

**MINUTES, LIMESTONE COUNTY COMMISSION, SEPTEMBER 21, 2020
WORK SESSION**

The Limestone County Commission reconvened the meeting from September 8, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. today at the Clinton Street Courthouse Annex, 100 South Clinton Street, Athens, Alabama.

Present: Daryl Sammet, Steve Turner, Jason Black, and Ben Harrison. Absent: None. Collin Daly, Chairman presided.

Amy Fiscus with Vollara presented the ActivePure purification system. She said the system has been proven effective against both DNA and RNA viruses, and it works to do so in the air and on surfaces. One unit cleans 3,000 square feet, 1200 feet per second. Their technology creates hydroxyls that go into the atmosphere of a room and disperse into the entire room to help clean the air and surfaces from pathogens. The purification system kills over 99.9% of RNA viruses. The ActivePure system is the only air cleaning technology awarded the prestigious Certified Space Technology seal by the Space Foundation and inducted into the Space Technology Hall of Fame.

Items were discussed for the September 21, 2020 commission meeting agenda.

County Engineer Marc Massey explained the budget revision for the district roads is to cover project overruns due to unrealized revenue from the Rebuild Alabama Act due to COVID and Federal Aid exchange funds withheld from projected amounts due to prior year adjustments. The funds are being transferred from the general fund.

Bethany Shockney with Limestone County Economic Development Association said LaserFab, Inc. was granted a tax abatement in October 2018. They did not receive the contract for which that project was awarded the abatement, so the equipment was not purchased; therefore, the agreement needs to be terminated. She presented a new tax abatement received from North Alabama LaserFab, Inc. and has determined that the company meets the qualifications to apply to the commission for a tax abatement. She said they have 19 employees. They plan to purchase a new laser cutter and metal brake with a cost of \$842,000 and an additional 2,400 SF facility with a cost of \$30,000. The company is requesting sales and property tax abatement as follows:

- Sales taxes abated one time will be approximately \$13,230. New education taxes paid will be approximately \$8,720.
- Property tax abated will be approximately \$2,104.70 each year and the 10-year total is \$21,947. New education taxes will be approximately \$1,678.30 per year and over 10 years will be \$16,783.

North Alabama LaserFab, Inc. has committed to hire an additional 7 people over the next 3 years bringing their total employment to 26.

Commissioner Turner added to the agenda to transfer Dustin Gatlin from District 1 to District II as an Equipment Operator III.

County Engineer Marc Massey requested to remove a minor subdivision from the agenda; East Limestone Acres Subdivision a replat of Lot 13.

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Commissioner Sammet said with the District 1 tool shed sitting near Interstate 65, all last week he saw utility trucks from all over traveling south to help those affected by Hurricane Sally.

Chairman Daly asked everyone to remember fellow commissioners and neighbors cleaning up from the aftermath of the storms.

Recessed at 9:30 a.m.