

MINUTES, LIMESTONE COUNTY COMMISSION, FEBRUARY 13, 2013

The Limestone County Commission reconvened the meeting from February 4, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. today at the Washington Street Courthouse Annex, 310 West Washington Street, Athens, AL.

Present: Gary Daly, Steve Turner, James W. "Bill" Latimer, and Ben Harrison. Absent: None. Stanley Menefee, Chairman presided.

Tony Llewellen addressed the Commission with a request to review the proposal for Lucy's Branch. He suggested making Lucy's Branch a primitive park with anchored grills, picnic tables, and a walking trail. He asked the Commission to reconsider its decision to make Lucy's Branch an all-inclusive RV resort, so everyone in Limestone County can enjoy, including Girl Scouts, church groups and family reunions.

Deborah King stated she was not opposed to Mr. Llewellen's proposal; however, the county should not lose money in order to renovate the park.

Richard Martin, Limestone County Parks & Recreation Board member and Limestone County Tourism Board member, addressed the Commission concerning Lucy's Branch. He stated that recreation doesn't make money, but is provided for quality of life. It brings people to Limestone County. He said that recently 60 people riding 2-seater bikes spent two nights in an Athens hotel and ate at our restaurants. He further stated that renovating Lucy's Branch builds assets for the community.

Commissioner Ben Harrison stated he would have like to have seen a proposal put down on paper and brought before the Commission prior to being placed on the agenda.

Chairman Menefee stated that the Commission had already approved \$75,000 for phase 1 infrastructure for Lucy's Branch. He stated that for anything to be reconsidered, the Commissioners that made the motion would have request to rescind the motion.

Ricky Adams, Adams & Son Tree Trimming & Removal stated he would like to help the Commission make a decision on cutting down the trees at the Courthouse. He realizes there are concerns about bringing the trees down without damage to the grounds and concrete, as well as safety of the people. He suggested waiting till the ground was drier, maybe the first part of summer. He requested that the Commission consider Adams & Sons for the job since they were the lowest quote. He assured the Commission that he would take the trees down in a safe manner.

The Commission was not favorable of reconsidering the August 2, 2010 tabled motion.

County Engineer Richard Sanders presented the Lakeshore RV Resort subdivision, Addition 1 (Replat Lots 14 and 15), that he submitted in 2010. He stated, at that time, there was much opposition to the subdivision and the Commission tabled the

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subdivision at its meeting on August 2, 2010. The minutes of the meeting on August 16, 2010 reflect: "The Chairman recommended that the Developer of Lakeshore RD Resorts work out an arrangement with the owner of the existing road to widen the road to allow adequate access prior to consideration of this subdivision by the County Commission."

Items were discussed for the February 19, 2013 Agenda.

Chairman Stanley Menefee introduced Mike Watson, 2WR, Architect for Courthouse renovation project.

Mr. Watson spoke regarding the Courthouse renovation project and insuring the Courthouse is operational during renovations. He has been trying to come up with a plan to maintain the two iron and marble stairwells. He said, it would be most logical to remove one staircase, but he thought working with Bob Gamble, Architectural Historian, Alabama Historical Commission and Elizabeth Brown, Architect and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, they had come up with a solution to save the stairwell. He presented the plan to the Commission and stated that it should not make any negative impact on overall budget. He referred to construction manager, Brian Moore, Martin & Cobey Construction, stating that Mr. Moore would have to determine if the plan was feasible with the sequencing of the project.

Brian Moore, Martin & Cobey construction manager, stated that is was a very creative plan and 2WR had done what the Commission asked of them, but he will need time to determine if the plan works. He said, "if it does, I'm all for it."

Commissioner Turner stated the exterior of the Limestone County Archives building needs repairs.

Commissioner Harrison proposed the Commission sit down and come up with an action plan which can be acted upon for the Community Corrections contraction project. The Commission set a date and time of February 19, 2013 immediately following its regular Commission meeting.

Adjourned at 11:08 a.m.