

**MINUTES, LIMESTONE COUNTY COMMISSION, JANUARY 22, 2024,  
COMMISSION MEETING**

The Limestone County Commission met in a regular meeting today at 2:50 p.m. at the Clinton Street Courthouse Annex, 100 South Clinton Street, Athens, Alabama. The original date for said meeting was scheduled for January 16, 2024 but was re-scheduled to today's date due to winter weather.

Present: Daryl Sammet, Danny Barksdale, Derrick Gatlin, and LaDon Townsend. Absent: Collin Daly. Daryl Sammet, District 1 Commissioner, presided.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MOTION** was made by LaDon Townsend and seconded by Danny Barksdale to approve the minutes of January 2, 2024.

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

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

12/29/2023	0072552-0072627	\$	1,341,422.43
12/29/2023	PAYPAL	\$	64.53
01/05/2024	0072628-0072686	\$	192,639.28
01/05/2024	0072687	\$	4,479.01
TOTAL		\$	1,538,605.25

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

**MOTION** was made by Danny Barksdale and seconded by Derrick Gatlin to approve a Resolution supporting libraries and parental rights.

**LIMESTONE COUNTY COMMISSION RESOLUTION  
A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LIBRARIES AND PARENTAL RIGHTS**

WHEREAS, the Limestone County Commission ("Commission") has reviewed a copy of Governor Kay Ivey's letter of October 4, 2023, to the Alabama Public Library Service; and

WHEREAS, the Commission supports the Governor's proposals for improving the Alabama library system as set forth in the letter; and

WHEREAS, the Commission also recognizes the need for the Athens-Limestone Public Library to support parents who wish to shield their children from content they deem as inappropriate while also ensuring that the banning of books from the library based on unpopular opinions or content does not occur.

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NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED by the Limestone County Commission that the Commission supports the Governor's suggestion that local libraries "adopt their own policies governing the location and promotion of content that they deem inappropriate for children."

Be it further RESOLVED that the Commission strongly suggests that the Athens-Limestone Public Library adopt new policies in a public meeting which facilitate greater parental supervision for their children, including written policies (1) addressing the physical location (and relocation) of materials inappropriate for youth (and the manner in which books are reviewed to determine appropriateness after receiving a complaint), (2) requiring that advance approval be obtained from the Athens-Limestone Public Library Board of Trustees by library staff for materials recommended, displayed, or otherwise actively promoted by library staff, (3) clarifying that actions by the Athens-Limestone Public Library to limit children's access to inappropriate material is not impermissible "censorship", and (4) which allow library staff to address parental concerns about sexually explicit or otherwise inappropriate material.

Done this 16th day of January 2024.

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Collin Daly, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Ellen Morell, County Administrator

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

**MOTION** was made by Derrick Gatlin and seconded by Danny Barksdale to approve an amended License Agreement with Family Life Center for use of the common areas at 503 South Jefferson Street (Community Corrections). Amendment allows both the Licenser and the Licensee to have the right to terminate the agreement without cause upon giving thirty (30) days written notice to Licenser or Licensee.

### **STATE OF ALABAMA COUNTY OF LIMESTONE**

#### **LICENSE AGREEMENT**

For valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Limestone County Commission, as the governing body of Limestone County, Alabama, hereinafter referred to as "LICENSOR" does hereby grant unto Family Life Center, hereinafter referred to as "LICENSEE" on and effective the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January 2024, the privilege to enter upon that certain real property of LICENSOR located at 503 South Jefferson Street, Athens, Alabama 35611, in Limestone County, Alabama, and specifically within Suite C thereof, hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Premises" subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. LICENSEE shall have the privilege and license to enter upon the Premises and, as needed

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to access the Premises, the common areas thereof for the purpose of providing assessment, counseling, group meetings, intensive outpatient program (IOP) classes, and other such services in conjunction with and in furtherance of the Limestone County Community Corrections Program.

2. LICENSEE shall agree to pay to LICENSOR a monthly rental payment in the sum of \$500.00 payable in advance on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March 2024 and on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of each month thereafter until the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024.

3. This license hereby granted shall continue for a period of nine (9) months, terminating at 4:30 p.m. CST, September 30, 2024, unless terminated as otherwise provided herein.

4. Both, LICENSOR and LICENSEE, shall have the right to terminate this agreement and the privilege and license herein granted, without cause, upon giving thirty (30) days written notice to LICENSOR or LICENSEE.

5. LICENSOR shall have the right to terminate this agreement and the privilege and license herein granted, effective immediately, if LICENSEE uses the Premises, or allows use of the Premises, for any purpose other than as contemplated herein in conjunction with and in furtherance of the Limestone County Community Corrections Program or for any unlawful purpose, up to and including any improper and unlawful use of the Premises by any of LICENSEE'S employees, agents, representatives, vendors, suppliers, or guests.

6. LICENSEE shall be permitted to enter upon the Premises with any and all equipment and supplies it deems necessary for the purposes set forth herein, and LICENSEE agrees to use the property in a lawful manner at all times.

7. It is acknowledged and agreed that LICENSEE'S primary use of the Premises will be during the normal operating hours of the Limestone County Community Corrections Program though LICENSEE shall not be prohibited from using the Premises in conjunction with and in the furtherance of the Limestone County Corrections Program after normal operating hours on nights and weekends. However, prior to any such use of the Premises after such normal operating hours of the Limestone County Community Corrections Program, LICENSEE shall give express notice of the days and times at which the Premises will be so used to the Director of the Limestone County Community Corrections Program and receive the Director's consent to so use the Premises at those times.

8. It is acknowledged and agreed that LICENSEE'S use of the Premises will extend to allow Recovery Organization of Support Specialist (R.O.S.S) to use the premises one night per week for Peer Support Group meetings. However, LICENSEE agrees to be responsible for any damages directly caused by R.O.S.S. employees, agents, representatives, vendors, suppliers, participants and guests, and/or resulting from any of their use or misuse of the Premises.

9. At the discretion of LICENSOR, LICENSEE may be provided its own access to the Premises by way of a key or other coded or permitted entry, and LICENSOR reserves the right to revoke any such access at any time for, but in no way limited to, the security and/or maintenance of the Premises or for such other reason as LICENSOR may determine in its sole discretion.

10. LICENSEE agrees to be responsible for any damages directly caused by it and/or its employees, agents, representatives, vendors, suppliers, and guests, and/or resulting from any of their use or misuse of the Premises, and LICENSEE agrees to indemnify and hold LICENSOR harmless therefrom, including any claim for workers compensation benefits that is brought by a covered employee or contractor of LICENSEE against it for such benefits.

11. LICENSEE shall not alter, manipulate, nail or drill into, or otherwise deconstruct any

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portion of the Premises or its doors, doorways, walls, ceilings, floors, electric and cable outlets, light fixtures, and the like without the express consent of LICENSOR or the Director of the Community Corrections Program, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

**12.** LICENSEE shall carry and maintain, at its sole cost and expense, commercial general liability, property and premises liability, automobile liability, and workers compensation and employers liability insurance, all of which insurance, to the extent possible, shall name LICENSOR as an additional insured, and which insurance shall not be cancelled without thirty (30) days' notice of cancellation of any such insurance policies to LICENSOR, save circumstances where notice in such time period is not possible and LICENSEE notifies LICENSOR as soon as may otherwise be reasonably possible thereafter. LICENSEE shall provide proof and/or a certificate of such insurance, including with LICENSOR as an additional insured when applicable, to LICENSOR at such times as LICENSOR may reasonably request. LICENSEE shall be solely responsible for any insurance carried on its own personal property, business, employees, and the like, and LICENSOR shall have no obligation to so insure any such property or persons.

**13.** No amendment, modification or alteration of the terms of this license is binding unless in writing, dated subsequent to the date of this Agreement, and duly executed by the parties.

**14.** This Agreement and the privilege and license herein granted shall not be assigned by LICENSEE without the express written consent of LICENSOR.

**15.** The undersigned parties warrant and represent to the other that by signing this Agreement each has full legal power and authority to bind the other to the obligations herein.

**16.** The parties agree that this Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall constitute one and the same instrument.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, we have hereunto set our hands and seals effective on the day first above written.

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**LICENSOR**

**Limestone County Commission**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Collin Daly, Chairman

**LICENSEE**

**Family Life Center**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTEST**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ellen Morell, County Administrator

**ATTEST**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

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

**MOTION** was made by LaDon Townsend and seconded by Danny Barksdale to:

1. Approve to hire Frank Stumbo as a Corrections Officer, effective January 22, 2024, pending a drug screening.
2. Approve to hire Damenian Washington as a Corrections Officer, effective January 22, 2024, pending a drug screening.
3. Approve to hire Seth Frazee as a Corrections Officer, effective January 22, 2024, pending a drug screening.
4. Approve to hire Kevin Cantrell as a Corrections Officer, effective January 22, 2024, pending a drug screening.

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

**MOTION** was made by Derrick Gatlin and seconded by LaDon Townsend to approve to hire Dan Kevin Craig as a Facilities Technician, pending a drug screening.

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

**MOTION** was made by Derrick Gatlin and seconded by Danny Barksdale to approve to promote Tyler McBay from Equipment Operator II to Equipment Operator III in District 3, effective January 16, 2024.

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

**MOTION** was made by LaDon Townsend and seconded by Derrick Gatlin to approve to hire Heidi Stinnett as Director at Council on Aging, pending a drug screening, start date to be determined.

Commissioner Sammet asked if there was any discussion. Commissioner Sammet stated that Mrs. Stinnett will be a good hire for this position. The Administrator called the roll. LaDon Townsend, aye; Derrick Gatlin, aye; Danny Barksdale, aye; and Daryl Sammet, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

**MOTION** was made by Danny Barksdale and seconded by LaDon Townsend to approve the following merit increases, which are included in the base pay and cost of living pay as listed below.

Name	Position	Effective Date
Lori Hargrove	Accounts Payable Technician	1/22/2024 (Anniversary date 1/3/2024)
Cody Lewter	Deputy Sheriff (SRO)	1/22/2024 (Anniversary date 1/10/2024)
Charles Bradley Carter	Asst. Superint. of Facilities & Grounds	2/6/2024

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

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

Name	S/D Type	Approval Type	Lots	District	Location
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Town Mill Phase 2	Major	Final	77	2	East side of Mooresville Rd, approx. ½ mile north of Huntsville Brownsferry Rd.
AL Hwy 99 Subdivision	Minor	Preliminary & Final	2	4	On AL Hwy 99 just south of Ashley Brook Way

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

**MOTION** was made by Derrick Gatlin and seconded by LaDon Townsend to approve to remove the following from inventory:

Department	Item	Serial #
Archives	Dell Latitude E6510 Laptop	4935/17701

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

Commissioner Barksdale expressed his appreciation to his fellow commissioners for their hard work during the inclement weather this past week. He further stated that he would like to have a discussion regarding how to handle certain weather situations and the type of equipment that might be needed in the future to handle those situations.

Commissioner Gatlin thanked essential employees that worked during the inclement weather last week. He also urged citizens to use caution when traveling in the southern part of the county due to black ice still on some of the roads.

Commissioner Townsend thanked all essential employees and the county engineering department employees that worked during the inclement weather and stated that the public has been great during the winter weather. He also agreed with Commissioner Barksdale regarding a plan on how to handle certain weather situations. Additionally, Commissioner Townsend thanked Commissioner Gatlin for allowing District 4 to borrow equipment to help clear the roads.

Commissioner Sammet stated that Limestone County was not the only county impacted by winter weather and that Huntsville has the budget and equipment to be able to clear roads more efficiently. He further expressed appreciation to the citizens for being patient and asked that citizens continue to be patient with any road repairs that might need to be done after the snow and ice melts. In closing, Commissioner Sammet thanked Representative Ben Harrison for attending the commission meeting today and announced that the garbage routes will run as normal starting this week and requested citizens to leave any extra trash beside the garbage can and it will be picked up.

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Adjourned at 3:08 p.m. until 9:00 a.m. on Monday, February 5, 2024, at the Clinton Street Courthouse Annex, 100 South Clinton Street, Athens, Alabama.