

MINUTES, LIMESTONE COUNTY COMMISSION, DECEMBER 14, 2016

The Limestone County Commission reconvened the meeting from December 5, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. today at the Washington Street Courthouse Annex, 310 West Washington Street, Athens, AL.

Present: Stanley Hill, Steve Turner, Jason Black, and Ben Harrison. Absent: None. Mark Yarbrough, Chairman presided.

Melanie Newton the new Executive Director for the Spirit of Athens informed the Commission that the Spirit of Athens is changing its name, as of the first of the year, to Athens Main Street.

Sheriff Mike Blakely, Lieutenant Tammy Waddell and Lieutenant Roy Brooks addressed the Commission about establishing an off-site visitation at the county warehouse. By converting space at the county warehouse, correction officers can schedule more visits during weekdays. The video system will allow visitors to come to the Cherry Street location to see and speak to inmates at no-charge and allows visitors, who can't physically come to the jail, to pay for visits through a mobile app. A big benefit to the Sheriff's Office will be that the digital scheduling system keeps record of visits in case an inmate has a question. The Sheriff said the reason for switching from traditional in-house visits to video calls is two-fold, corrections officers are put at risk when they escort an inmate from a cell block to the visitation area and officers must also search visitors for contraband, which also takes time away from monitoring the inmates. With the video visitation system, an inmate can use a digital kiosk to make their call while the visitor is off-site. The conversion of the county warehouse would eliminate the stock and require supplies to be ordered as needed. The Sheriff stated he would be willing to assume the current employee assigned to the warehouse and requested the Commission to take action at its meeting on Monday.

MOTION was made by Stanley Hill and seconded by Ben Harrison to suspend the Rules of Order to approve board appointments for the Parks & Recreation Board.

The Administrator called the roll. Stanley Hill, aye; Ben Harrison, aye; Steve Turner, aye; and Jason Black, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

MOTION was made by Ben Harrison and seconded by Jason Black to approve the following board appointments for the Parks & Recreation Board, with terms ending December 14, 2022:

- Appoint Jim Moffat (to replace Jackie Greenhaw)
- Reappoint Richard Martin
- Reappoint Trisha Black
- Reappoint Doug Gates
- Reappoint Glendon R. Easter
- Reappoint John Witt
- Reappoint Carl Hunt
- Reappoint Keith Hinkle
- Reappoint Kelvin Davis

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The Chairman asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion. The Administrator called the roll. Ben Harrison, aye; Jason Black, aye; Stanley Hill, aye; and Steve Turner, aye. Motion carries unanimously.

Items were discussed for the December 19, 2016 agenda.

Adjourned at 10:57 a.m.