

**MINUTES, LIMESTONE COUNTY COMMISSION, MAY 3, 2021
WORK SESSION**

The Limestone County Commission reconvened the meeting from April 5, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. today at the Clinton Street Courthouse Annex, 100 South Clinton Street, Athens, Alabama.

Present: Daryl Sammet, Danny Barksdale, Jason Black, and LaDon Townsend. Absent: None. Collin Daly, Chairman presided.

Items were discussed for the May 3, 2021 commission meeting agenda.

Ms. Jill Menefee addressed the Commissioner concerning the development at the corner of East Limestone Road and Barksdale Road.

Judge of Probate, Charles Woodroof, Jr., addressed the Commission regarding the replacement of the Automark machines with new Express Vote machines. The funds for the new machines will be covered with HAVA funds and funds from the Secretary of State. These machines assist the visually impaired and hearing-impaired voters.

Chairman Barksdale stated the following regarding the proposed Resolution prohibiting through truck traffic on Bradford Road and the north section of Newby Road, from Gray Road to Highway 72: "Heavy gross weight trucks are a necessary and important part of our economy and transportation system. However, they should be managed in a way that limits their negative effects on our roads and citizens. Across the United States, counties, cities and towns use designated truck routes and no truck roads as a management tool to control and direct trucks to the most appropriate roads suitable for their weight. The citizens of Limestone County have somewhere around \$500,000 invested in the one mile of west Newby to make it suitable for heavy trucks. West Newby has the road base width and turn lanes to make it more appropriate for trucks. For this reason, I am asking my fellow commissioners to make north Newby and Bradford Roads no truck roads.

The Chairman briefed the Commission as to the "Consultation Service Agreement" between Martin and Cobey Construction Company and the Limestone County Commission. The Chairman reported that Joseph Cannon, License Commissioner, had requested to install some outside walk-up windows which would allow citizens to not have to enter the building for their tag and license services. The use of CARES Act monies would allow for the Commission to look for more ways to be prepared should we have another pandemic in the future, and being that the Clinton Street Annex was built by Martin & Cobey Construction Company, he believed it would be good to have a standing agreement for future construction services.

Marc Massey addressed the Commission regarding the Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood, Inc. agreement. Mr. Massey reported that they had the same concerns as Ms. Menefee as to the development and growth in the East Limestone area and that this agreement with Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood would be the first step in enabling them to come up with a plan to help analyze intersections, roadways and prioritize projects.

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Commissioner Daryl Sammet brought up the issue of the paving machine burning the taillights off the Mack trucks. Marc Massey reported that they had originally requested that the lights be located in a different area, but they never got the chance to check the lights before the trucks were delivered. Mr. Massey stated that the engineering crew would be able to re-mount the lights correctly. Commissioner Sammet also discussed the “gentlemen’s agreement” between the districts and engineering regarding the use of the Mack trucks for their paving projects, and the sharing of the trucks in each district would allow the paving to be completed as soon as possible.

Commissioner Jason Black reported to the Commission that he had met with Kenworth at Truckworx about their trucks, and he also contacted J.M. Woods and found out that Kenworth trucks are averaging about seven to eight percent more on resale and they are cheaper than the Mack trucks. Commissioner Black also mentioned getting two lowboys instead of one, and that the ordering of the trucks and lowboys would probably need to be ordered before June to be able to receive by February 1, 2022.

Commissioner Danny Barksdale stated, “I continue to be surprised at the skill of some of our county employees. One day last week there was a malfunctioning red light at Highway 72, and Hunter Daws was there in just a few minutes and took care of the problem. I didn’t realize that was a skill that some of our employees had, so I appreciate his efforts toward that end.”

Recessed: Until 10:00 a.m.