

The DeKalb County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday September 9, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the DeKalb County Activities Building (Courthouse Annex). Those present were Shane Wootten serving as President Pro Tem, Brent Rhodes, Ron Saferite and Lester Black. President Harcrow was absent, attending the quarterly RSA meeting.

The meeting was called to order by President Pro Tem Wootten. Mr. Wootten delivered the Invocation and Mr. Black lead the Pledge.

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

Road Department

Update—Mr. Young stated that crews have been hauling chert in Districts 1 & 2; and, bush hogging and running patch trucks in all four districts. The last five dumps are at auction, as well as a 2008 motorgrader, an old tractor and a bush hog.

Crew Leader—Mr. Young requested permission for the following Personnel items:

- Accept the **Retirement** of Jeff Sayre (District 4 Crew Leader) effective November 1, 2025.
- **Transfer** Leon Welden from the Yard Crew to District 4 Crew Leader to replace Mr. Sayre.

Mr. Black made a motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Saferite. all members voting affirmatively, motion carried to accept the retirement of Mr. Sayre and approve the transfer of Mr. Welden to the D4 Crew Leader position.

Other Personnel – Mr. Young also made the following personnel changes:

Hire Corey Green as Tire man in the Maintenance shop to replace Danny Bray who was hired and resigned the same day.

Transfer Greg Cordell from D1 to Patch Truck Driver (Yard) to replace Rodney Burt who transferred to Building Maintenance.

Mr. Rhodes made a motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Black. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Engineer

Annual Bid Awards— Mr. Luther presented the County’s FY26 Annual Bid List to the Commission and asked for the Commission’s approval as follows (bids on file in Engineer’s Office):

| | |
|--|---|
| - Asphalt (Hot Mix) Material | C.A. Langford and Wiregrass Construction |
| - Corrugated Metal Pipe | Contech |
| - CRS 2 Asphalt | Ergon Asphalt & Emulsion |
| - Crushed Limestone Aggregate | Vulcan Materials and C.A. Langford |
| - Grader Blades | Thompson Tractor |
| - HDP Pipe (Pick-up and Delivered) | Harris Lands |
| - High Performance Cold Patch Material | Hudson Materials |
| - Traffic Signs | Vulcan Signs, Traffic Signs, Inc., Osburn Associates and Lightle Enterprises |
| - Traffic Sign Posts | Vulcan Signs |

Mr. Wootten made a motion to award the bids. Seconded by Mr. Rhodes. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

ALDOT Snow & Ice Removal Quote— Mr. Luther requested the Commission accept the FY25-26 quotes for snow & ice removal. He stated that the rates are unchanged and requested permission to quote the same rates to the state as the previous year. (See list below):

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Motorgrader with Operator | \$170/hr |
| Standby Rate | \$120/hr |
| Spreader Truck with Operator | \$113/hr |
| Standby Rate | \$ 79/hr |
| Loader with Operator | \$113/hr |
| Standby Rate | \$ 79/hr |
| Shadow Vehicle with Driver | \$ 57/hr |
| Standby Rate | \$ 40/hr |

Mr. Black made a motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Saferite. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Sheriff's Office

Sheriff's Office Personnel:

Chief Edmondson requested the Commission approve the following personnel recommendations:

- a) Accepted the resignations of Investigators Dalton Veal and Ray Morales (both have been hired by FPPD)
- b) Approved the following Transfers:
 - Zac Priest from patrol to Investigator (replaces Dalton Veal)
 - Chasitie Jacobs from patrol (COPS) to Investigator (replaces Ray Morales)
 - Clay Monroe from SRO to Investigator (replaces Austin Peppers who is resigning to work with railroad)
 - Kevin Woodall from patrol to CH Security (replaces Kerry Monroe)
 - Kerry Monroe from CH Security to Patrol (to replace Kevin Woodall)
- c) Approval to Hire:
 - Andy Brown, Patrol (replaces Zac Priest)
 - Thomas Hubbard, Patrol (from PT to FT - replaces Chasitie Jacobs COPS slot)

Mr. Rhodes made a motion to grant the personnel requests. Seconded by Mr. Saferite. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Jail Personnel—Chief Wright requested the Commission's approval for the following personnel requests:

- a) Resignations: Jeffrey Smith (Shift Sgt) and Andrew Ingebritsen (CO)
- b) Terminations: Lt. Evan Wilborn, Nurse Ashley Hulgan and Mental Health Officer Cathy Clifton

Mr. Saferite made a motion to accept the resignations and terminations. Seconded by Mr. Black. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried

The following personnel requests were requested by Chief Wright:

- a) New Hires: Dylan McCord, JayDuh Allen-Tovar, Roselynn Matias-Santos and Corey Hiatt as Corrections Officers.
- b) Transfer: Adam Moore from Shift Sgt to Staff Sgt (open position)
- c) Promotions: Kaylynn Hulgan, Daniel Galloway and Katlynn Waldrop to Shift Sergeants

Mr. Saferite made a motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Black. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried to approve the personnel requests.

Revenue Commission—Mr. Sharp on behalf of Revenue Commissioner Tyler Wilks, asked the Commission to approve the following:

- a) Accept the Resignation of Rebekah Roberts
- b) Transfer and promote Liz Higgins to Personal Property Appraiser in October
- c) Post two positions (Receptionist and Collections Clerk).

Mr. Rhodes made a motion to grant the request. Seconded by Mr. Black. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Maintenance Personnel—Mr. Shelton requested approval to accept the transfer of Rodney Burt from the Road Department to Building Maintenance.

Mr. Black made a motion to approve the request. Seconded by Mr. Saferite. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried

Mutual Aide Resolution and Agreement—Mr. Posey addressed the Commission requesting the Resolution and agreement presented and approved at the August meeting be rescinded, due to inaccurate language and authorization. He presented revised documents for approval, and requested authorization to obtain the necessary signatures for the revised Resolution and Agreement.

Mr. Rhodes made a motion to grant the request. Seconded by Mr. Saferite. All members voting affirmative, motion carried rescinding the previous actions and authorizing the following Resolutions:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMA DIRECTOR
MUTUAL AID EMERGENCY AND DISASTER POWERS**

RESOLUTION NO. 25-0909-02

AMENDS/REPLACES RESOLUTION NO. 25-0708-01

WHEREAS, the DeKalb County Commission recognizes the need for rapid and coordinated response to emergencies and disasters to protect life, property, and the environment; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama, under the Alabama Emergency Management Act of 1955, as amended (Code of Alabama 1975, §31-9-1 et seq.), delegates authority to local emergency management directors to take necessary actions to respond to and manage emergency and disaster situations; and

WHEREAS, §31-9-8 and §31-9-10 of the Code of Alabama authorize political subdivisions, through their emergency management organizations and directors, to cooperate with other public and private entities and to enter into mutual aid arrangements for reciprocal disaster response and recovery assistance; and

WHEREAS, timely execution of mutual aid agreements with neighboring jurisdictions, state agencies, federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private sector entities can greatly enhance DeKalb County's capacity to manage emergencies and disasters; and

WHEREAS, the DeKalb County Commission desires to ensure that the DeKalb County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Director has the authority to enter into such agreements without delay when an emergency or disaster occurs or is imminent;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSION that:

1. Delegation of Authority

The Director of the DeKalb County Emergency Management Agency is hereby authorized, in accordance with the Alabama Emergency Management Act (§31-9-1 et seq.), to negotiate, enter into, and execute mutual aid agreements with other governmental entities, agencies, organizations, and private sector partners for the purpose of emergency or disaster response, relief, and recovery.

2. Scope of Authority

Such authority shall apply during a declared local emergency, state of emergency, or disaster situation, as well as in imminent threat circumstances where immediate coordination is necessary to protect life and property.

3. Reporting Requirement

The EMA Director shall promptly notify the Chairman of the DeKalb County Commission of any mutual aid agreements entered into under this authority and provide a copy of the agreement for the Commission's records as soon as practicable.

4. Compliance with Law

All agreements executed under this resolution shall comply with the applicable provisions of the Alabama Emergency Management Act, other relevant state and federal laws, and DeKalb County policies.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 9th day of September 2025

SIGNED:



Ricky Harcrow, President
DeKalb County Commission

ATTEST:



Matt Sharp, County Administrator

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMA DIRECTOR
EMERGENCY AND DISASTER POWERS :
RESOLUTION NO: 25-0909-03**

WHEREAS, Act of Alabama 2025-206 amended the Code of Alabama 1975, §§31-9-9 and §31-9-11 to expand the scope wherein local jurisdictions may provide reciprocal aid and assistance to other public or private agencies in the State of Alabama pursuant to a mutual aid agreement; and

WHEREAS, Act of Alabama 2025-206 grants the authority to the governing body of each local jurisdiction to develop mutual aid agreements with other public and private agencies within this state for mutual aid and assistance to protect the public peace, health, and safety, and to preserve the lives and property of the people of the state, and it further provides that employees of political subdivisions have the same powers and immunities when they act outside of the political subdivision pursuant to a mutual aid agreement; and

WHEREAS, each Entity desiring to participate in the Mutual Aid Agreements is required to adopt a resolution, signifying its desire to participate and its agreement to the terms and conditions of participation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the DeKalb County Commission enters into the Alabama Inter-Local Mutual Aid Agreement with all other participating Entities and agrees to all terms and conditions set out therein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the DeKalb County Commission designates EMA Director as its representative and administrator, and as such, grants them the authority to carry out all duties as outlined in the Alabama Inter-Local Mutual Aid Agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairman of the DeKalb County Commission is hereby granted authority to execute all documents required for participation in the Alabama Inter-Local Mutual Aid Agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution and the executed Alabama Inter-Local Mutual Aid Agreement be immediately forwarded to the Alabama Association of Emergency Managers and the State of Alabama Emergency Management Agency.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the DeKalb County Commission has caused this Resolution to be executed in its name and on its behalf on this 9th day of September, 2025.

EMA App Transition—Mr. Posey requested approval to terminate their contract with Veoci, Inc., and enter into contract with OCV, for Mobile App Development Services and Support.

Mr. Black made a motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Saferite. All members voting affirmatively, Motion Carried.

Mr. Posey then gave a brief update on the following projects, CAD, Hazard Mitigation Planning and School Safety Plan.

Commission Personnel—County Administrator Matt Sharp made the recommendation to transfer Lorrie Waycaster from Receptionist/Assistant Sales Tax Coordinator to HR/Payroll manager to replace Traci Burt who is retiring and working in a PT capacity.

Mr. Black made a motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Saferite. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

SSUT (Simplified Sellers Use Tax)—County Administrator Matt Sharp requested the Commission adopt the following Resolution that opposes any legislative efforts to alter the SSUT program that would negatively affect County Governments:

Mr. Saferite made a motion to grant the request. Seconded by Mr. Rhodes. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION No. 25-0909-01

**ENCOURAGING THE ALABAMA LEGISLATURE TO OPPOSE ANY
LEGISLATIVE CHANGES THAT WOULD DISRUPT THE SSUT PROGRAM'S OPERATIONS
OR CALL THE PROGRAM'S CONSTITUTIONALITY INTO QUESTION**

WHEREAS, the Alabama Simplified Seller Use Tax (SSUT) Remittance Act, codified at Section 40-23-191 et seq., Code of Alabama 1975, was enacted in 2015, establishing a process by which the State of Alabama collects use taxes from eligible sellers on behalf of Alabama consumers; and

WHEREAS, in *South Dakota v. Wayfair*, 585 U.S. 162 (2018), the United States Supreme Court held that the State may collect taxes from sellers that have a "substantial nexus" in the State, even where there is no physical presence, provided that the tax does not impose an undue burden on interstate commerce; and

WHEREAS, the SSUT program is designed to fall within the United States Supreme Court's guidelines and has been a model for other states across the country; and

WHEREAS, the SSUT program is now under attack by a small group of mayors who have been publicly criticizing the same program that, since its enactment, has provided more than \$4.2 billion in essential revenue to the Alabama General Fund, the Alabama Education Trust Fund, Alabama's 67 county governments, and Alabama's municipal governments; and

WHEREAS, individual counties and municipalities have no constitutionally valid authority to compel online retailers to collect use taxes from Alabama consumers; and

WHEREAS, challenges to and attacks upon the SSUT program place essential revenue at risk for all levels of government and, therefore, are a threat to our State's continued growth.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE DeKALB COUNTY COMMISSION that the County Commission fully supports the current SSUT program as an efficient, constitutional, and operationally effective process for collecting use taxes due on behalf of Alabama consumers who utilize eligible sellers for delivery of taxable products into Alabama.

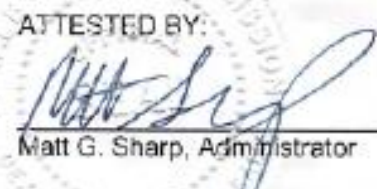
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE DeKALB COUNTY COMMISSION that the revenue generated by the SSUT program will continue to support essential governmental services in the county.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE DeKALB COUNTY COMMISSION that the County Commission fully supports the use of population data to allocate the county portion of the revenue among our State's 67 county governments as is currently provided by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE DeKALB COUNTY COMMISSION that the County Commission strongly opposes any legislative efforts to alter the SSUT program in a way that would disrupt its operations or call into question its constitutionality.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the County Commission has caused this resolution to be executed in its name and on its behalf by its Chair, on this 9th day of September, 2025.

ATTESTED BY:


Matt G. Sharp, Administrator


Ricky Harcrow, President

EDA Board Appointment—President Pro Tem Wootten made the recommendation on behalf of Commission President Harcrow and EDA's Executive Director, Dr. Brett Johnson to appoint Paul Higdon (new FTC Executive Director) to the Economic Development Board of Directors. Mr. Higdon will replace Chris Bryant who is retiring from FTC and resigning his position on the board, effective September 30, 2025. Mr. Higdon will serve the remainder of the term, expiring September 30, 2027.

Mr. Wootten also asked the Commission to honor the request to reappoint Chip Kerby to serve an additional 4 (four) year term, expiring September 30, 2029.

Mr. Black made a motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Rhodes. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

FY25-26 Budget—County Administrator Matt Sharp presented a draft of the FY26 Budget (each Commissioner and County attorney Chris Runyan were given a copy). Mr. Sharp gave an in depth overview of its contents and asked the Commission to review and advise if any changes need to be made before passing at the next meeting on September 30th.

President Pro Tem Wootten notified the audience that the next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 30, 2025 and asked for a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Saferite made a motion to adjourn. The President Pro Tem declared no objections, and ordered the meeting adjourned.

ABSENT

Ricky Harcrow, President

Shane Wootten, President Pro Tem

Brent Rhodes, Commissioner District II

Ron Saferite, Commissioner District III

Lester Black, Commissioner District IV