

STATE OF ALABAMA §

LAUDERDALE COUNTY §

The Lauderdale County Commission convened at the Lauderdale County Courthouse in the City of Florence, Alabama at 9:00 a.m. on the 22nd day of October, 2012. The meeting was called to order by the Judge of Probate who acted as Chairman. Upon roll call, the following members answered present:

Dewey D. Mitchell	Judge of Probate, Ex-Officio Chairman Lauderdale County Commission
Rhea Tays Fulmer	Commissioner, District 1
D.C. Thornton	Commissioner, District 1
Fay Parker	Commissioner, District 2
Larry Irons	Commissioner, District 2

Legal Counsel:

Christopher A. Smith	County Attorney
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Dewey D. Mitchell, Chairman, declared a quorum of the Commission to be present and the meeting open for the transaction of business.

The invocation was delivered by Commissioner Parker.

Commissioner Irons moved, seconded by Commissioner Thornton that all items on the agenda be approved for immediate consideration during this meeting. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Agenda is herein recorded and made a part of these minutes.

Commissioner Thornton moved, seconded by Commissioner Fulmer that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved for recording. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved.

Commissioner Irons moved, seconded by Commissioner Parker that a resolution be adopted to proclaim October 22 through October 28, 2012 as Pro Bono Week. The Alabama State Bar Association and the Local Bar Association will provide free legal services for their communities during this week. Chairman Mitchell stated that he wanted to express his appreciation to Mr. Ian

Berry, President of the Local Bar Association for such a valuable service they are providing for Lauderdale County. There being no further discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution is herein recorded and made a part of these minutes.

Commissioner Parker moved, seconded by Commissioner Thornton that a resolution be adopted that agrees to all provisions of the County Wide Agreement between Lauderdale County and the State of Alabama Department of Transportation for the bridge replacement on SR-2(US-72) over Second Creek. There being no discussion and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved. Resolution is herein recorded and made a part of these minutes.

In compliance with Competitive Bid Laws of the State of Alabama, sealed bids were received, publicly opened and read aloud on August 2, 2012 for Bid No. LA-2012-12, "Emergency Medical Treatment and Transportation Services". A bid tabulation sheet was prepared for Commissioners review. Commissioner Fulmer moved, seconded by Commissioner Parker that a resolution be adopted to authorize the Lauderdale EMS to be the Emergency Transportation Service for Lauderdale County. Commissioner Fulmer read a statement for the record (attached). Commissioner Parker stated that he must follow bid law and that in this case that would be Lauderdale EMS. He stated he had other concerns such as the four wheels on the other bidders' ambulance trucks as opposed to six wheels on our current trucks. Commissioner Irons stated that he would continue to look at the ambulance services with an open mind and with what is best for the community. Commissioner Thornton stated he had staffing issues with Lauderdale EMS that will help him decide. Hank Thomas, Waterloo, Alabama, stated that only one complaint out of 40,000 calls was a good record for Lauderdale EMS and that people had a right to pick what hospital they wanted to go to. Mr. Thomas also stated that it would cost about 2 million dollars more to the people of Lauderdale County if the Commission awarded the bid to Shoals Ambulance Service, and that the commissioners must state a reason why they are rebidding the contract. He also urged the commissioners to vote the bid laws. Mr. Thomas stated that if the commissioners would take care of his road he would not come back to a meeting. Commissioner Fulmer stated that the new service would hurt the persons who least could afford it. Commissioner Irons stated regardless of how the bid goes, the Commission would have to rebid the project. Chairman Mitchell stated that he wanted to clarify the issue with the ambulance bids. The current contract is a joint bid between the City of Florence and Lauderdale County and if both parties agree on the same service there will not have to be a rebid, it will only be a rebid if the two parties don't agree. Commissioner Irons stated that was

correct, it would only be rebid if the two parties don't agree. Chairman Mitchell then called for a vote to accept the bid from Lauderdale EMS. Votes were as follows:

Fulmer - Aye	Parker - Aye
Thornton - Nay	Irons - Aye

Motion carried three to one and bid was awarded to Lauderdale EMS. Chairman Mitchell stated that we would notify the City of Florence of our decision and restart the bid process. Chairman Mitchell commented that he respected the decision that was made today by the Commission and respected the decision that the City of Florence made also, but he felt that the citizens of our county could get a better service if we have one single ambulance service. He said we have tried segregation of services before that did not prove successful and cost the citizens additional monies.

The invoiced bills were audited, approved and ordered paid upon a motion made by Commissioner Irons and seconded by Commissioner Parker. Following a brief discussion of the bills and upon a vote taken, motion unanimously approved.

Checks Issued October 9, 2012 through October 21, 2012

GENERAL -SPECIAL CHECK # 44965-45039	445,576.36
GASOLINE TAX FUND CHECK # 14638-14654 VOID # 14644	135,331.49
SOLID WASTE FUND CHECK # 5172-5189 VOID # 5186	95,618.56
REAPPRAISAL FUND CHECK # 9729-9740	21,727.91
RSVP FUND CHECK # 16037-16043	2,041.72
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CHECK # 32663-32702	156,389.59
LEPA FUND CHECK # 6894-6900	3,876.32

AGRI-BUSINESS FUND CHECK # 3177-3179	278.83
CHILD PROTECTION FUND CHECK # 1149	1,617.71
REAPPRAISAL MONEY MARKET CHECK # 338	27,000.00
TOURISM, REC., & CONVENTION FUND CHECK # 386	2,000.00
TVA TAX FUND CHECK # 4835-4848	670,662.19
TOTAL	1,562,120.68

Hank Thomas, Waterloo, stated he wanted to thank the Commissioners for taking a stand today on the ambulance bids.

Commissioner Parker agreed with Chairman Mitchell and wished to state that he wished the city and county could come together on the bid but he felt like he followed the state bid laws, and he hopes that Lauderdale County gets a beautiful hospital.

License Commissioner, Mickey Haddock stated that he would like to thank the commissioners for supporting him during his time spent in office and he was sure that they would support whoever took over his position. Since he was moving on to other things he wanted to wish everyone Good Luck.

Commissioner Irons stated regardless if Shoals or Lauderdale EMS are the county ambulance service it will not have any effect on the hospital project.

Commissioner Fulmer stated that she was told by someone in authority that the ambulance service must be given to Shoals Ambulance Service for the county to get the new hospital.

Commissioner Irons stated that Lauderdale EMS had only one complaint in forty thousand calls and Shoals Ambulance Service had yet to make a call.

Commissioner Fulmer stated that she had discussed bid laws with the ACCA Attorney to make sure that she understood the bid laws and what the lowest responsible bidder was.

Chairman Mitchell stated that he had served on the Hospital Board and that to build a new hospital, an application for Certificate of Need had to be filed and the decision on that application for the Certificate of Need had yet to be determined. He also stated that letters of opposition opposing the Certificate of Need application had been filed for and on behalf of Helen Keller Hospital and that a decision on the pending application would be held by an administrative law judge in the early part of 2013.

Shelly Pettus, Killen, stated that she would like to have clarification on whether bid laws are subject to interpretation or is there a law to follow. Chairman Mitchell answered, that if contested the issue would be resolved in the appropriate court of law.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, it was upon a motion made by Commissioner Thornton and seconded by Commissioner Parker that the meeting be adjourned until the next regular meeting or subject to call.

Dewey D. Mitchell, Chairman
Lauderdale County Commission

D.C. Thornton, Commissioner
District 1

Rhea Tays Fulmer, Commissioner
District 1

Fay Parker, Commissioner
District 2

ATTEST:

Larry Irons, Commissioner
District 2

Brenda Bryant, Administrator