

The DeKalb County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday November 12, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the DeKalb County Activities Building (Courthouse Annex). Those present were President Ricky Harcrow, Shane Wootten, Ron Saferite and Lester Black. Absent was Brent Rhodes.

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The meeting was called to order by President Harcrow with Mr. Wootten delivering the Invocation, and Mr. Saferite leading the Pledge.

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It was moved by Mr. Wootten seconded by Mr. Saferite with 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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### **Road Department**

Update—Mr. Young stated that District 1 and 3 crews were reclaiming roads, and all four districts were cutting brush and running the Dura-patch machines.

Personnel—Mr. Young requested the Commission accept the resignation of Cory Green (D2), approve the hire of James Handley to replace Mr. Green and hire James Drake Whisenant in D1.

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

Equipment— Mr. Young requested the Commission’s approval to make the following Equipment purchases:

- **Caterpillar Motor Grader** w/rear Ripper from Thompson CAT (Bid price of \$393,754.90, Plus 5yr warranty of \$11,147.00, less a loyalty discount of \$54,496.90 = \$350,405.00). A trade in allowance on 2019 Cat Grader (CE1910) of \$152,000 for net payment of \$198,405.00.
- **Caterpillar Hydraulic Excavator** w/thumb and 54” bucket from Thompson CAT, plus 5yr warranty = \$354,384.64, less loyalty discount of \$79,350.55 = \$257,034.09. A trade in allowance on 2017 CAT Trackhoe (CE1733) of \$86,000 (as is) for a net payment of \$189,034.09.
- **Waste Oil Furnace** 2 quotes were received on a new waste oil furnace for the Shop (30+ years old) were received. One for \$19,995 from J. Bisio and one for \$13,350 CleanEnergy.

Mr. Saferite made a motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Black. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried to award the CAT bids to Thompson CAT and the furnace to CleanEnergy.

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### **Engineer**

County Engineer Ben Luther made the recommendation due to public safety concerns for the Commission to adopt two (2) speed limit Resolutions as follows:

- CR 354 from Hwy 68 to CR 22 – 25mph
- CR 483 from Hwy 11 to CR 51 – 35mph

State of Alabama  
DeKalb County

RESOLUTION NO. 25-1112-02

**WHEREAS**, the DeKalb County Commission on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation determines that the maximum speed permitted under Article 8, Title 32, Chapter 5A, Code of Alabama, 1975 for County Road 354 from State Road 68 to County Road 22 is greater than is reasonable and safe under the conditions found to exist on said paved road;

**NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED**, that the proper maximum speed for County Road 354 from State Road 68 to County Road 22 is set at 25 miles per hour at all times and no person shall operate a motor vehicle in excess of 25 miles per hour on said County Road 354;

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED**, that any violations of this Resolution shall be unlawful and punishable pursuant to Title 32, Chapter 5A, Code of Alabama, 1975.

**ADOPTED** this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025

State of Alabama  
DeKalb County

RESOLUTION NO. 25-1112-03

**WHEREAS**, the DeKalb County Commission on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation determines that the maximum speed permitted under Article 8, Title 32, Chapter 5A, Code of Alabama, 1975 for County Road 483 from U.S. Highway 11 to County Road 51 is greater than is reasonable and safe under the conditions found to exist on said paved road;

**NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED**, that the proper maximum speed for County Road 483 from U.S. Highway 11 to County Road 51 is set at 35 miles per hour at all times and no person shall operate a motor vehicle in excess of 35 miles per hour on said County Road 483;

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED**, that any violations of this Resolution shall be unlawful and punishable pursuant to Title 32, Chapter 5A, Code of Alabama, 1975.

**ADOPTED** this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025

Mr. Luther also presented a resolution for a “no parking zone” from the entrance of DeSoto State Park near the SMEC substation to CR 650 as follows: (Note: He also mentioned the County would help with adding a cross-walk and signage from the parking lot to the other side of the road – to be reimbursed by the State Park).

**RESOLUTION**

No. 25-1112-04

**WHEREAS**, the State of Alabama owns certain lands and operates a public park designated as Desoto State Park in DeKalb County, Alabama; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a certain public area designated as Desoto Falls Park, being located at the dead end of County Road 613, said road being owned and maintained by DeKalb County; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a certain small, designated parking lot adjacent to County Road 613 that serves the Desoto Falls Trailhead; and

**WHEREAS**, at times, this parking lot is overwhelmed with vehicles, causing patrons to park their vehicles along both sides of said County Road 613, rendering it, at best, a one-lane roadway;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the DeKalb County Commission, upon request from said Desoto State Park management, hereby designates the right-of-way of County Road 613, from the existing Sand Mountain Electric Cooperative substation easterly to the western-most intersection of County Road 650 as a "No Parking Zone", outside of any existing or future designated parking lots by the State of Alabama.

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED**, that any violation of this Resolution shall be unlawful and punishable pursuant to Title 32, Chapter 5A, Code of Alabama, 1975.

**ADOPTED** this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025.

Mr. Saferite made a motion. Seconded by Mr. Wootten. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried to adopt all three (3) Resolutions.

**Amend FY2026 County Transportation Plan**—Mr. Luther presented and asked the Commission to Adopt the FY2026 Amended County Transportation Plan to make changes as follows (project numbers 10-28).

Mr. Black made a motion to adopt the Amended FY26 County Transportation Plan as follows: Seconded by Mr. Saferite. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried

**District 1:**

Rebuild (CRAF):

CR 89 (End of HMA - CR 735)	225,678.00
CR 89 (CR 734 - CR2700N)	74,322.00
CR 371 (CR 134 - CR 886)	28,900.00
CR 371 (CR 886 - Jackson Co)	21,100.00
CR 723 (CR 126 - CR 715)	32,417.56

**District 2:**

Rebuild (CRAF):

CR 482 (CR 9 - CR 104)	148,253.00
CR 104 (CR 28 - CR 20)	93,951.00
CR 34 (CR 28 - Hwy 227)	85,272.00
CR 82 (Hwy 75 - Bridge)	22,524.00

**District 3:**

Rebuild (CRAF):

CR 83 (US Hwy 11 - CR 55)	128,000.00
CR 86 (CR 221 - CR 30)	140,507.00
CR 363 (US Hwy 11 - Ft of Mtn)	40,529.00
CR 71 (CR 83 - CR 99)	23,301.00
CR 867 (CR 12 to End of DGB)	17,663.00

**District 4:**

Rebuild (CRAF):

CR 1986 (CR 429 - CR 41)	48,149.00
CR 453 (CR 52 - CR 62)	41,062.00
CR 422 (CR 72 - CR 76)	36,032.00
CR 420 (CR 72 - CR 76)	33,277.00
CR 675 (CR 143 - CR 714)	32,047.00
CR 571 (CR 102 - CR 47)	27,748.00
CR 532 (CR 56 - CR 56)	26,684.00
CR 561 (CR 43 - CR 532)	25,929.00
CR 511/508 (CR 90 - CR 507)	20,229.00
CR 581 (CR 571 - dead-end)	18,353.00
CR 423 (CR 76 - dead-end)	17,878.00
CR 428 (CR 429 - CR 430)	14,234.00
CR 693 (CR 430 - dead-end)	8,378.00

Total Rebuild (CRAF - \$1,432,417.56, including \$32,417.56 from FY25)

**District 1:**

Federal Aid Exchange (FAEF):

CR 159 (Replace Bridge over Fall Creek	200,000.00
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**District 2:**

Federal Aid Exchange (FAEF):

CR 76 (Replace Bridge over Black Oak Creek	20,000.00
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Total FAEF (\$220,000, carryover \$1,737,282.02).

**Sheriff's Office**

Sheriff's Office / Jail Personnel

Chief White requested the Commission's approval to hire Noah Pope (PT Deputy) and Dustin Garrison to fill an open slot for FT Deputy (Courthouse Security)

Chief White also requested approval for the following Jail Personnel items

- New Hires
- April McAnelly (replaces Tiffney Wilkes—terminated Kitchen Staff)
  - Kane Brown (replaces Trevor Hawkins who resigned)
  - Alexander Gilbert (replaces Benjamin Harper who was terminated)
  - Henry Soto—Charlie shift (replaces CO Charles Gallaway)
  - Jason Melton—Delta Shift (replaces Skyler McCord)

Transfer CO Bruce Vaughn from Charlie Shift to a split shift on Alpha/Bravo rotation to assist with shift training.

Accept the resignation of CO Daniel Gallaway

Termination of CO Dewayne Ballard (hired and only worked one day)

Chief White noted that two positions remain open.

Mr. Wootten made a motion to approve all personnel items. Seconded by Mr. Saferite. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

**COA**

Rural Public Transportation Personnel—On behalf of Ms. McCamy, Mr. Sharp requested approval to hire Justin Whitzell as a sub-driver to train and to replace Danny Willyard who plans to retire in March 2026.

SeniorRx Contract—On behalf of COA Director Emily McCamy, County Administrator Matt Sharp requested the Commission approve the SeniorRx Drug assistance contract for FY26.

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

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**Drug & Alcohol Policy**—EMA Director & Safety Coordinator Michael Posey presented an amended County Drug and Alcohol Policy which includes restrictions on employee use of Cannabis based prescription drug medicines. He stated the new policy is based on County Risks Services requirements for Safety Incentive discounts, and asked the commission to approve the update to the policy.

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

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**Mack Truck Resolution**—County Administrator Matt Sharp requested the Commission adopt the following Resolution authorizing and approving Execution of a contract with Cadence Bank for the Equipment Finance for five (5) Mack Trucks.

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

***RESOLUTION NO. 25-1112-01***

***Resolution Authorizing and Approving Execution of a Contract  
With Cadence Equipment Finance, a Division of Cadence Bank***

WHEREAS, the DeKalb County Commission (the “Governing Body”) of DeKalb County, Alabama (the “Buyer”), acting for and on behalf of the Buyer hereby finds, determines and adjudicates as follows:

1. The Buyer desires to enter into a Contract with the Delivery Order and Exhibits attached thereto in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A” (collectively, the “Contract”) with Cadence Equipment Finance, a division of Cadence Bank (the “Seller”), for the purpose of leasing with an option to purchase the equipment as described therein for the total cost specified therein (the “Equipment”).
2. It is in the best interest of the residents served by Buyer that the Buyer acquire the Equipment pursuant to and in accordance with the terms of the Contract; and
3. It is necessary for the Buyer to approve and authorized the contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by this Governing Body for and on behalf of the Buyer as follows:

Section 1. The Contract and Exhibits attached thereto in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A” by and between the Seller and the Buyer is hereby approved and Matt G. Sharp, County Administrator (the “Authorized Officer”) is hereby authorized and directed to execute said Contract on behalf of the Buyer.

Section 2. The Delivery Order is being issued in calendar year 2025.

Section 3. Neither any portion of the gross proceeds of the Contract nor the Equipment identified to the Contract shall be used (directly or indirectly) in a trade or business carried on by any person other than a governmental unit, except for such use as a member of the general public.

Section 4. No portion of the rental payment identified in the Contract (a) is secured, directly or indirectly, by property used or to be used in a trade or business carried on by a person other than a governmental unit, except for such use as a member of the general public, or by payments in respect of such property; or (b) is to be derived from payments (whether or not to Buyer) in respect of property or borrowed money used or to be used for a trade or business carried on by any person other than a governmental unit.

Section 5. No portion of the gross proceeds of the Contract are used (directly or indirectly) to make or finance loans to persons other than governmental units.

Section 6. The Authorized Officer is further authorized for and on behalf of the Governing Body and the Buyer to do all things necessary in furtherance of the obligations of the Buyer pursuant to the Contract, including execution and delivery of all other documents necessary or appropriate to carry out the transactions contemplated thereby in accordance with the terms and provisions thereof.

Section 7. The Buyer desires to designate the Contract as a "Qualified tax-exempt obligation" of the buyer, as defined in Section 265(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code").

The aggregate face amount of all tax-exempt obligations (excluding private activity bonds other than qualified 501(c)(3) bonds) issued or to be used by the Buyer and all subordinate entities thereof during the current calendar year is not reasonably expected to exceed \$10,000,000. The Buyer and all subordinate entities thereof will not issue or enter into excess of \$10,000,000 of tax-exempt obligations (including the Contract, but excluding private activity bonds other than qualified 501(c)(3) bonds) during the current calendar year, without first obtaining an opinion of nationally recognized counsel in the area of tax-exempt municipal obligations acceptable to the Seller that the designation of the Contract as a "qualified tax-exempt obligations" will not be adversely affected.

Following the reading of the foregoing resolution, Mr. Wootten moved that the foregoing resolution be adopted. Mr. Black seconded the motion for its adoption.

President Harcrow put the question to a vote. The motion having received the affirmative vote of all members present, President Harcrow declared the motion carried and the resolution adopted this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of November 2025.

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County Administrator Matt Sharp presented the Long Term Detention Subsidy Contract naming Coosa Valley Detention as the County's choice for DeKalb County Juvenile detention services and requested authorization for the necessary documents to be signed.

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

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**2026 Severe Weather Preparedness Tax Holiday Resolution**—President Harcrow requested the Commission approve the 2026 Sales Tax Exempt Severe Weather Preparedness Tax Holiday Feb. 20-22, 2026.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-1112-06  
RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR DeKALB COUNTY'S  
PARTICIPATION IN THE "SALES TAX HOLIDAY"  
AS AUTHORIZED BY ACT NO. 2012-256**

WHEREAS, during its 2012 Regular Session, the Alabama Legislature enacted Act No. 2012-256, effective April 26, 2012, which provides an exemption of the state sales and use tax for certain non-commercial purchases related to severe weather preparedness supplies during the first full weekend in July of 2012 and the last full weekend in February of each successive year; and

WHEREAS, Act No. 2012-256 authorizes the County Commission to provide for an exemption of county sales and use taxes for purchases of items covered by the Act during the same time period in which the state sales and use tax exemption is in place, provided a resolution to that effect is adopted at least thirty (30) days prior to the last full weekend in February; and

WHEREAS, the DeKalb County Commission has affirmatively voted to grant the exemption of county sales and use taxes on purchases covered by Act No. 2012-256 during the last full weekend of February 2026, beginning at 12:01 a.m. on February 20 and ending at twelve midnight on Sunday, February 22, 2026, the last full weekend of February in 2026; and

WHEREAS, *Code of Alabama 1975, § 11-51-210(c)* requires that the County Commission notify the Alabama Department of Revenue of any new local tax or amendment to an existing local tax levy at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of the change; and

WHEREAS, the exemption of certain county sales and use taxes for the last full weekend of February 2026 herein adopted by the County Commission is an amendment to the county's sales and use tax levy warranting notice to the Alabama Department of Revenue as provided in *Code of Alabama 1975, § 11-51-210(c)*;

WHEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE DeKALB COUNTY COMMISSION that it does hereby provide for an exemption of the County Sales and Use tax on purchases of items covered by Act No. 2012-256 beginning at 12:01 a.m. on February 20 and ending at twelve midnight on Sunday, February 22, 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the November 12, 2025, meeting of the DeKalb County Commission, and be immediately forwarded to the Alabama Department of Revenue in compliance with *Code of Alabama 1975, § 11-51-210(c)*.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the DeKalb County Commission has caused this Resolution to be executed in its name and on its behalf by its President on this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of November 2025:

Prior to adjourning today's meeting, President Harcrow presented a Retirement Plaque and Resolution to Ms. Traci Burt honoring her for her 36 years of dedicated service with DeKalb County. He stated that Ms. Burt officially retired on Oct. 1, 2025.

Mr. Wootten made a motion to adopt the Resolution. Seconded by Mr. Black. All members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

President Harcrow notified the audience that the next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 9, 2025 and stated that he would be absent that day attending an RSA Board meeting. Mr. Wootten will preside over the meeting as President ProTem for the December meeting. He asked for a motion to adjourn.

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

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Ricky Harcrow, President

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Shane Wootten, Commissioner District I

ABSENT

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Brent Rhodes, Commissioner District II

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Ron Saferite, Commissioner District III

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Lester Black, Commissioner District IV