

April 25, 2011

On this the 25th day of April 2011 at 9:00 A.M. in the Office Complex, New Brockton, AL, the Coffee County Commission of Coffee County, AL met in a regular meeting. Those present at the said meeting were: Al Britt, Bernest Brooks, Kim Ellis, Tom Grimsley, and Dean Smith. Jim Thompson, Commissioner and Chairman, was presiding with one absent, Robert Stephens.

Invocation was given by Chairman Thompson, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chairman noted that a quorum was present and the meeting was called to order.

A Public Hearing concerning the Re-Districting of Coffee County was held:

Mr. Jimmy Clark, District 4 representative from the Coffee County Board of Education (CCBOE), expressed concern since the new proposed district will place him in District 3 in lieu of the district he was elected to serve. Chairman Thompson advised Mr. Clark to consult with the CCBOE attorney as to the option available to him at this time.

Rev. Rubin Mckinnon, concerned citizen, expressed his dissatisfaction with the method of advertising and/or the manner in which the notice of changes and the location where the map was displayed.

Ms. Alma West, President of ADC, requested the Commission amend their motion to allow ample time for a 65% minority district to be established.

Chairman Thompson reiterated that the Commissioners have worked on redistricting for 80 plus days with the aide of the University of Alabama Cartographic Research Lab. He also stated that when the maps were redrawn 10 years ago, Mr. Brooks approved a district that was not 65%.

Commissioner Smith agreed that the public notice procedures should be reviewed in the future and a better method needs to be worked out. He further stated that he, as well as other commissioners, experienced drastic changes to their districts.

Commissioner Bernest Brooks echoed the prior concerns and further referenced the court case of Dillard vs. Crenshaw stating his belief that Coffee County is not in compliance with the law.

Mr. John Meredith offered a possible solution of excluding the south edge of CR537.

Commissioner Brooks stated that this idea had been taken into consideration.

Rev. Rubin Mckinnon again came before the Commission to request a copy of the map and the data to accompany this map. Chairman Thompson advised that he would meet with him immediately after the meeting in Ms. Lolley's office along with him and the County Attorney.

With no more participants, the public hearing was brought to a close.

Motion was made by Tom Grimsley and seconded by Kim Ellis that the Coffee County Commission approve the Minutes of the April 14, 2011 meeting. All voted Aye.

Superintendent Terry Spicer, Elba City Schools, appeared before the Commission with an update of the status of the Elba City Schools.

Commissioner Brooks commended Supt. Spicer on his innovativeness on ideas used to help cost efficiency.

Ms. Shirley Skinner appeared before the County Commission with questions referencing the interruption by the Sheriff's Department of the Annual Ride for the Red Cross fund raiser. She requested information on the noise ordinance which the Sheriff Department deputy had referred to when the annual ride had been terminated by Sheriff Sutton. Sheriff Sutton had no comment and Joe Cassady, Sr., County Attorney said he would research the matter. Chairman Thompson stated that he would get an answer for Ms. Skinner.

Motion was made by Bernest Brooks and seconded by Dean Smith that the Coffee County Commission approve the expansion of the gas collection system at the Coffee County Landfill. All voted Aye.

Motion was made by Dean Smith and seconded by Kim Ellis that the Coffee County Commission purchase pipe through the bid process for the expansion of the gas collection system. All voted Aye.

Motion was made by Dean Smith and seconded by Al Britt that the Coffee County Commission purchase a Land Tech gas emission monitor for less than \$10,000.00. All voted Aye.

Motion was made by Tom Grimsley and seconded by Bernest Brooks that the Coffee County Commission place on old Komatsu dozer for sale at the J. M. Wood Auction to be held in June. All voted Aye.

Motion was made by Al Britt and seconded by Dean Smith that the Coffee County Commission send out invitations to bid on Assisted Rock Hauling. Bid will be for three months with an option to renew. Due to the rising cost of fuel, the current bid is no longer being honored. All voted Aye.

Sheriff Sutton appeared before the Commission to alert citizens of the increasing cooper thefts from homes, churches, businesses, etc. in the rural areas and gave an update on the home invasions that have been occurring throughout the County. He cautioned the citizens to be careful because subjects could be armed and dangerous.

Commissioner Smith announced that May 5, 2011 is National Prayer Day and it will be observed at the Elba Courthouse at 12 Noon.

Motion was made by Bernest Brooks and seconded by _____ that the Coffee County Commission oppose the redistricting plan and that the Commission allow ample time for a 65% minority district be drawn into the plans. Motion died due to the lack of a second.

Motion was made by Jim Thompson and seconded by Tom Grimsley that the Coffee County Commission work with the County Attorney in submitting Draft Plan #5 to the U S Justice Department for preclearance procedures. Al Britt, Kim Ellis, Tom Grimsley, Dean Smith and Jim Thompson voted Affirmative. Bernest Brooks voted Negative. Motion carried.

With no further business, motion was made by Bernest Brooks and seconded by Tom Grimsley that the Coffee County Commission adjourn until the next meeting, May 9, 2011 at 9:00 AM. All voted Aye.

After the meeting, several commissioners reviewed and approved invoices as follows: Accounts Payable Claims dated April 15, 2011 checks numbered 77074 through 77144 in the amount of \$179,736.82; Accounts Payable Claims dated April 25, 2011 checks numbered 77145 through 77226 in the amount of \$166,873.80.