

The DeKalb County Commission met in regular session (with minimal attendance due to COVID-19 Social Distancing Restrictions) on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. in the DeKalb County Activities Building (Courthouse Annex). Those present were President Ricky Harcrow, Shane Wootten, Terry Harris and Lester Black. Absent was Chris Kuykendall.

The meeting was called to order by President Harcrow with Mr. Sharp delivering the invocation and Mr. Black leading the Pledge.

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

Prior to the meeting President Harcrow made an announcement that the scheduled County Clean-up would be taking place on April 14-17, April 21-24 and April 28-May 1 beginning at 7:00 am - 7:00 pm each day.

Tax Abatement Resolution—Mr. Durham (EDA) and Mr. Chandler (Heil Company) each addressed the Commission and presented a Tax Abatement Resolution exempting the Heil Corporation from property taxes. Mr. Durham stated that the abatement was for the new addition and equipment only and that the current facility would continue to pay property taxes. It was requested that the Commission grant President Harcrow the Authority sign the Property Tax Abatement Resolution agreement.

Mr. Wootten made a motion to grant the request. Mr. Black seconded the motion. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried granting President Harcrow the authority to enter into the agreement and pass the following Property Tax Abatement Resolution:

DeKalb County Commission

Resolution Number 21-0413-01

This Resolution is made this 13th day of April, 2021 by the DeKalb County Commission (the Granting Authority),

to grant a tax abatement to The Heil Co., Inc. dba Environmental Solutions Group (the Company).

WHEREAS, the Company has announced plans to reinvest in their existing facility as part of an addition, expansion, upgrade, improvement, and/or renovation to their existing facility (the Project), located within the jurisdiction of the Granting Authority; and

WHEREAS, the Company's North Alabama Industry Classification System (NAICS) Code 336312, meets the qualifications of an approved activity in accordance with Section 40-9G-1(1), *Code of Alabama 1975*; and

WHEREAS, the Company has not entered into a project agreement with the Governor for the provision of other incentives for this project; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Alabama Reinvestment and Abatements Act (Section 40-9G-1 et seq., *Code of Alabama 1975*) (the Act) the Company has requested from the Granting Authority an Abatement of (check all that apply):

DeKalb County non-educational property taxes; and

WHEREAS, the Company has requested that the abatement of county non-educational property taxes be extended for a period of 10 years, in accordance with the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Granting Authority has consented by resolution (attached herein) to authorize the Granting Authority to abate the non-educational property taxes on behalf of the Granting Authority; and

WHEREAS, the Granting Authority has considered the request of the Company and the completed applications (copy attached) filed with the Granting Authority by the Company, in connection with its request; and

WHEREAS, the Granting Authority has found the information contained in the Company's application to be sufficient to permit the Granting Authority to make a reasonable cost/benefit analysis of the proposed project and to determine the economic benefits to the community; and

WHEREAS, the construction of the project will involve a capital investment of \$42,300,000

WHEREAS, the Company is duly qualified to do business in the State of Alabama, and has powers to enter into, and to perform and observe the agreements and covenants on its part contained in the Tax Abatement Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Granting Authority represents and warrants to the Company that it has power under that constitution and laws of the State of Alabama (including particularly the provisions of the Act) to carry out the provisions of the Tax Abatement Agreement;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Granting Authority as follows:

Section 1. Approval is hereby given to the application of the Company and abatement is hereby granted of (check all that apply):

DeKalb County non-educational property taxes, which shall be equal to the excess amount of DeKalb County non-educational property taxes owed for the applicable tax year that is greater than the amount of county non-educational property taxes owed for the tax year immediately before the qualifying project was placed in service, specific to the property that is receiving an abatement; and

as the same may apply to the fullest extent permitted by the Act. The period of abatement for the non-educational property taxes (if applicable) shall extend for a period of 10 years measured as provided in Section 40-9G of the Act, as amended from time to time.

Section 2. The governing body of the Granting Authority is authorized to enter into an abatement agreement with the Company to provide for the abatement granted in Section 1.

Section 3. A certified copy of this resolution, with the application and abatement agreement, shall be forwarded to the Company to deliver to the appropriate local taxing authorities (if applicable) and to the Alabama Department of Revenue in accordance with the Act.

Section 4. The governing body of the Granting Authority is authorized to take any and all actions necessary or desirable to accomplish the purpose of the foregoing of this resolution.

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing was duly adopted by the DeKalb County Commission at a meeting held on the 13th day of April, 2021.

Ricky Harcrow, President

Road Department

Update—Mr. Broyles stated that due to the recent flooding the County has at least three new roads that are closed because pipes are washed out. New pipe has been ordered and as soon as it arrives, they will begin repair work on those roads. Most crews are doing what they can to repair the previous flood damaged roads in all districts. One crew has started prep work on the resurface list.

At the last meeting it was suggested that contracting an outside source might be an option for herbicide treatment since the regular spraying crew is unavailable due to the amount of road work to be done. Mr. Broyles told the Commission that he had quotes from two companies; one for just under \$35K and one for under \$40K (Public Works Bid Law).

Mr. Black made a motion giving Mr. Broyles authorization to move forward and contract one of the companies for Herbicide treatments. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. All member voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Personnel—Mr. Broyles asked for the Commission's approval to promote Rick Doeberl to Parts Manager replacing Rex Goza who retired and hire Mickey Berry, District II crew, to replace Rick Doeberl. Mr. Broyles also asked the Commission to accept the resignation of Norman Price, District III crew, effective April 8, 2021 and requested approval to hire Jeff Tally to replace Mr. Price.

Mr. Wootten made a motion to approve. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Mr. Broyles requested permission to hire two temporary employees for the yard crew to fill in for a couple of full-time employees who are out on medical leave.

Mr. Black made a motion to approve. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

New Trucks—Mr. Broyles requested permission to obtain purchase orders and begin the process of ordering new trucks for the next fiscal year.

Mr. Harris made a motion to grant the request. Mr. Wootten seconded the motion. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Auction Results--Administrator Matt Sharp gave a report on the recent J.M. Woods Auction results stating the purchase price on 16 trucks that were sold was \$2.3 million and the after-auction price was \$2.5 million (after the auction fee was deducted) which is \$226,000 more than was paid for the trucks new, one year ago. Also, County pickup trucks sold for approximately \$80,000 more than was paid for.

Engineering

Mr. Luther presented the Annual Herbicide Bid results that were opened on March 18, 2021 and requested the Commission's approval to award the Herbicide and Adjuvants bids to both Helena and Red River Specialties as listed on the bid tab.

Mr. Wootten made a motion to approve. Mr. Black seconded the motion. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried to award the bids.

Sheriff/Jail

Sheriff's Office Personnel—Chief Deputy Gregg asked for the Commission's approval for the following Personnel hires, transfers and promotion.

- Transfer Jim Chambers from PT SRO to PT Courthouse Security (no change in pay)
- Transfer Jonathon Whitmire from Corrections Officer to temporary Deputy Sheriff (replaces Deputy Zac Priest who is deployed – G7/1).

Mr. Harris made a motion to approve the transfers. Mr. Black seconded the motion. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

- Hire Michael Little as full-time Deputy Sheriff to replace Deputy Levi Bates
- Hire Deputy Lamar Bray as part-time SRO to replace Deputy Jim Chambers who transferred to CH Security)
- Hire (rehire) Sebastian Gamez as Part-time Dispatcher (new position) – G5/1

Mr. Wootten made a motion to approve. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Promote SRO Deputy Sherry Johnson to Sergeant (G8A). BOE to pay the difference in pay (Sheriff's Office says that this position will allow Paul Bell to be the north SRO supervisor and Sherry Johnson would be the south SRO supervisor after Tony Bartley retires).

Mr. Wootten made a motion to approve the promotion. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Jail Personnel

Chief Smith asked the Commission to accept the resignation of the following Correction's Officers: Dustin Bailey, Sam McAlpin, Hunter Miller, Riley Shrader and Megan Diamond.

Mr. Harris made a motion to accept the resignation. Mr. Wootten seconded the motion. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Chief Smith requested permission for the following new hires:

- Joanna Hart, Full-time nurse (replaces Megan Diamond)
- Dylan Haney (replaces Corrections officer Riley Shrader)

- Valerie Williams (replaces Corrections officer Bailey Howell)
- Lori Jackson, RN (new hire)
- Brandon Blackwood (replaces Dustin Bailey)
- Danielle Adams (replaces Sam McAlpin)

Mr. Wootten made a motion to approve. Mr. Black seconded the motion. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Jail Food Service Bid—Administrator Matt Sharp presented the recent Inmate Feeding Bids and made the recommendation along with Chief Smith and other jail staff to enter into a contract with Aramark Food Services for inmate feeding, replacing Trinity Food Service who recently notified Chief Smith that they would be terminating their contract and no longer supply this service. (see bid file).

Mr. Wootten made a motion to approve. Mr. Black seconded the motion. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried to enter into a three (3) year contract with Aramark Food Services.

Revenue Commission

Personnel—On behalf of RC Tyler Wilks, Mr. Sharp made the recommendation and requested approval to hire Elizabeth Higgins to replace Melissa Blevins as a property clerk (G6) and to promote Angie Pask to assume some of these duties.

Mr. Harris made a motion to approve. Mr. Black seconded the motion. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

President Harcrow notified the audience that the next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 and asked for a motion to adjourn

Mr. Wootten made a motion to adjourn. The President declared no objections and ordered the meeting adjourned.

Ricky Harcrow, President

Shane Wootten, Commissioner District I

Terry Harris, Commissioner District II

ABSENT
Chris Kuykendall, Commissioner District III

Lester Black, Commissioner District IV