

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
OF THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION  
ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA  
March 23, 2021**

The Etowah County Commission met in a special called meeting on the 23rd Day of March, 2021 at 9:00 am with Commissioner Washington asking the Prayer and Commissioner Jamie Grant leading the Pledge to the Flag.

**CALL OF ROLL TO ESTABLISH A QUORUM:** The following 6 out of 6 Commission members were at the meeting and accordingly a quorum was present:

District 1 – Joey Statum	District 4 – Tim Ramsey
District 2 – Johnny Grant	District 5 – Jeffery Washington
District 3 – Jamie W. Grant	

Absent: Craig Inzer - District 6

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None.

Upon motion of Commissioner Jeffery Washington, seconded by Commissioner Tim Ramsey, with all other members voting “yes”, the following resolution was adopted:

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION:** That the following item was approved:

To recess in order to have a Work Session at 9:03 am.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 23rd DAY OF MARCH, 2021.**

Upon motion of Commissioner Tim Ramsey, seconded by Commissioner Jeffery Washington, with all other members voting “yes”, the following resolution was adopted:

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION:** That the following item was approved:

To call the Etowah County Commission Meeting back to order after the recess at 9:35 am.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 23rd DAY OF MARCH, 2021**

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Upon motion of Commissioner Joey Statum, seconded by Commissioner Tim Ramsey, with all other members voting “yes”, the following resolution was adopted:

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION:** That the following item was approved:

To combine and adopt in one motion the following items:

- a. **Resolution 03232021-2 CARES ACT CDBG CV Program** which authorizes Jamie W. Grant, Commission President, to execute and submit an application with appropriate assurances to the State of Alabama, Department of Economic and Community Affairs, Office of Program Management, requesting Fiscal Year 2020 Community Development Block Grant CV Program Grant funds in the amount of \$500,000 to address various needs related to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Etowah County. A copy of this Resolution has been filed in Attachment Book 11, Page 100.
- b. **Resolution 03232021-1 Citizen Participation Plan** to comply with the regulations and requirements of the Community Development Block Grant Program as administered by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (DHUD). A copy of this Resolution has been filed in Attachment Book 11, Page 101.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 23rd DAY OF MARCH, 2021.**

**REPORTS FROM THE STAFF:**

**Chief Administrative Officer:** No Report.  
**County Engineer:** No Report.  
**County Attorney:** No Report.  
**Other:** No Report.

**SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

**DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONERS:**

Tim Ramsey asked for clarification regarding the CDBG Grant money and what all it could be spent on and Shane reviewed the items that could be considered. These included Broadband expansion for schools but after talking with the Superintendents

(Colegrove & Cosby), the State of Alabama is planning to address this issue and the \$150,000 that could be allocated to them would not be enough to help.

The second item was through the United Way's food banks. These include a lot of programs handled through 211 such as rental assistance/housing assistance, etc. These organizations are familiar with this type of grant and know how to stay within the guidelines.

The third item was through the Chamber of Commerce and includes a small business program outside of the city limits of Gadsden. They had a list of things they can do to help businesses that have had to close or downsize due to COVID.

The ideas will be submitted to ADECA for approval and they have six years to spend the funds but they have to spend some funds all along (so much during certain time periods). All of the cities are eligible except Gadsden because they have their own available funds. We will have to pay the grand administrator about \$50,000 to handle the application, which is due by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Shane has talked to all of the Cities (Mayors or their Clerks) about the program.

Shane also had a conversation with NACo about Federal money counties are supposed to get (which is supposed to go directly to the counties.) ACCA has set up a group to help the counties get it figured out (consultants) for a fee.

Commissioner Washington thanked the Gadsden Burners for coming to the meeting and wanted to get the word out to the community about their program and how hard they work. Commission Ramsey thanked the Sheriff for coming and for all of their hard work. He also thanked Emma with Family Success Center and Robert Nail for taking care of the road issues in his district.

Commissioner Johnny Grant said the Commission supported both causes and he is willing to help them out. The Sheriff's Office surplus property list was approved at the last meeting.

Commissioner Statum thanked the Sheriff for what he does and wanted to be sure we were able to get the Sheriff's Office the radios they need out of the surplus equipment. He said he liked that they could give some away and help other departments but he wanted to be sure that our needs were met. He also said he supported the 2 great causes and they helped each year.

Commissioner Jamie Grant thanked the Sheriff and his Staff for their hard work and also thanked Jhedreion Rigby for all he does with the Gadsden Burners and the great opportunities for these athletes.

**ADJOURN:** The Chair then entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Upon motion of Commissioner Joey Statum, seconded by Commissioner Tim Ramsey, with all other members voting "yes", the motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 am.

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Joey Statum, Commissioner, District 1

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Tim Ramsey, Commissioner, District 4

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Johnny Grant, Commissioner, District 2

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Jeffery Washington, Commissioner, District 5

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Jamie W. Grant, President, Commissioner, District 3

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**ABSENT**

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Craig Inzer, Jr., Commissioner, District 6