

HENRY COUNTY COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 25, 2025
10:00 A.M.

The Henry County Commission held its regular meeting on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. The following members were in attendance: Chairman Ray Marler and Commissioners Joe Falkner, John Ralph Saunders, Jason Hudspeth, Henry Grimsley and Jay Jones.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation was given by Henry Grimsley.

Chairman Marler stated that all commissioners are present, we do have a quorum.

Public Comment from Citizens. - None scheduled.

Awards and Presentations - (A) None

Consent Agenda

Chairman Marler requested a motion to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2025, regular commission meeting. Henry Grimsley moved to approve the minutes of January 16, 2025, regular commission meeting seconded by Jay Jones. Vote was unanimous.

Scheduled Public Hearing - None.

New Business

Chairman Marler requested action to proclaim February as Career and Technical Education Month. John Ralph Saunders moved to proclaim February as Career and Technical Education Month seconded by Henry Grimsley. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Marler requested action to appoint Jay Jones to the Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission and David Money as ex-officio SEARP&DC three-year term expiring 2/25/28. Joe Falkner moved to appoint Jay Jones to the Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission and David Money as ex-officio SEARP&DC three-year term expiring 2/25/28 seconded by Henry Grimsley. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Marler requested action to schedule Administrative/Commission meetings. Joe Falkner moved to schedule Administrative/Commission meetings for the 4th Tuesday of the month through May at 9:30 and 10:00 in the Annex Building Courtroom seconded by Henry Grimsley. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Marler requested approval for letter of intent to purchase Sanitation Truck. Henry Grimsley moved to approve letter of intent to purchase Sanitation Truck seconded by Jason Hudspeth. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Marler requested permission to assist the city of Headland with limb trimming. Joe Falkner moved to grant permission to assist the city of Headland with limb trimming seconded by Jay Jones. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Marler requested action on request for lounge retail liquor license – Just Friends Again, LLC located at 193 County Road 19 in Headland. John Ralph Saunders moved to grant request for lounge retail liquor license – Just Friends Again, LLC located at 193 County Road 19 in Headland seconded by Henry Grimsley. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Marler requested action on Change order number one for Henry County Jail/Beasley Construction and Change order #1 for Henry County Jail Detention. Jay Jones moved to approve Change order number one for Henry County Jail/Beasley Construction and Change order #1 for Henry County Jail Detention seconded by Henry Grimsley. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Marler requested action to re-appoint Fred Tye to the Henry County Water Authority Board for six-year term expiring 3/1/31. Henry Grimsley moved to re-appoint Fred Tye to the Henry County Water Authority Board for six-year term expiring 3/1/31 seconded by Jay Jones. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Marler requested approval of the Skonitzki RV Park plat, a private Group Development located on US 431. Jay Jones moved to grant approval of the Skonitzki RV Park plat, a private Group Development located on US 431 seconded by Jason Hudspeth. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Marler requested approval of the Buckhill Cabins plat, a private Group Development located on Sharon Drive. Jason Hudspeth moved to grant approval of the Buckhill Cabins plat, a private Group Development located on Sharon Drive seconded by Joe Falkner. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Marler requested action to schedule a work session to discuss Budget issues and Retiree Health Insurance Resolution. Henry Grimsley moved to schedule a work session on March 11th at 9:00 in the Herndon courtroom to discuss Budget issues and Retiree Health Insurance Resolution seconded by Jay Jones. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Marler requested approval to amend last month's approval of the purchase of 3-2025 Chevy Tahoe's for the Sheriff department from McSweeney Auto Group for a total of \$140,174.52, to a request for two Ford Explorer's from Stivers Ford and one Chevrolet pickup from Solomon Chevrolet for a total of \$147,216.83. Jason Hudspeth moved to amend last month's approval of the purchase of 3-2025 Chevy Tahoe's for the Sheriff department from McSweeney Auto Group for a total of \$140,174.52, to a request for two Ford Explorer's from Stivers Ford and one Chevrolet pickup from Solomon Chevrolet for a total of \$147,216.83 seconded by Jay Jones. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Marler requested approval to transfer two Ameris bank accounts to HNB: Public Building Road and Bridge and Warrant Service Fund. Jay Jones moved to approve transfer of two Ameris bank accounts to HNB: Public Building Road and Bridge and Warrant Service Fund seconded by Henry Grimsley. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Marler requested approval to reappoint Sam Brannon, Rhonda Harrison and Benny Smith to the Industrial Development Authority of Houston, Henry, Geneva & Dale Counties for a six-year term, to expire 2/25/31. Joe Falkner moved to reappoint Sam Brannon, Rhonda Harrison and Benny Smith to the Industrial Development Authority of Houston, Henry, Geneva

& Dale Counties for a six-year term, to expire 2/25/31 seconded by Jay Jones. Vote was unanimous.

Old Business

Chairman Marler requested action on amending the personnel policy with a provision that addresses a cap on the amount of the County's contribution toward the retiree health premium in coming years. Henry Grimsley moved to table approval to amend the personnel policy with a provision that addresses a cap on the amount of the County's contribution toward the retiree health premium in coming years seconded by John Ralph Saunders.

Reports from Staff

Chairman Marler - updates for courthouse coming up.

Dawn Shirley, County Administrator – Update from Worker's Compensation Audit.

Chris Champion, Engineer. – See attached report.

Derek Peterson, County Attorney – Personnel Board in place with an upcoming hearing.

Rhonda Harrison, Economic Development Director – See attached report.

EMA/Maintenance -All is good.

Safety Director/Sanitation -See attached report.

Sheriff – See attached report. Sheriff department and the City of Abbeville have a lease agreement drafted regarding use of the City's range. Sheriff requested parking lot stripping behind the Herndon Building.

Discussion items by Commissioners

Joe Falkner - Good reports and appreciate the trucks down our way.

John Ralph Saunders – Thank guest for attending today. Department Heads thank you for what you do. Officially we'd like to welcome you to Judge Marler and Judge Peterson.

Jason Hudspeth – Thank all for the hard work.

Henry Grimsley – Good to see each and everyone. Judge Peterson and Judge Marler welcome aboard. To everyone else we will get the job done.

Jay Jones – It's an honor to be with a group that handled the snowstorm like they did. Matt Hatcher thank you for all the emails, they were outstanding. Thank all the county workers!

On a motion by Henry Grimsley seconded by Joe Falkner and a unanimous vote, the commission adjourned the meeting at 10:33 a.m.