

The DeKalb County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, February 28, 2012 in the DeKalb County Activities Building (Courthouse Annex). Those present were Ricky Harcrow, President, Jerome Tinker, Ed Nix, Chris Kuykendall and Dewitt Jackson. Those absent were none.

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The meeting was called to order by President Harcrow with Commissioner Jackson delivering the invocation and Jimmy Wright leading the Pledge.

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It was moved by Mr. Nix, seconded by Mr. Tinker, all members voting affirmatively, motion carrying to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to accept them as presented in written format.

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Ava Gregory and Shelia Hurley of CED Mental Health addressed the Commission concerning the SADD Conference for Cherokee, Etowah and DeKalb County and the SADD Proclamation. She noted that the three-county conference would be March 9 beginning at 7:30am. Mr. Harcrow read the following Proclamation:

#### **SADD PROCLAMATION**

**County of DeKalb, Alabama**  
Office of County Commission

- WHEREAS** SADD, known as Students Against Destructive Decisions and founded as Students Against Driving Drunk in 1981, celebrates its 31<sup>st</sup> anniversary in 2012; and
- WHEREAS** Since SADD's founding, the number of alcohol-related youth car crash fatalities has dropped by 73 percent; and
- WHEREAS** SADD is the nation's leading youth-based peer-to-peer prevention education, and activism organization, with nearly 10,000 chapters across the United States, 350,000 students actively participating, and 7 million+ students in schools with SADD chapters; and
- WHEREAS** SADD has been lighting the way for 30+ years to reduce destructive decisions by youth, including underage drinking, tobacco and other drug use, impaired and reckless driving, and teen violence and suicide; and
- WHEREAS** SADD shares the goal of this office to keep youth safe and alive, and has made a difference in the lives of thousands of youth; and
- WHEREAS** SADD is celebrating this important milestone with a special event called "Celebrate 31 With SADD: Lighting the Way," involving students, teachers, parents, and other community members on Friday, March 9, 2012;

NOW, THEREFORE,  of DeKalb County Commission, Alabama do hereby proclaim Friday, March 9, 2012 as

#### **SADD DAY**

in the **County of DeKalb, Alabama**, and furthermore call upon citizens of **DeKalb** to observe this day with activities and programs honoring SADD, its mission, and the youth of the community that participate in its programs.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have here unto set my hand and caused to be affixed, the great seal of the **County of DeKalb, Alabama**, at the Office of the **Commission**, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of **March**, 2012.

Mr. Sharp addressed the Commission regarding a damage claim from Wayne Autwell alleging \$172 damage due to a sign post sticking up out of the ground causing damage to his vehicle tire when he moved to the side of the road to miss a school bus. The sign post was said to be approximately 18” off the edge of the road.

It was moved by Mr. Nix, seconded by Mr. Jackson, all members voting affirmatively, motion carrying to forward the above damage claim to Meadowbrook/ASI for final disposition.

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County Engineer Ben Luther requested to permission to attend the County Engineer Association’s Annual Conference May 15-16 at Orange Beach.

It was moved by Mr. Kuykendall, seconded by Mr. Nix, all members voting affirmatively, motion carrying to authorize Ben Luther, County Engineer to attend the Annual County Engineer’s Annual Conference.

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Mr. Luther also discussed the NRCS Grant as follows:

“Approximately a month following the April 27<sup>th</sup> tornadoes of last year, Mr. Harcrow made a request to the NRCS Office in Auburn from the division of the USDA. They have a program called the Emergency Watershed Protection Program. Most of the time this is used for flooding events along waterways and roads that may washout due to insufficient drainage or flooding events but also part of this program is the prevention or mediation of potential flooding particularly from debris in the waterways from this storm event. Some representatives from our local NRCS Office in Rainsville surveyed the damaged areas and chose 6 locations throughout the County where debris was in the streams. Most of them are adjacent to some type of drainage structure either a bridge, a culvert or some piping.”

“There is an estimated construction cost of \$146,326.00. This is a 90/10 split (90% Federal and 10% local). Anything over \$146,326.00 will have to be paid for locally. We have a July 31<sup>st</sup> deadline to get the work done to receive reimbursement, so it’s a real short time frame. There are a lot of steps we have to go through. Mr. Mauney and I have been working this past week getting a right of entry form put together that will give us permission to gain access to these properties to remove this debris. There are stipulations that are already set as to what is eligible and what type of work is to be done. Those are things that we cannot change. We decided how far up and down stream that we are going to go and that is going to be the limitation of what this contract is. I am going to put together a bid package to be let out locally along with putting the right of entries together. I am going to need a lot of assistance from Mr. Jackson and Mr. Tinker since your areas were the ones affected most by the storm to try to help get these right-of- entries signed. I will be getting with you very soon because we are on this time short frame. I have the contract here that needs to be executed, so I will present it to you today for your consideration to enter into this contract with the USDA NRCS office for this watershed cleanup program.

Mr. Mauney addressed the NRCS Project as follows:

“I have reviewed it and we have put in a provision to save and hold harmless County Commissioners in their official capacity as well as their individual capacities and their heirs, assigns, once they die. We’ve done the same for the employees and agents that the County authorizes to go out there.

Mr. Luther said it would most likely take no more than three weeks to complete once the bid package and all the right-of-entries had been signed.

It was moved by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Tinker, all members voting affirmatively, motion carrying to authorize a contract with NRCS to clean waterways from debris caused by the April 27 tornadoes.

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EMA Deputy Director Daryl Lester gave an update on the outdoor weather sirens as follows:

A mitigation grant applied for two years ago for 7 sirens was awarded and the sirens have now been installed at a total project cost of \$134,995. These sirens are located at the following locations:

Lakeview Town Hall	Fort Payne (behind C&H Drugs)
Henagar (Hwy 40 near Tire Center)	Henagar (Lake Drive near Industrial Park)
Ider (near school)	Valley Head (near school)
Mentone (at Moon Lake School)	

Mr. Lester thanked McCord's Communication, Sand Mountain Electric and FPIA for helping drill through rock at no cost to the County. Also, Nucor purchased one siren on the north end of Fort Payne (\$19,185) and the City of Fort Payne has agreed to take over maintenance.

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Commander Wade Hill addressed the Commission as follows:

Ford Motors is no longer producing Crown Vics, so the County has to look for another type patrol vehicle. Woodson Jones was the only bidder to submit bids for a Chevrolet Caprice. The 2011 was \$25,599.80 and the 2012 was \$26,098.80. He asked the Commission to award the bids for one or more (to be paid through Sheriff Funds).

It was moved by Mr. Nix, seconded by Mr. Tinker, all members voting affirmatively, motion carrying to authorize the acceptance of the bid price from Woodson Jones patrol vehicles for the Sheriff's Office.

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Mr. Hill also noted that several vehicles from the "boneyard" for patrol cars have been sold for scrap. Some of those vehicles were 12 years old or more. This produced about \$10,000 which will go toward the purchase of a 2007 Tahoe for SRO Officer Paul Bell.

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Finally, Mr. Hill requested three jail employees attend training conference to be paid from Special Jail Funds.

It was moved by Mr. Kuykendall, seconded by Mr. Jackson, all members voting affirmatively, motion carrying to authorize training for jail personnel.

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Mr. Sharp notified the Commission that Judge Osborn requested that Sheryl Holcomb be hired in the near future as a PT (temporary) employee during the maternity leave for PJ employee Michelle Blake.

It was moved by Mr. Nix, seconded by Mr. Tinker, all members voting affirmatively to hire Cheryl Holcomb part-time during Michelle Blake's maternity leave.

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Mr. Sharp also requested on behalf of County Librarian Elizabeth Tucker that a PT bookmobile librarian be hired 3 days/week at G4/1 to be paid from Library funds.

It was moved by Mr. Kuykendall, seconded by Mr. Nix, all members voting affirmatively, motion carrying to authorize the hire of Denise Henderson as part-time bookmobile librarian.

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Mr. Harcrow notified the Commission that Bill Greeson has resigned from the Sand Mountain Water Authority and they have requested Greg Harris to be appointed in that position. Mr. Tinker noted that he would be a good member.

It was moved by Mr. Tinker, seconded by Mr. Nix, all members voting affirmatively, motion carrying to appoint Greg Harris to the Sand Mountain Water Authority Board to fill the remainder of the term for Bill Greeson.

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Mr. Harcrow noted that the next meeting will be on March 13, 2012.

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It was moved by Mr. Jackson, without objection the meeting was adjourned.