

AGENDA
COOSA COUNTY COMMISSION
April 9, 2024
9:00 a.m. Commission Meeting
Commission Courtroom

WELCOME

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

ELECTED OFFICIAL COMMENT:

CALL TO ORDER

COMMISSION ROLL CALL

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVE AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND WAIVER OF READING MINUTES

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

CONSENT AGENDA- MOTION AND SECOND TO APPROVE

- (A) Motion for Chairman, Vice Chairman and Administrator to authorize, to issue and sign checks for payment of monthly expenses and payroll.
- (B) Motion to approve changes in employees: job description, salary, work hours, status (including budget approved raises).

NEW BUSINESS

- (1) Approve Ms. Jean Prince as the District 4 DHR Board Member—Judge Dean on behalf of Commissioner Joiner.
- (2) Approval to open a checking account for the EMS/Ambulance Department at First Community Bank of Central Alabama—Administrator Amy Gilliland
- (3) Approval to remove from inventory and surplus an IBM 4247 Printer, Decal 379—Administrator Amy Gilliland
- (4) Approval to pay one-half of monthly utility and water charges at 911 Building since EMS/Ambulance and EMA departments are located in the building—Vice-chair Lamar Daugherty
- (5) Approval for Ben Whitley to continue the lawn maintenance agreement under the current terms that were originally approved for Kelley Johnson. This agreement will expire September 30, 2025 and, if necessary for the Chairman to sign an InterAgency agreement regarding percentages of payment.—Chair Bertha McElrath
- (6) Approve Resolution for the Goodwater VFD to receive ARPA funds to help with a new facility that will also be used as an additional polling location in the Goodwater region—Chair Bertha McElrath
- (7) Approve Resolution to use ARPA funds of \$10,000 to be divided evenly between Weogufka VFD and Marble Valley VFD—Vice-chair Lamar Daugherty
- (8) Discussion about Holiday Pay for Sheriff's Office staff—Sheriff Howell
- (9) Approval for the Sheriff to sign up for Tango Tango to be utilized for the Sheriff's Office communication. To be paid through Budget Line Item 560—Sheriff Howell

- (10) Approve construction of Goodwater Bridge from Armory Rd to Wingfield Engineering—
Commissioner John Forbus

OLD BUSINESS

- (1) Plans for the Extension building beside the Courthouse—Commissioner Forbus

STAFF REPORTS

Administrator

Attorney

EMA

EMS

Courthouse Maintenance

Engineer

Safety Coordinator

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

ADJOURN

MINUTES**COOSA COUNTY COMMISSION****APRIL 9, 2024****9:00 A.M.****CALL TO ORDER**

THE COOSA COUNTY COMMISSION MET AT THE COOSA COUNTY COURTHOUSE APRIL 9, 2024 WITH CHAIR BERTHA K. MCEL RATH PRESIDING.

COMMISSION ROLL CALL

COMMISSION ROLL CALL: HERE –CHAIR-BERTHA K. MCEL RATH, COMMISSIONER RONNIE JOINER, VICE-CHAIRMAN LAMAR DAUGHERTY, COMMISSIONER JOHN FORBUS AND COMMISSIONER BRANDON DAVIS.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION WAS GIVEN BY COMMISSIONER BRANDON DAVIS. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS SAID BY ALL IN ATTENDANCE.

APPROVE AGENDA

MOTIONED TO APPROVE ADGENDA BY VICE-CHAIR LAMAR DAUGHERTY. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER RONNIE JOINER. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND WAIVER OF READING MINUTES

MOTIONED BY COMMISSIONER JOHN FORBUS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND WAIVER OF READING MINUTES. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BRANDON DAVIS.
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTIONED BY VICE-CHAIR LAMAR DAUGHERTY TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, FOR CHAIR AND ADMINISTRATOR TO AUTHORIZE, TO ISSUE AND SIGN CHECKS FOR PAYMENT OF MONTHLY EXPENSES AND PAYROLL.

AND TO APPROVE CHANGES IN EMPLOYEES: JOB DESCRIPTION, SALARY, WORK HOURS, STATUS (INCLUDING BUDGET APPROVED RAISES). SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER RONNIE JOINER.
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Coosa County Sheriff's Office**Michael Howell, Sheriff**

296 School Street • P. O. Box 279

Rockford, Alabama 35136

Office: 256-377-4922 • Fax 256-377-1244

Jail Fax 256-377-2690

Email: office@coosaso.com * Website: www.coosacountysso.org**MEMO**

To: Coosa County Commission

From: Sheriff Michael Howell


Date: March 1, 2024

RE: James Romeo Dawson – Deputy

Message: New Hire

James R. Dawson has been hired as a Deputy, and his start date will be March 18, 2024. His rate of pay will be \$18.05 per hour. He will not receive an increase in pay after his six (6) month probation.

This memo for the records will remain in effect until further notice.


Michael Howell, Sheriff
DateRECEIVED
COOSA COMMISSION

MAR - 5 REC'D



Coosa County Sheriff's Office
MICHAEL HOWELL, SHERIFF

296 School Street • P. O. Box 279
Rockford, Alabama 35136
Office: 256-377-4922 • Fax 256-377-1244
Jail fax 256-377-2690

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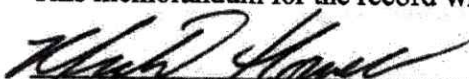
Memo

To: Coosa County Commission
From: Coosa County Sheriff's Office
Date: March 15, 2024
Re: - Samuel Russell Ward - Correctional Officer/Dispatcher
Time: 9:59 a.m.

Message: New Hire

Samuel R. Ward is hired as a Correctional Officer/Dispatcher. His date of hire will be March 18, 2024. His rate of pay will be \$15.02 per hour. He will receive a pay increase after his six (6) month probationary period.

This memorandum for the record will remain in effect until further notice.


Michael Howell, Sheriff

03/15/2024
Date



Coosa County Sheriff's Office

Michael Howell, Sheriff

296 School Street • P. O. Box 279

Rockford, Alabama 35136

Office: 256-377-4922 • Fax 256-377-1244

Jail Fax 256-377-2690

Email: office@coosaso.com * Website: www.coosacountyso.org



MEMO

To: Coosa County Commission

From: Michael Howell, Sheriff

Date: March 27, 2024


Re: Jessica Lindsey Lemaster – End of Probation

Time 1:45 p.m.

Message:

Jessica L. Lemaster has completed her six-month probation as of March 5, 2024. Lemaster is entitled to an increase in pay from \$15.02 to \$15.27 per hour, effective on that day. She is eligible to receive her accrued leave hours.

This memorandum for the record will remain in effect until further notice.


Michael Howell, Sheriff

03/27/2024
Date



Coosa County Sheriff's Office
MICHAEL HOWELL, SHERIFF

296 School Street • P. O. Box 279
Rockford, Alabama 35136
Office: 256-377-4922 • Fax 256-377-1244
Jail fax 256-377-2690
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Memo

To: Coosa County Commission
From: Coosa County Sheriff's Office
Date: March 22, 2024
Re: Misty Leigh Lewis - Correctional Officer/Dispatcher
Time: 2:37 p.m.

Message: New Hire

This memo formally informs you Misty L. Lewis will transfer from Coosa County Ambulance to the Coosa County Law Enforcement Center. Her hire date is April 1, 2024, and her position will be Correctional Officer/Dispatcher. Her rate of pay will be \$15.02 per hour. She will receive a pay increase after her six (6) month probationary period.

This memorandum for the record will remain in effect until further notice.


Michael Howell, Sheriff

03/22/2024
Date

Coosa County Sheriff's Office

Michael Howell, Sheriff

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Rockford, Alabama 35136

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MEMO

To: Coosa County Commission
From: Coosa County Sheriff's Office
Date: March 22, 2024
Re: William Lee Smith

MESSAGE: Increase in Pay

William Smith has rescinded his request for lower pay. As of today, March 22, 2024, I am increasing Smith's rate of pay from \$12.70 per hour to \$13.78 per hour. This will bring his pay current for this position.

This memorandum for the record will remain in effect until further notice.


Michael Howell, Sheriff

03/22/2024
Date



Coosa County Sheriff's Office
MICHAEL HOWELL, SHERIFF

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Rockford, Alabama 35136
Office: 256-377-4922 • Fax 256-377-1244
Jail fax 256-377-2690

Email: office@coosaso.com * Website: www.coosacountyso.org



Memo

To: Coosa County Commission
From: Coosa County Sheriff's Office
Date: April 5, 2024
Re: - Taylor Damon Lane - Correctional Officer/Dispatcher
Time: 11:28 a.m.

Message: New Hire

Taylor D. Lane is hired as a Correctional Officer/Dispatcher. His date of hire will be April 8, 2024. His rate of pay will be \$15.02 per hour. He will receive a pay increase after his six (6) month probationary period.

This memorandum for the record will remain in effect until further notice.


Michael Howell, Sheriff

04/05/2024
Date

"FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY"



Coosa County Sheriff's Office

Michael Howell, Sheriff

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MEMO

To: Coosa County Commission
From: Coosa County Sheriff's Office
Date: April 5, 2024
Re: Ashley M. Davis – Resignation Letter & Returned Property

MESSAGE:

Ashley M. Davis resigned her position as a Correctional Officer/Dispatcher effective on April 1, 2024, her letter is attached. Also, her termination report is attached. Ashley M. Davis returned all her uniforms and equipment. She is entitled to any remaining leave hour. Please mail her final check to the address on file.

This memorandum for the record will remain in effect until further notice.


Michael Howell, Sheriff

04/05/2024
Date

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MEMO

To: Coosa County Commission
From: Coosa County Sheriff's Office
Date: April 5, 2024
Re: David Samuel Lamberth – Demotion

MESSAGE:

Effective April 5, 2024, due to disciplinary actions taken, Sgt. David Lamberth has been demoted to Dispatcher/Correctional Officer. His rate of pay and all other benefits will remain the same.


Michael Howell, Sheriff

04/05/2024
Date

NEW BUSINESS

MOTIONED BY COMMISSIONER RONNIE JOINER TO APPROVE MS. JEAN PRINCE AS THE DISTRICT 4 DHR BOARD MEMBER. SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR LAMAR DAUGHERTY. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

MOTIONED BY VICE-CHAIR LAMAR DAUGHERTY TO APPROVE TO OPEN A CHECKING ACCOUNT FOR THE EMS/AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT AT FIRST COMMUNIYT BANK OF CENTRAL ALABAMA. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JOHN FORBUS. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

MOTIONED BY COMMISSIONER JOHN FORBUS TO APPROVE TO REMOVE FROM INVENTORY AN IBM 4247 PRINTER, DECAL 379. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BRANDON DAVIS. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

INVENTORY FORM

DEPARTMENT

CommissionOfficeDATE: 4-4-2024 :

SUBMITTED BY: _____

ADD: _____

REMOVE: ☒ _____PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: IBM - Machine - 4247 PrinterPURCHASE AMOUNT: \$6644.00

PURCHASED FROM: _____

SERIAL: 0127127

MODEL: _____

IF BEING DECLARD SURPLUS:

ASSET#: 400211DECAL#: 379REASON FOR DECLARATION: Broken doesnot work any more.

MOTIONED BY VICE-CHAIRMAN LAMAR DAUGHERTY TO APPROVE TO PAY ONE-HALF OF MONTHLY UTILITY AND WATER CHARGES AT 911 BUILDING SINCE EMS/AMBULANCE AND EMA DEPARTMENTS ARE LOCATED IN THE BUILDINGS. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JOHN FORBUS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

MOTIONED BY VICE-CHAIR LAMAR DAUGHERTY TO APPROVE FOR BEN WHITLEY TO CONTINUE THE LAWN MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT THAT WILL EXPIRE SEPTEMBER 30,2025 AND, IF NECESSARY, FOR THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AN INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT REGARDING PERCENTAGES OF PAYMENT. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JOHN FORBUS. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

MOTIONED BY CHAIR BERTHA K. MCEL RATH TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR GOODWATER VFD TO RECEIVE ARPA FUNDS TO HELP WITH A NEW FACILITY THAT WILL ALSO BE USED AS AN ADDITIONAL POLLING LOCATION IN THE GOODWATER REGION. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JOHN FORBUS. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

RESOLUTION FOR ALLOCATION OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS TO SUPPORT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE FACILITATION OF ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, Coosa County, Alabama ("the County") has received American Rescue Plan Act state and local fiscal recovery funds ("ARPA funds") and is charged with ensuring that such funds are expended in accordance with state and federal law; and

WHEREAS, the County has received a Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund ("SLFRF") award under the American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA funds") from the U.S. Department of the Treasury ("Treasury"), which, in accordance with the Final Rule issued by Treasury on January 6, 2022, have been duly designated as revenue replacement funds ("revenue replacement funds"); and

WHEREAS, these public funds may be used for the purpose of providing government services, including support of emergency services; and

WHEREAS, the County may donate public money or other things of value to volunteer fire departments because these organizations benefit the general public, are not engaged in private enterprise, and therefore have a lawful public purpose, *Slawson v. Alabama Forestry Comm'n*, 631 So.2d 953 (Ala. 1994); and

WHEREAS, the County recognizes that the County's volunteer fire departments play a substantial and important role in providing these needed emergency response and assistance services to the residents throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, the Goodwater Volunteer Fire Department is in need of a new facility in the Goodwater region area to better provide more immediate services to the citizenry; and

WHEREAS, the Goodwater area is also in need for an additional polling location in the Goodwater area to facilitate fair and equitable elections; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has determined that the support of these local volunteer fire departments is a necessary, eligible, and reasonable use of these funds and fulfills a public purpose for a significant portion of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION as follows:

1) The County shall use ARPA funds designated as revenue replacement funds to cover up to \$100,000, to the Goodwater Volunteer Fire Department to purchase property and construct a new facility to support operational needs of the Volunteer Fire Department and to be used as a polling location for the benefit of the County.

2) The Chairman is hereby delegated the authority to negotiate and enter into a funding agreement with the Goodwater Volunteer Fire Department to support this project provided, that the funding agreement is consistent with this Resolution, state and federal law, and the terms and conditions of the County's ARPA award.

3) The County Administrator is hereby authorized to expend ARPA funds revenue replacement funds for costs of the project in accordance with the terms of this Resolution and the funding agreement.

4) Expenditure of these funds, as authorized by this Resolution, shall be contingent on the continued appropriation and availability of ARPA funds for this purpose and in no event shall be used for any costs associated with the project that are not obligated on or before December 31, 2024, and expended on or before December 31, 2026.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Coosa County Commission has caused this Resolution to be executed in its name and on its behalf by its Chairman on the 9th day of April 2024.

Bertha K. McElreath
Chair, Coosa County Commission

MOTIONED BY VICE-CHAIR LAMAR DAUGHERTY TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO USE ARPA FUNDS OF \$10,000 TO BE DIVIDED EVENLY BETWEEN WEOGUFKA VFD AND MARBLE VALLEY VFD. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JOHN FORBUS. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

RESOLUTION FOR ALLOCATION OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS TO SUPPORT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

WHEREAS, Coosa County, Alabama ("the County") has received American Rescue Plan Act state and local fiscal recovery funds ("ARPA funds") and is charged with ensuring that such funds are expended in accordance with state and federal law; and

WHEREAS, the County has received a Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund ("SLFRF") award under the American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA funds") from the U.S. Department of the Treasury ("Treasury"), which, in accordance with the Final Rule issued by Treasury on January 6, 2022, have been duly designated as revenue replacement funds ("revenue replacement funds"); and

WHEREAS, these public funds may be used for the purpose of providing government services, including support of emergency services; and

WHEREAS, the County may donate public money or other things of value to volunteer fire departments because these organizations benefit the general public, are not engaged in private enterprise, and therefore have a lawful public purpose, *Slawson v. Alabama Forestry Comm'n*, 631 So.2d 953 (Ala. 1994); and

WHEREAS, the County recognizes that the County's volunteer fire departments play a substantial and important role in providing these needed emergency response and assistance services to the residents throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has determined that the support of these local volunteer fire departments is a necessary, eligible, and reasonable use of these funds and fulfills a public purpose for a significant portion of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION as follows:

- 1) The County shall use ARPA funds designated as revenue replacement funds to cover up to \$10,000, divided evenly among the Weogufka Volunteer Fire Department and Marble Valley Volunteer Fire Department to support ongoing operational needs of these entities.
- 2) The Chairman is hereby delegated the authority to negotiate and enter into funding agreements with these volunteer fire departments provided, that the funding agreements are consistent with this Resolution, state and federal law, and the terms and conditions of the County's ARPA award.
- 3) The County Administrator is hereby authorized to expend ARPA funds revenue replacement funds for costs of the program in accordance with the terms of this Resolution and the funding agreements.
- 4) Expenditure of these funds, as authorized by this Resolution, shall be contingent on the continued appropriation and availability of ARPA funds for this purpose and in no event shall be used for any costs associated with the project that are not obligated on or before December 31, 2024, and expended on or before December 31, 2026.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Coosa County Commission has caused this Resolution to be executed in its name and on its behalf by its Chairman on the 9th day of April 2024.

Bartholomew McElrath
Chair, Coosa County Commission

DISCUSS HOLIDAY PAY FOR SHERIFF'S OFFICE STAFF. BY SHERIFF MICHAEL HOWELL

MOTIONED BY VICE-CHAIR LAMAR DAUGHERTY FOR THE SHERIFF TO SIGN FOR TANGO TANGO TO BE UTILIZED FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE COMMUNICATION. TO BE PAID THROUGH BUDGET LINE ITEM 560. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JOHN FORBUS. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

MOTIONED BY COMMISSIONER JOHN FORBUS TO APPROVE CONSTRUCTION OF GOODWATER BRIDGE FROM ARMORY ROAD TO WNGFIELD ENGINEERING. SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR LAMAR DAUGHERTY. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

DISCUSS GOOD NAME AND CHARACTER OF A COUNTY EMPLOYEE

MOTIONED BY VICE-CHAIR LAMAR DAUGHERTY TO GO INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JOHN FORBUS. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

MOTIONED BY VICE-CHAIR LAMAR DAUGHERTY TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BRANDON DAVIS. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

MOTIONED BY COMMISSIONER JOHN FORBUS TO ADD TO THE AGENDA TO TERMINATE BRANDON JACKSON FROM EMS DEPARTMENT. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BRANDON DAVIS. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

MOTIONED BY COMMISSIONER JOHN FORBUS TO TERMINATE BRANDON JACKSON FROM THE EMS DEPARTMENT RECOMMEND NOT TO REHIRE. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BRANDON DAVIS. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

OLD BUSINESS

MOTIONED BY COMMISSIONER JOHN FORBUS TO TABLE THE PLANS FOR THE EXTENSION BUILDING BESIDE THE COURTHOUSE. SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR LAMAR DAUGHERTY. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOTIONED BY VICE-CHAIR LAMAR DAUGHERTY TO ADJOURN UNTIL MAY 14, 2024 @ 9:00 A.M. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BRANDON DAVIS. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

MINUTES APPROVED THIS 14TH DAY OF MAY, 2024.

CHAIR-BERTHA MCELRATH

VICE-CHAIRMAN LAMAR DAUGHERTY

COMMISSIONER RONNIE JOINER

COMMISSIONER JOHN FORBUS

COMMISSIONER BRANDON DAVIS