

The DeKalb County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday January 13, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. in the DeKalb County Activities Building (Courthouse Annex). Those present were President Ricky Harcrow, Shane Wootten, Brent Rhodes, Ron Saferite, and Lester Black.

The meeting was called to order by President Harcrow who also delivered the invocation. Mr. Rhodes led the Pledge.

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.

Road Department

Maintenance Update—Mr. Young stated that crews hauled 60-70 loads of chert, completed bush cutting, and ran the dura-patch machines in all four districts.

Personnel—Mr. Young requested the Commission hire Lance Wilbanks to the unit crew replacing Leon Weldon who was transferred to District 4 as crew leader.

Mr. Black made a motion to approve the personnel changes, a second was made by Mr. Rhodes, with all members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Equipment Purchase—Mr. Young requested the Commission approve the purchase of 4 one-ton Dodge Ram 3500CC Trucks (9ft beds) @ \$66,000.00 each to replace four 2002 cold mix patch trucks.

Mr. Black made a motion to approve these purchases with a second from Mr. Rhodes, all members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Engineer

Annual Report – Ben Luther presented the FY2025 annual report for the Rebuild Alabama Act. Mr. Luther explained that the report provides the details of the provided funds, used funds, and ending balances for this Act.

Mr. Wootten made a motion to accept the annual report, seconded by Mr. Rhodes, all members voting affirmatively, motion carried, to accept the annual report as summarized below:

Map Index	Road Name/Number	Project Details		Amount of Rebuild Alabama Funding Expended in Current Fiscal Year	CRAF Amount	FAEF Amount
		Project Length (miles)	Description of Work			
			Beginning Balance		\$307,490.82	\$1,238,562.02
			Annual Revenue Received by County		\$1,443,579.72	\$400,000.00
			Rebuild Funds Received from Municipalities through MOUs		\$0.00	\$0.00
1	727	1.54	Bituminous Treatment JG from Shady Lane to CR-667	\$66,642.09	\$66,642.09	\$0.00
2	664	1.40	Bituminous Treatment JG from SR-117 to SR-117	\$56,149.63	\$56,149.63	\$0.00
3	803	1.15	Bituminous Treatment JG from CR-159 to CR-141	\$47,093.68	\$47,093.68	\$0.00
4	687	0.95	Bituminous Treatment JG from SR-117 to CR-728	\$35,562.95	\$35,562.95	\$0.00
5	741	0.74	Bituminous Treatment JG from CR-651 to CR-740	\$33,981.47	\$33,981.47	\$0.00
6	712	0.62	Bituminous Treatment JG from CR-651 to Dead End	\$23,211.86	\$23,211.86	\$0.00
7	743	0.45	Bituminous Treatment JG from CR-651 to CR-727	\$17,200.01	\$17,200.01	\$0.00
8	739	2.00	Bituminous Treatment G from CR-790 to CR-372	\$37,179.90	\$37,179.90	\$0.00
9	789	0.83	Bituminous Treatment G from CR-788 to CR-739	\$15,586.62	\$15,586.62	\$0.00
10	54	1.97	Bituminous Treatment JG from SR-75 to CR-52	\$98,444.16	\$98,444.16	\$0.00
11	439/156	1.26	Bituminous Treatment JG from CR-34 to CR-104	\$50,804.17	\$50,804.17	\$0.00
12	550	1.10	Bituminous Treatment JG from CR-76 to CR-50	\$53,673.68	\$53,673.68	\$0.00
13	303	1.00	Bituminous Treatment JG from CR-312 to CR-49	\$49,745.11	\$49,745.11	\$0.00
14	329	0.94	Bituminous Treatment JG from SR-227 east to start of HMA	\$45,346.63	\$45,346.63	\$0.00

15	312	0.82	Bituminous Treatment JG from CR-57 to end of DGB	\$35,550.10	\$35,550.10	\$0.00
16	65	1.70	Bituminous Treatment JG from Bridge to CR-22	\$90,910.44	\$90,910.44	\$0.00
17	345	1.50	Bituminous Treatment JG from Etowah Co. Line to CR-221	\$82,190.68	\$82,190.68	\$0.00
18	354	1.50	Bituminous Treatment JG from SR-68 to CR-22	\$64,171.01	\$64,171.01	\$0.00
19	115	3.13	Bituminous Treatment G from SR-176 to Cherokee Co. Line	\$69,425.18	\$69,425.18	\$0.00
20	188	1.71	Bituminous Treatment G from CR-115 to SR-176	\$36,053.19	\$36,053.19	\$0.00
21	121	8.38	Bituminous Treatment G from CR-27 to CR-120	\$195,097.25	\$195,097.25	\$0.00
22	683	2.00	Bituminous Treatment JG from CR-112 to CR-1023	\$87,120.78	\$87,120.78	\$0.00
23	266	1.17	Bituminous Treatment JG from CR-407 to CR-47	\$45,704.05	\$45,704.05	\$0.00
24	Shady Lane	0.84	Bituminous Treatment G from CR-138 to SR-75	\$17,121.28	\$17,121.28	\$0.00
25	727	0.60	Bituminous Treatment G from CR-667 to SR-117	\$13,487.43	\$13,487.43	\$0.00
26	247	2.00	Bituminous Treatment JG from SR-176 to CR-252	\$75,141.15	\$75,141.15	\$0.00
27	79	0.87	Bituminous Treatment JG from CR-224 to CR-758	\$37,263.13	\$37,263.13	\$0.00
28	297	0.83	Bituminous Treatment JG from SR-176 to SR-176	\$32,240.46	\$32,240.46	\$0.00
29	6	0.70	Bituminous Treatment JG from Etowah Co. Line to CR-863	\$30,572.38	\$30,572.38	\$0.00
30	261	0.67	Bituminous Treatment JG from CR-295 to Dead End	\$26,443.20	\$26,443.20	\$0.00
31	238	0.53	Bituminous Treatment JG from CR-115 to End of Pavement	\$20,062.56	\$20,062.56	\$0.00
32	245	0.37	Bituminous Treatment JG from CR-115 to End of Pavement	\$16,407.36	\$16,407.36	\$0.00
33	224 East	0.20	Bituminous Treatment JG from SR-176 to CR-232	\$8,171.78	\$8,171.78	\$0.00
34	137 (Gault Avenue North)	-	HDPE Pipe Liner inside an existing 72" CMP south of the YS Inc. plant in Fort Payne	\$81,280.00	\$0.00	\$81,280.00

Note: Only Rebuild Alabama Funds are intended to be reported	45.47	Total Rebuild Funds Expended this Fiscal Year	\$1,695,035.37	\$137,315.17	\$1,557,282.02	
Percent of Rebuild Funds Expended in Compliance with Section 7c(2)(d) on the Rebuild Alabama Act					100%	

Sheriff’s Office

Personnel – Sheriff Welden requested the Commission hire Ray Cumby as FT Collinsville SRO and transfer Kristy West from Crossville SRO to Drug and Major Crimes Unit and Michael West from Patrol to Crossville SRO, filling West’s vacancy.

Mr. Saferite made a motion to accept the personnel changes, with a second from Mr. Black, all members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Jail

Personnel - Sheriff Welden requested the Commission hire Darrell Akins on D-Shift to replace Jace Wooden who is transferring to C-Shift, James Brothers to fill a vacancy on D-Shift, and Elizabeth Smith to fill a vacancy on B-Shift.

Mr. Rhodes made a motion to approve these new hires, with a second from Mr. Saferite, all members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Sheriff Welden requested the Commission promote Jason Melton to B-Shift Sergeant replacing Clay Jackson who transferred to A-Shift Sergeant, Kaylynn Hulgán to Lieutenant filling a vacancy left by Adam Moore who was promoted to Captain at the last meeting, and Katlynn Waldrop to C-Shift Sergeant replacing Tyler Sparkman who willingly stepped down from the position.

Mr. Black made a motion to accept these promotions, with a second from Mr. Wootten, all members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Training – Sheriff Welden requested the Commission approve attendance to APOSTC Jail Management Class for three employees and tuition assistance for one of those three employees.

Mr. Saferite made a motion to approve the request, with a second from Mr. Wootten, all members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Housekeeping

Personnel – Matt Sharp requested the Commission approve the resignation of Kristian Maxwell and the transfer of Aleshia Howard from PT to FT.

Mr. Wootten made a motion to approve the requests, with a second from Mr. Rhodes, all members voting affirmatively, motion carried.

2026 Holiday Calendar

Commission President Ricky Harcrow presented the 2026 Holiday Schedule, adding Juneteenth as a holiday.

Mr. Black made a motion to approve the holiday schedule, with a second from Mr. Saferite, all members voting affirmatively, motion carried as follows:

2026 Calendar Year Holiday Schedule

News Years Day	Thursday, January 1	(State Holiday)
MLK, Jr./Robert E. Lee Day	Monday, January 19	(State Holiday)
President’s Day	Monday, February 16	(State Holiday)
Confederate Memorial Day	Monday, April 27	(State Holiday)
Memorial Day	Monday, May 25	(State Holiday)
Juneteenth	Friday, June 19	(New State Holiday)
Independence Day	Friday, July 3	(State Holiday)
Labor Day	Monday, September 7	(State Holiday)
Columbus Day	Monday, October 12	(State Holiday)
Veteran’s Day	Wednesday, November 11	(State Holiday)
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 26	(State Holiday)
Family Day	Friday, November 27	*
Christmas Eve	Thursday, December 24	*
Christmas	Friday, December 25	(State Holiday)

(*) *The State of Alabama observes Jefferson Davis Birthday on June 2. Mardi Gras is observed in Baldwin in Mobile Counties, while other State employees receive a personal leave day instead of Mardi Gras. DeKalb County has substituted the day after Thanksgiving (formerly known as “Family Day”) and Christmas Eve as official Holidays for DeKalb County.*

President Harcrow notified the audience that the next meeting would be February 10, 2026. He 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

Brent Rhodes, Commissioner District II

Ron Saferite, Commissioner District III

Lester Black, Commissioner District IV