMAN, LIMESTONE COUNTY COMMISSION

See Code of Ala. 1975. Sections 40.5.23, 40.5.24, and 40.5.25 as to taxes of current year and Sections 40.5.26, 40.5.28 and 40.5.29 as to insolvent taxes and taxes in litigation of previous year(s).

LIMESTONE COUNTY, STATE OF ALABAMA

REVENUE COMMISSIONER

· 4 · ·

ERRORS IN ASSESSMENT JUNE, 2022 TO MAY 2023

DISTRIBUTION	Gross	HS	Abatements	Other	Net
State STATE GENERAL	¢75 704 70	(\$10,000,95)	(64 044 45)	(\$070.50)	* ~~ ~~ ~~
STATE OLD SOLDIER	\$75,721.70 \$30,288.68	(\$10,230.85) (\$4,092.34)	(\$1,911.15) (\$764.46)	(\$270.50) (\$108.20)	\$63,309.20
STATE SCHOOL	\$90,866.04	(\$12,277.02)	\$0.00	(\$108.20)	\$25,323.68 \$78,264.42
-	¥30,000.04	(412,271.02)		(\$324.00)	φ/0,204.42
Total State	\$196,876.42	(\$26,600.21)	(\$2,675.61)	(\$703.30)	\$166,897.30
County					
COUNTY GENERAL	\$212,020.76	(\$13,528.34)	(\$5,351.22)	(\$757.40)	\$192,383.80
COUNTY ROAD & BRIDG	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
COUNTY HOSPITAL	\$90,866.04 \$106,010.38	(\$5,797.86) (\$6,764.17)	(\$2,293.38) (\$2,675.61)	(\$324.60) (\$378.70)	\$82,450.20 \$96,191.90
COONT POBLIC BUILDI	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$408,897.18	(\$26,090.37)	(\$10,320.21)	(\$1,460.70)	\$371,025.90
School					
SCHOOL 5.5 MILLS COU	\$85,410.54	(\$3,834.92)	\$0.00	(\$305.12)	\$81,270.50
SCHOOL 5.5 MILLS - ATH	\$45,973.48	(\$2,064.21)	\$0.00	(\$164.23)	\$43,745.04
SCHOOL 5.5 MILLS - HUP	\$3,192.15	(\$143.33)	\$0.00	(\$11.40)	\$3,037.42
SCHOOL 5.5 MILLS - MAI	\$32,011.57	(\$1,437.32)	\$0.00	(\$114.35)	\$30,459.90
DISTRICT 3 MILLS	\$54,457.92	(\$3,858.78)	\$0.00	(\$155.40)	\$50,443.74
ATHENS 3 MILLS	\$15,990.84	(\$191.10)	\$0.00	(\$88.68)	\$15,711.06
HUNTSVILLE 22 MILLS DECATUR 12.6 MILLS	\$60,749.04 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	(\$590.48) \$0.00	\$60,158.56 \$0.00
MADISON 33.5 MILLS	\$135,488.74	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$135,488.74
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
AMD778 DISTRICT 1	\$27,228.96	(\$1,929.39)	\$0.00	(\$77.70)	\$25,221.87
AMD778 DISTRICT 3	\$7,995.42	(\$95.55)	\$0.00	(\$44.34)	\$7,855.53
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00
Total School	\$468,498.66	(\$13,554.60)	\$0.00	(\$1,551.70)	\$453,392.36
Municipal					
COUNTY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
ATHENS	\$53,302.80	(\$487.00)	\$0.00	(\$295.60)	\$52,520.20
ARDMORE ELKMONT	\$3,704.60 \$44,051.60	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$3,704.60 \$44,051.60
LESTER	\$172.30	(\$50.70)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$121.60
MOORESVILLE	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
HUNTSVILLE	\$35,897.16	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$348.92)	\$35,548.24
DECATUR	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
MADISON	\$52,577.72	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$52,577.72
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Municipal	\$189,706.18	(\$537.70)	\$0.00	(\$644.52)	\$188,523.96

REVENUE COMMISSIONER

ERRORS IN ASSESSMENT JUNE, 2022 TO MAY 2023

DISTRIBUTION	Gross	HS	Abatements	Other	Net
State			*********		
General	\$75,721.70	(\$10,230.85)	(\$1,911.15)	(\$270.50)	\$63,309.20
Soldier	\$30,288.68	(\$4,092.34)	(\$764.46)	(\$108.20)	\$25,323.68
School	\$90,866.04	(\$12,277.02)	\$0.00	(\$324.60)	\$78,264.42
Total State	\$196,876.42	(\$26,600.21)	(\$2,675.61)	(\$703.30)	\$166,897.30

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct statement of Errors in Assessment

da a s a a G. BRIAN PATTERSON, LIMESTONE COUNTY REVENUE COMMISSIONER

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this ____ 6TH

JUNE

2023

COLLIN DALY, CHAIRMAN , LIMESTONE COUNTY COMMISSION

The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion. The Administrator called the roll. Derrick Gatlin, aye; Danny Barksdale, aye; and LaDon Townsend, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

MOTION was made by Danny Barksdale and seconded by LaDon Townsend to approve to change election polling location and modify beat line. Election polling location would be changed from Mays Memorial Missionary Baptist Church to Sardis Springs Baptist Church, and to place Sardis Springs Baptist Church in Beat 3 instead of Beat 2.

100 SOUTH CLINTON STREET SUITE D ATHENS, AL 35611



phone 256-233-6427 fax 256-233-6474 www.votelimestone.com

JUDGE CHARLES C. WOODROOF

May 25, 2023

Ellen Morell, Administrator Limestone County Commission 310 West Washington Street Athens, AL 35611

RE: REQUEST TO CHANGE POLLING LOCATION AND MODIFY BEAT LINE

Ellen:

This office is requesting to be placed on the June 6 agenda of the Limestone County Commission.

Attached is a letter received in my office from Mays Memorial Missionary Baptist Church as notification that they no longer wish to be a polling location (Beat 3 Box 2) for Limestone County. After discussions with County Commissioner Daryl Sammet, who represents all voters in Beat 3 Box 2, as well as County Commissioner Danny Barksdale, this office, with their consent, is requesting that the County Commission relocate the polling location from Mays Memorial Missionary Baptist Church to Sardis Springs Baptist Church located at 18310 AL Highway 251, Athens, AL 35613. This new location is approximately 6 miles south of the old location.

Currently, Sardis Springs Baptist Church is located in BEAT 2 of Limestone County. This office therefore requests that the County Commission approve a slight modification of the current beat line to include Sardis Springs Baptist Church, 18310 AL Highway 251 into BEAT 3. Beat and District maps have been included to show the area involved. This is the most minimal modification and involves around 56 addresses and approximately 84 registered voters. Only the voters' polling location would change. No change to any office for which the voter is entitled to vote would occur.

If you have questions or concerns regarding this request, please contact either me or Limestone County Elections Director, Bobbi Bailey. We are available to meet at any time prior to the meeting.

With Kindest Regards,

Charles C. Woodroof Judge of Probate

Attachments



IAIE OF ALA. LIMESTIN MAYS MEMORIAL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 23636 AL Hwy. 251 2023 MAR 15 PM 12: 13 Toney, AL 35773

Pastor: Shane Rever

JUDGE OF PROBATE

"The church in the curve that points straight to Jesus'

March 12, 2023

Charles Woodroof Judge of Probate **100 South Clinton Street** Suite D Athens, AL 35611

Dear Judge Woodroof,

Mays Memorial Missionary Baptist Church has decided to no longer be a polling location currently due to liability issues and the cost of insurance.

We regret having to make this decision; however, we feel we are doing what is in the best interest of our congregation.

Sincerely,

Michael Hill, Chairman **Board of Deacons** Mays Memorial Missionary Baptist Church

Michael & All

Regular Business Meeting Sardis Springs Baptist Church May 10, 2023

Moderator...Bro. Tim Keenum Clerk...Amy Beth Pressnell Opening Prayer...Anthony Zirbel

Minutes - no changes

Letters Granted:

Gavin Calder to Piney Grove Baptist Church. Motion and 2nd to grant. Motion carried.

Department Reports:

Sunday School... by Billy Underwood Average attendance 150

Discipleship training...by John D. Bailey

Brotherhood...no report

WMU...by Nancy Lovell

All the Lottie Moon offerings have been sent in. The main mission action project for this past quarter was collecting items for the Athens Women's Resource Center which is a Prolife project.

We are just short of reaching our Annie Armstrong goal of \$14,500. Cassandra has been sending the money to the State Board of Missions as it is received. Thank you to the church for your help in contributing to these mission projects.

Homebound...no report

Senior Adults – Bro. Charles Dean

20 average attendance at Senior Adult events. Going to Fish Creel next month. Still have some spots for Senior Adult trip in October.

Treasurer's Report – by Todd Crouch Todd gave an update on finances.

Balance on hand as of 5-17-23	\$35,497.54
Estimated end of the month bills -	
Include payroll, housing, taxes and	
Insurance	(18,505.00)
Church Utilities	(2,460.14)
Guidestone (Employee Insurance)	(6,044.86)

Estimated budget receipts for the

Next two weeks	16,000.00
Estimated balance at end of May	\$32,992.54
*****	*****

Total received for Annie Armstrong \$14,260.15

(All money has been mailed to the State Board of Missions.)

The last two months I've mailed Limestone Baptist Association 4 months of contributions. Totaling \$3,700.00, (Sept., Oct., Nov., & Dec. 2022.)

Total amount received to date for Student Camp fundraiser \$452 it is included in the checking account total.

Plans are to start sending in the Cooperative Program as soon as possible.

Church Council...by Michael Browning

Sardis Springs Baptist Church has been contacted by Probate Judge of Limestone County, Judge Woodroof requesting our church to serve as a polling station for this area. Motion to adjourn this request by Steve Pressnell, 2nd Jerry Clark. Motion passed.

Tony Lovell asked several questions from the floor, concerning finances, Michael Brownings trip, funds raised by youth.

Todd Crouch gave a report and has asked 5 people to serve on Search Committee. Hopefully we will have a committee soon. Todd asking for each member to please pray and seek God's will for this committee.

Tony Lovell made a motion from the floor that we go back to monthly business meetings, second by Holly Roberts. 9 yes and 0 no. Motion passed

Motion to adjourn Steve Pressnell, 2nd Jerry Clark. Closing prayer by Bro. Bob White.

INDGE OF PROP



Beat Map & Precinct Boudary/Locations Limestone County





County Board of Education Limestone County



Alabama Senate Districts Limestone County



Alabama House Districts Limestone County



The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion. The Administrator called the roll. Danny Barksdale, aye; LaDon Townsend, aye; and Derrick Gatlin, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

MOTION was made by Danny Barksdale and seconded by Derrick Gatlin to approve the Electronic Meeting Policy.

Electronic Meetings Policy Limestone County Commission

Adopted June 6, 2023

I. Scope of Rules.

- A. Pursuant to Ala. Code § 36-25A-5.2, the following Electronic Meetings Policy was duly adopted by the Limestone County Commission on the 6th day of June, 2023, and shall govern the conduct of the meetings of the County Commission beginning no sooner than 45 days after adoption.
- B. This Electronic Meetings Policy may be amended by affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Commission. However, such changes to the Electronic Meetings Policy shall not take effect for at least 45 days after the vote making such changes.
- C. This Electronic Meetings Policy shall be read in conjunction with the County Commission's other policies pertaining to the Alabama Open Meetings Act, Ala. Code §36-25A-5.

II. Communications Equipment and Procedures.

A. **Communications Equipment.** "Communications equipment" means any tools, devices, hardware, software, or other things necessary to facilitate communication among meeting participants who are in different physical locations and that allows all participants to hear one another at the same time.

To allow a member who is ill to participate by electronic means in a meeting, the County Commission shall use at least one of the following devices or systems:

(1) A telephonic conference system consisting of telephones or other devices capable of transmitting and receiving voice communications during a conference call, microphone(s), speaker(s), and/or any other necessary teleconferencing communications equipment. The member who is unable to be physically present at a meeting due to illness shall receive all necessary information prior to the meeting to facilitate his or her participation in the meeting. At the physical meeting location, there shall be (1) a microphone that allows members who are physically present at the meeting location to speak to the member who is participating by electronic means, and (2) a speaker that allows those who are physically present at the meeting location to hear the member who is participating by electronic means; or

(2) A computer system or smart phone utilizing video-conferencing software, microphone(s), webcam(s) or other appropriate camera(s), speaker(s) or any other necessary audio device(s), and any other necessary video-conferencing equipment. The member who is unable to be physically present at a meeting due to illness shall receive a dial-in number and/or web link in advance of the meeting to facilitate his or her participation in the meeting by video conference. To the extent possible, the webcam

Electronic Meeting Policy

Page 1 of 5

shall be situated in the physical meeting location in such a way that the members physically present and the physical location may be seen by the member who is participating by electronic means. A microphone shall be utilized at the physical location of the meeting to allow members who are physically present to speak to the member who is participating by electronic means. A speaker that allows those who are physically present at the meeting location to hear the member who is participating by electronic means shall also be utilized at the physical location of the meeting.

- B. Member Unable to Be Physically Present Due to Illness. If a member of the County Commission is unable to be physically present at the physical location of a meeting of the County Commission due to illness, and he or she desires to participate by electronic means in the meeting, then the member shall provide written notice to the Chairman and the County Administrator at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled start time of the meeting. If the member who is unable to be physically present at the physical location of the meeting due to illness is the Chairman, then the Chairman shall provide written notice to the Scheduled start time of the meeting. A letter, memorandum, email, or text message are sufficient for written notice under this Electronic Meetings Policy.
- C. **Quorum Required.** A member who is unable to be physically present at a meeting due to illness may only participate by electronic means in a meeting if a quorum of the County Commission is physically present at the physical meeting location.
- D. Testing the Communications Equipment. Immediately before the commencement of a meeting at which a member participates by electronic means, the communications equipment shall be tested to verify: (1) All participants will be able to hear one another at the same time, and (2) Interested members of the public who are present at the physical meeting location will be able to hear those who are participating by electronic means in the meeting.
- E. **Participation by Electronic Means.** Consistent with Ala. Code § 36-25A-5.2, participation by electronic means shall constitute presence in person at the meeting for all purposes, except for the establishment of a quorum.
- F. **Roll Call Voting.** Any vote taken at a meeting utilizing the communications equipment described in this Electronic Meetings Policy shall be taken as a roll call vote that allows each member to vote individually in a manner audible to all persons participating or present.
- G. **Recordkeeping.** Documentation of the member's request to participate by electronic means due to illness shall be kept by the County Commission for recordkeeping purposes. Additionally, the following information shall be noted in the meeting minutes for a meeting in which there is participation by electronic means:

i. The communications equipment was tested immediately before the meeting for sufficient compliance with these requirements: (1) All participants will be able to hear one another at the same time, and (2) Interested members of the public who are present at the physical meeting location will be able to hear those who are participating by electronic means in *Electronic Meeting Policy* Page 2 of 5

Sample Request to Participate Electronically Due to Illness

TO: collin.daly@limestonecounty-al.gov

CC: <u>ellen.morell@limestonecounty-al.gov</u>

FROM: commissioner@limestonecounty-al.gov

SENT: Monday, June 5, 2023 8:00 AM

RE: Electronic Participation in Tuesday, June 6, 2023 Meeting

Dear Chairman and County Administrator:

Due to illness, I am unable to attend tomorrow's Limestone County Commission meeting that is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 6, 2023. If a quorum is physically present at the meeting, then I would like to participate remotely by electronic means in accordance with the Commission's Electronic Meetings Policy and Ala. Code § 36-25A-5.2.

Sincerely,

Commissioner, District#

Sample Language for Minutes

TESTING OF COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

The communications equipment was tested immediately before the meeting and was determined to be sufficiently compliant with these requirements: (1) All participants will be able to hear one another at the same time, and (2) Interested members of the public who are present at the physical meeting location will be able to hear those who are participating by electronic means in the meeting.

CALL OF ROLL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM

The County Administrator called Roll to establish a quorum, and the following Commissioners were present: Chairman A (in person), Commissioner B (in person), Commissioner C (in person), Commissioner D (in person), and Commissioner E (via teleconference / video conference).

A quorum was physically present at the meeting. Commissioner E was unable to be physically present due to illness and opted to participate electronically in accordance with county policy and Act #2022-421.

the meeting.

- ii. The names of the members who were physically present at the physical meeting location.
- iii. Whether a quorum of members was physically present at the physical meeting location.

iv. The names of the member or members who participated by electronic means in the meeting due to illness and that the member or members who participated electronically were absent due to illness.

H. Expense Reimbursement. A member participating by electronic means in a meeting may not claim any form of reimbursement for expenses related to that meeting, including mileage.

III. Public Access.

- A. Meetings Open to the Public. All regular meetings of the County Commission shall be open to the public as required by the Alabama Open Meetings Act.
- B. Accessibility. All regular meetings of the County Commission will be conducted in a building that is open to the public. At the physical location of the meeting, all interested members of the public shall be able to hear all persons who are participating electronically in the meeting.

§ 36-25A-2. Definitions., AL ST § 36-25A-2

Code of Alabama

Title 36. Public Officers and Employees. (Refs & Annos) Chapter 25A. Alabama Open Meetings Act. (Refs & Annos)

Ala.Code 1975 § 36-25A-2

§ 36-25A-2. Definitions.

Currentness

As used in and for determining the applicability of this chapter, the following words shall have the following meanings solely for the purposes of this chapter:

(1) DELIBERATION. An exchange of information or ideas among a quorum of members of a subcommittee, committee, or full governmental body intended to arrive at or influence a decision as to how any members of the subcommittee, committee, or full governmental body should vote on a specific matter that, at the time of the exchange, the participating members expect to come before the subcommittee, committee, or full body immediately following the discussion or at a later time.

(2) EXECUTIVE SESSION. That portion of a meeting of a subcommittee, committee, or full governmental body from which the public is excluded for one or more of the reasons prescribed in Section 36-25A-7(a).

(3) GENERAL REPUTATION AND CHARACTER. Characteristics or actions of a person directly involving good or bad ethical conduct, moral turpitude, or suspected criminal activity, not including job performance.

(4) GOVERNMENTAL BODY. All boards, bodies, and commissions of the executive and legislative departments of the state or its political subdivisions or municipalities which expend or appropriate public funds; all multimember governing bodies of departments, agencies, institutions, and instrumentalities of the executive and legislative departments of the state or its political subdivisions or municipalities, including, without limitation, all corporations and other instrumentalities whose governing boards are comprised of a majority of members who are appointed or elected by the state or its political subdivisions, counties, or municipalities; all quasi-judicial bodies of the executive and legislative departments of the state; and all standing, special, or advisory committees or subcommittees of, or appointed by, the body. The term "governmental body" does not include any of the following:

a. Legislative party caucuses or coalitions.

b. Alabama appellate or trial courts, except as required by the constitution of this state or any body governed by rules of the Alabama Supreme Court.

c. Voluntary membership associations comprised of public employees, retirees, counties, municipalities, or their instrumentalities which have not been delegated any legislative or executive functions by the Legislature or Governor.

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§ 36-25A-2. Definitions., AL ST § 36-25A-2

(5) JOB PERFORMANCE. The observed conduct or actions of a public employee or public official while on the job in furtherance of his or her assigned duties. Job performance includes whether a person is meeting, exceeding, or failing to meet job requirements or whether formal employment actions should be taken by the governmental body. Job performance does not include the general reputation and character of the person being discussed.

(6) MEETING. a. Subject to the limitations herein, the term meeting shall only apply to the following:

1. The prearranged gathering of a quorum of a governmental body or a quorum of a committee or subcommittee of a governmental body at a time and place which is set by law or operation of law.

2. The prearranged gathering of a quorum of a governmental body or a quorum of a committee or subcommittee of a governmental body during which the full governmental body, committee, or subcommittee of the governmental body is authorized, either by law or otherwise, to exercise the powers which it possesses or approve the expenditure of public funds.

3. The gathering, whether or not it was prearranged, of a quorum of a governmental body during which the members of the governmental body deliberate specific matters that, at the time of the exchange, the participating members expect to come before the full governmental body at a later date.

4. The gathering, whether or not it was prearranged, of a quorum of a committee or subcommittee of a governmental body during which the members of the committee or subcommittee deliberate specific matters relating to the purpose of the committee that, at the time of the exchange, the participating members expect to come before the full governmental body, committee, or subcommittee at a later date.

b. The term "meeting" shall not include:

1. Occasions when a quorum of a governmental body, committee, or subcommittee attends social gatherings, conventions, conferences, training programs, press conferences, media events, association meetings and events or gathers for on-site inspections or meetings with applicants for economic incentives or assistance from the governmental body, or otherwise gathers so long as the subcommittee, committee, or full governmental body does not deliberate specific matters that, at the time of the exchange, the participating members expect to come before the subcommittee, committee, or full governmental body at a later date.

2. Occasions when a quorum of a subcommittee, committee, or full governmental body gathers, in person or by electronic communication, with state or federal officials for the purpose of reporting or obtaining information or seeking support for issues of importance to the subcommittee, committee, or full governmental body.

3. Notwithstanding subparagraph 1., occasions when two members of a governmental body, including two members of a governmental body which has three members, gather for the sole purpose of exchanging background and education information or for the sole purpose of discussing an economic, industrial, or commercial prospect or incentive that does not include a conclusion as to recommendations, policy, decision, or final action on the terms or request or an offer of public financial resources.

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§ 36-25A-2. Definitions., AL ST § 36-25A-2

c. Nothing herein shall restrict or prevent two members of the same full governmental body from talking together without deliberation, including two members of a full governmental body having only three members, and nothing herein shall restrict or prevent a mayor or executive director of a city or municipality who is not a voting member of the city or municipal council from talking or deliberating with a member of the city or municipal council.

(7) OPEN OR PUBLIC PORTION OF A MEETING. The open or public portion of a meeting is that portion which has not been closed for executive session in accordance with this chapter, for which prior notice was given in compliance with this chapter, and which is conducted so that constituents of the governmental body, members of the media, persons interested in the activities of the governmental body, and citizens of this state could, if they desired, attend and observe.

(8) PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE. The ability of an individual to practice a profession within the profession's acceptable standards of care and responsibility. A profession is a vocation requiring certification by the State of Alabama or passage of a state licensing examination that may only be granted to or taken by persons who have completed at least three years of college-level education and obtained at least a college-level degree.

(9) PUBLIC EMPLOYEE. Any person employed at the state, county, or municipal levels of government or their instrumentalities, including governmental corporations and authorities, who is paid in whole or in part from state, county, or municipal funds. A public employee does not include a person employed on a part-time basis whose employment is limited to providing professional services other than lobbying, the compensation for which constitutes less than 50 percent of the part-time employee's income.

(10) PUBLIC FUNDS. Taxes or fees charged or collected by a governmental body or from the sale of public property including, but not limited to, matching funds from the federal government or income derived from the investment of taxes or fees.

(11) PUBLIC OFFICIAL. Any person elected to public office, whether or not that person has taken office, by the vote of the people at state, county, or municipal levels of government or their instrumentalities, including governmental corporations, and any person appointed to a position at the state, county, or municipal levels of government or their instrumentalities, including governmental corporations.

(12) QUORUM. Unless otherwise provided by law, a quorum is a majority of the voting members of a governmental body. Except where a governmental body is prohibited from holding a non-emergency meeting as defined in subdivision (6)a.1. between the date of election of members and the date such members take office, any person elected to serve on a governmental body shall be counted in the determination of whether a quorum of that governmental body is present, except for any meeting as defined in subdivisions (6)a.1. In the case of appointment to a governmental body, any person shall be counted in the determination of whether a quorum of that governmental is present, except for any meeting as defined in subdivisions (6)a.1. and 2., from the date that the appointment is made or issued whether or not the appointment is effective on that date.

(13) SERIAL MEETING. a. The term serial meeting applies to any series of gatherings of two or more members of a governmental body, at which:

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§ 36-25A-2. Definitions., AL ST § 36-25A-2

1. Less than a quorum is present at each individual gathering and each individual gathering is attended by at least one member who also attends one or more other gatherings in the series.

2. The total number of members attending two or more of the series of gatherings collectively constitutes a quorum.

3. There is no notice or opportunity to attend provided to the public in accordance with this chapter.

4. The members participating in the gatherings deliberate specific matters that, at the time of the exchange, the participating members expect to come before the subcommittee, committee or full governmental body at a later date.

5. The series of gatherings was held for the purpose of circumventing the provisions of this chapter.

6. At least one of the meetings in the series occurs within seven calendar days of a vote on any of the matters deliberated.

b. The term serial meeting does not include:

1. Gatherings, including a gathering of two members of a full governmental body having only three members, at which no deliberations were conducted or the sole purpose was to exchange background and education information with members on specific issues.

2. A series of gatherings related to a search to fill a position required to file a statement of economic interests with the Alabama Ethics Commission pursuant to Section 36-25-14 until the search has been narrowed to three or fewer persons under consideration.

3. A gathering or series of gatherings involving only a single member of a governmental body.

4. A series of gatherings by the trustees of an institution of higher education established by the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, any statutorily created four-year institution of higher education in the state, or Athens State University involving a search to fill a position that directs the institution or a department or major divisions thereof, including the position of president, vice president, provost, dean, department head, or athletic coach.

5. A meeting in which a public official who is a member of a non-profit professional association comprised of members of the same profession discusses or participates in the formation of the policy or policies of the professional association of which the public official is a member. This exception shall apply to both legislative policies of the professional association and regulatory policies of the professional association of which the public official is a member, and regardless of whether a quorum of the members of the governmental body are members of the same professional association.

Credits

(Act 2005-40, p. 55, § 2; Act 2015-340, p. 1043, § 1; Act 2015-475, p. 1636, § 1; Act 2016-401, p. 1068, § 1.)

§ 36-25A-2. Definitions., AL ST § 36-25A-2

Notes of Decisions (6)

Ala. Code 1975 § 36-25A-2, AL ST § 36-25A-2

Current through Act 2023–3 of the 2023 First Special Session; and includes Acts 2023-4 through 2023-23, 2023-25 through 2023-31, 2023-33, 2023-35 through 2023-36, 2023-41 through 2023–53, 2023-55 through 2023-61, 2023-63 through 2023-70, 2023-72, 2023-75 through 2023–86, 2023-88, 2023-95, 2023-99, and 2023-219 of the 2023 Regular Session. Some provisions may be more current; see credits for details.

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§ 36-25A-5.1. Participation by electronic communications., AL ST § 36-25A-5.1

KeyCite Yellow Flag - Negative Treatment Proposed Legislation

Code of Alabama Title 36. Public Officers and Employees. (Refs & Annos) Chapter 25A. Alabama Open Meetings Act. (Refs & Annos)

Ala.Code 1975 § 36-25A-5.1

§ 36-25A-5.1. Participation by electronic communications.

Effective: July 1, 2022 Currentness

(a)(1) Except as provided in subsection (d), members of a governmental body as defined in Section 36-25A-2, that is comprised of members from two or more counties, may participate in a meeting of that governmental body by means of telephone conference, video conference, or other similar communications equipment that allows all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other at the same time. Participation by these electronic means shall constitute presence in person at the meeting for all purposes; provided, that at least three members, or a majority of a quorum of members, whichever is less, are physically present at the physical meeting location required by subsection (b).

(2) If a member is participating in a meeting of a governmental body by electronic means as authorized in this section, the governmental body shall ensure that means of access to the electronic communication is published in the same manner as the notice of the meeting is published pursuant to this chapter.

(3) The means of access shall allow members of the public to hear the meeting. A governmental body is not required to allow the public to participate by electronic means to any extent beyond being able to hear the meeting.

(b) Every meeting shall have one physical location available for persons wishing to be physically present, at which any interested member of the public shall be able to hear all persons who are participating remotely, and that location shall be published in a manner consistent with this chapter.

(c) Except as otherwise provided by this section, use of electronic communication shall be done in a manner that complies with this chapter.

(d) The members of the following governmental bodies are prohibited from participating in meetings and deliberation via electronic communications as otherwise authorized by this section:

(1) The Board of Pardons and Paroles.

(2) The Public Service Commission.

§ 36-25A-5.1. Participation by electronic communications., AL ST § 36-25A-5.1

(3) Standing committees of the Legislature while the Legislature is in session.

(4) A governing board taking any action under the Students First Act of 2011.

(5) Any state board or agency acting in any quasi judicial capacity involving employment actions or the adoption of rules pursuant to statutory authority.

(6) Any state board, agency, or other governmental body conducting a hearing that could result in loss of licensure or professional censure.

(7) The Alabama Ethics Commission.

(e) Any vote taken at a meeting utilizing the equipment contemplated by subsection (a) shall be taken as a roll call vote that allows each participant to vote individually in a manner audible to all persons participating or present at the physical location provided for in subsection (b).

(f) A member participating in a meeting by means provided by this section may not claim any form of reimbursement for expenses relating to that meeting, including mileage and per diem.

(g) If the electronic communications fail or are in any way interrupted during a meeting otherwise in compliance with this chapter, that failure shall not be grounds to challenge any action taken during the meeting.

(h) Any governmental body comprised of members from two or more counties with specific statutory or constitutional authority to meet via electronic means under a procedure different than that set forth in this section may operate under the requirements of that specific authority or may adopt a resolution opting to come under the requirements of this section.

Credits

(Act 2015-526, 1st Sp. Sess., p. 1884, § 1; Act 2022-421, § 1.)

Ala. Code 1975 § 36-25A-5.1, AL ST § 36-25A-5.1

Current through Act 2023–3 of the 2023 First Special Session; and includes Acts 2023-4 through 2023-23, 2023-25 through 2023-31, 2023-33, 2023-35 through 2023-36, 2023-41 through 2023–53, 2023-55 through 2023-61, 2023-63 through 2023-70, 2023-72, 2023-75 through 2023–86, 2023-88, 2023-95, 2023-99, and 2023-219 of the 2023 Regular Session. Some provisions may be more current; see credits for details.

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§ 36-25A-5.2. Electronic attendance at meetings of local..., AL ST § 36-25A-5.2

Code of Alabama

Title 36. Public Officers and Employees. (Refs & Annos) Chapter 25A. Alabama Open Meetings Act. (Refs & Annos)

Ala.Code 1975 § 36-25A-5.2

§ 36-25A-5.2. Electronic attendance at meetings of local governmental bodies by members and the public.

Effective: July 1, 2022 Currentness

(a) Any governmental body as defined in Section 36-25A-2 that is of a county or a municipality or is an entity established by or whose members are appointed by a county or municipality may allow participation in a meeting of that governmental body by means of telephone conference, video conference, or other similar communications equipment that allows all participants to hear one another at the same time; provided, that both of the following are fulfilled:

(1) No less than a quorum of the members of the governmental body are physically present at the physical location required by subsection (d).

(2) The members of the body participating by electronic means as provided in this section are unable to be physically present at the meeting due to illness.

(b) Participation by electronic means as authorized in this section shall constitute presence in person at the meeting for all purposes, except for the establishment of a quorum.

(c) At least 45 days before the first meeting that a governmental body uses electronic means of communication as authorized by this section, the body shall adopt an electronic meeting policy detailing the procedures and communications equipment that will be used, how the public may access the meeting, and how voting will be conducted.

(d) Each meeting in which members of a governmental body are participating by electronic means as authorized in this section shall be held at a physical location available for persons wishing to be physically present, at which any interested member of the public shall be able to hear all persons who are participating remotely.

(e) Any vote taken at a meeting utilizing the equipment authorized by subsection (a) shall be taken as a **roll call vote that** allows each participant to vote individually in a manner audible to all persons participating or present at the physical location provided for in subsection (d).

(f) A member participating in a meeting by electronic means as provided by this section may not claim any form of reimbursement for expenses relating to that meeting, including mileage.

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§ 36-25A-5.2. Electronic attendance at meetings of local..., AL ST § 36-25A-5.2

Credits (Act 2022-421, § 2.)

Ala. Code 1975 § 36-25A-5.2, AL ST § 36-25A-5.2 Current through Act 2023–3 of the 2023 First Special Session; and includes Acts 2023-4 through 2023-23, 2023-25 through 2023-31, 2023-33, 2023-35 through 2023-36, 2023-41 through 2023–53, 2023-55 through 2023-61, 2023-63 through 2023-70, 2023-72, 2023-75 through 2023–86, 2023-88, 2023-95, 2023-99, and 2023-219 of the 2023 Regular Session. Some provisions may be more current; see credits for details.

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The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion. The Administrator called the roll. Danny Barksdale, aye; Derrick Gatlin, aye; and LaDon Townsend, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

Commissioner Barksdale discussed the issue of roads being damaged and needing a way to resolve this problem, which is a problem throughout Alabama. Commissioner Barksdale stated that the roads are County assets and there needs to be options to protect the roads. Commissioner Barksdale believes that the best option is to implement impact fees, but he is open to suggestions. Commissioner Barksdale further requested to form a resolution for the next meeting begin holding work sessions on Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m. prior to Commission Meetings on Monday in order to allow ample time to review agendas and allow citizens a more convenient time to attend.

Commissioner Gatlin said that he would like to go back to the work session meeting being on the Wednesday prior to the Monday Commission meeting.

Commissioner Townsend reminded everyone to keep Commissioner Sammet in their prayers and thanked Joe Moss for his service to the County. Commissioner Townsend reported that paving would be on Easter Ferry next week and School House Road following. Commissioner Townsend also requested for citizens to be aware of the employees' bush hogging and work on the roads.

Chairman Daly thanked all 300 county employees for helping keep the County going, and stated, "We all pull together to make this County great." Chairman Daly also stated that he would be in favor of changing the meetings to the afternoon. Chairman Daly asked that everyone remember Commissioner Sammet in their prayers.

Adjourned at 10:15 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at the Clinton Street Courthouse Annex, 100 South Clinton Street, Athens, Alabama.