

**MINUTES, LIMESTONE COUNTY COMMISSION, FEBRUARY 7, 2022
WORK SESSION**

The Limestone County Commission reconvened the meeting from January 18, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Clinton Street Courthouse Annex, 100 South Clinton Street, Athens, Alabama.

Present: Daryl Sammet, Danny Barksdale, Jason Black and LaDon Townsend. Collin Daly presided as Chairman.

Mr. Brenden Andrews addressed the Commission on behalf of the Athenian Sky Solar Project (a/k/a Duke Energy Renewables Solar, LLC) regarding the resolution for the tax abatement.

Items were discussed for today's commission meeting agenda.

After discussion, the Commission decided to remove from the agenda the approval of the resolution granting the tax abatement to Duke Energy Renewables Solar, LLC until the next meeting.

Chairman Collin Daly reported that our local legislation paid for the flashing signs on SR-99 at Mount Pisgah Christian School.

During the Engineer's Report, Engineer Marc Massey gave an annual report of the FY2021 Rebuild Alabama Funds and stated, "We completed Black Road, Newby Road, Snake Road, and New Cut Road for a total of 10.85 miles of resurfacing at a cost of \$1,224,715.41. As to what we brought in through our Rebuild Alabama and Federal Aid Exchange, we brought in more than what I had estimated in revenue, and we actually received \$1,149,960.48 for Rebuild Alabama and \$400,000 for our Federal Aid Exchange fund."

Engineer Massey also informed the Commission of Bill 157 which was introduced to Senate and it passed committee. This Bill causes concerns because it would allow log trucks, if equipped with certain weight sensors, to exceed the current gross of 88,000 pounds to approximately 100,000 pounds that could be hauled on roadways. Engineer Massey informed the Commission that if this Bill were passed, then it would be like adding 50% more trucks to the road, and the ACCA provided a resolution for consideration to be added to the agenda to show that the Commission would not support this Bill. There was additional discussion regarding this Bill, and the Commission agreed to add the resolution to the meeting agenda.

Engineer Massey further informed the Commission regarding the new rules and requirements going into effect for CDL driving training and discussed policies and procedures that will need to be considered in order to comply with the new rules and requirements.

Commissioner Barksdale discussed his concerns with Bowman Acres Subdivision with Engineer Massey. Commissioner Barksdale also requested that the subdivisions be voted on separately, and it was agreed that the subdivisions be voted on separately.

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Commissioner Sammet reported that the Commission is having problems getting driveway culverts and requested that when citizens purchase driveway culverts that they are informed of the major delay in receiving same.

Commissioner Barksdale encouraged citizens to call their Senators to voice their opposition to Senate Bill 157. Commissioner Barksdale stated, "I am pretty sure Senator Butler opposes it because it takes money from the education trust fund."

Commissioner Black reminded citizens that it is against the law to put campaign signs in the right-of-way, and stated, "You have to receive permission from the landowner to put up a sign. If it is beside a stop sign, a District 3 employee is going to pull up the sign." He further stated, "The signs are an eye sore, and it is dangerous if the bush hog runs over a wire frame and slings it through the cab or at someone driving down the road. If you are going to receive permission to put your campaign sign up, make sure it is on their private property and it is against the law to put on public property." Commissioner Sammet, Commissioner Barksdale and Commissioner Townsend all agreed with Commissioner Black's comments.

Chairman Daly thanked everyone for attending.

Recessed until 10:00 a.m.