

# Baldwin County Commission

**Baldwin County Commission  
Regular  
Meeting Minutes Organizational  
Meeting for 2018-2022 Term  
Wednesday, November 14, 2018  
8:30 AM**



**Baldwin County Administration Building  
County Commission Chambers  
322 Courthouse Square  
Bay Minette, Alabama 36507**

District 1 – Commissioner James E. Ball  
District 2 – Commissioner Joe Davis, III  
District 3 – Commissioner Billie Jo Underwood  
District 4 – Commissioner Charles F. Gruber

Ronald J. Cink, County Administrator

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**All supporting documentation for the minutes can be viewed in the File ID link of each item and are denoted by an asterisk.**

## **A WELCOME, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Present:** 4 - Commissioner James E. Ball, Commissioner Joe Davis III, Commissioner BillieJo Underwood, and Commissioner Charles F. Gruber

**Absent:** 0

Also present were, Ron Cink, County Administrator/Budget Director, and David Conner, County Attorney.

Mr. Cink opened the meeting at 8:32 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the November 14, 2018, organizational meeting of the Baldwin County Commission. Mr. Cink said he is acting as the secretary to the Commission in order to assist the Commissioners in organizing the County's government. Today's meeting is the only meeting in their 4-year term that the Commissioners begin a meeting without a designated chief presiding officer, the Chairman of the County Commission.

Mr. Cink introduced Reverend Ron Reiser, Pastor of Summerdale Assembly of God Church who led the invocation.

Mr. Cink said former County Commissioner Frank Burt, Jr., will now lead the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **OATH OF OFFICE**

The Honorable James H. Reid, Circuit Judge, Active/Retired, appeared before the Commission to administer the Oath of Office to the following newly elected County Commissioners:

Commissioner James E. Ball  
Commissioner Joe Davis, III

Commissioner Billie Jo Underwood  
Commissioner Charles F. Gruber

After the Oath of Office, the Commission transacted the following business to-wit:

## **G OTHER STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **GA ADMINISTRATION**

Ron Cink, County Administrator/Budget Director, said this Organizational Meeting is required by the State law in order for the new 2018-2022 Administration of Baldwin County Commissioners to:

- 1) Set the regular business meeting days.
- 2) Organize its general governing organizational structure for their upcoming 4-year term of office which begins today.

The organization of the County's government is provided for by a 1931 Act of the Alabama Legislature which requires the Commissioners to select a:

- 1) Chairman
- 2) Finance Commissioner
- 3) Road and Bridge Commissioner
- 4) Industrial Commissioner (which in modern times is more aligned as an Economic Development Commissioner).

Once the organization of the government has been accomplished today, the Chairman will take over the meeting.

#### **GA1 Adoption of Divisional Resolution of the Baldwin County Commission (2018-2022 Term of Office)**

**[18-0689](#)**

Motion by Commissioner Charles F. Gruber, seconded by Commissioner Joe Davis, III, to adopt Resolution #2019-001 which enacts the "Divisional Resolution of the Baldwin County Commission" to authorize certain procedural requirements and prescribe other permitted and authorized duties as enumerated at Act No. 239 (1931), as amended, and other applicable law, said resolution organizing the 2018-2022 Baldwin County Commission.

The motion passed by the following vote:

**Aye:** 4 - James E. Ball, Joe Davis III, BillieJo Underwood, and Charles F. Gruber

**Nay:** 0  
**Absent:** 0  
**Abstain:** 0

At this time, Ron Cink, County Administrator/Budget Director, removed himself as the Commission's secretary and Chairman Gruber took over the meeting.

**GA2** Designations and Appointments of Commissioners to Various Boards

**18-0663**

Motion by Commissioner Billie Jo Underwood, seconded by Commissioner Joe Davis, III, to take the following actions:

1) Appoint Chairman Charles F. Gruber to various Boards and for the term of office as Chairman of the Baldwin County Commission (November 14, 2018, to November 4, 2019), as follows:

Baldwin County Department of Archives and History Advisory Board  
Baldwin County Pretrial Release and Community Corrections Board  
Historic Blakeley Authority  
South Alabama Rural Planning Organization

2) Appoint Commissioner Billie Jo Underwood to various Boards and for the term of office as Commissioner (November 14, 2018, to November 8, 2022), as follows:

South Alabama Regional Planning Commission  
Mobile Bay National Estuary Program

3) Appoint Commissioner James E. Ball to a Board and for the term of office as Commissioner (November 14, 2018, to November 8, 2022), as follows:

Community Action Agency of South Alabama

4) Appoint Commissioner Joe Davis, III to a Board and for the term of office as Industrial and Civic Division Commissioner (November 14, 2018, to November 4, 2019), as follows:

Economic Development Authority Board

5) Appoint Commissioner James E. Ball, Commissioner Joe Davis, III, Commissioner Billie Jo Underwood, and Commissioner Charles F. Gruber to a Board and for the term of office as Commissioners (November 14, 2018, to November 8, 2022), as follows:

Waste Siting Board

6) Appoint Commissioner Joe Davis, III and Commissioner Billie Jo Underwood to a

Board and for the term of office as Commissioners (November 14, 2018, to November 8, 2022), as follows:

Eastern Shore Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

7) Appoint Commissioner Charles F. Gruber as member and Commissioner James E. Ball, Commissioner Joe Davis, III, Commissioner Billie Jo Underwood, as alternate members to a Board and for the term of office as Commissioners (November 14, 2018, to November 8, 2022), as follows:

Florida-Alabama Transportation Planning Organization (TPO)

The motion passed by the following vote:

**Aye:** 4 - James E. Ball, Joe Davis III, BillieJo Underwood, and Charles F. Gruber  
**Nay:** 0  
**Absent:** 0  
**Abstain:** 0

**GA3** Consideration for Rescheduling and Cancelling Certain Baldwin County Commission Meetings in November 2018, December 2018 and January 2019

[18-0860](#)

Motion by Commissioner Joe Davis, III, seconded by Commissioner James E. Ball, to adopt Resolution #2019-002 which approves the following:

1) The November 20, 2018, regular meeting time of the Baldwin County Commission is rescheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m., in the County Commission Chambers at the Baldwin County Administration Building as located at 322 Courthouse Square, Bay Minette, Alabama.

2) The December 4, 2018, regular meeting of the Baldwin County Commission is rescheduled to, instead, be held and conducted on Monday, December 3, 2018, at 8:30 a.m., in the County Commission Chambers at the Baldwin County Administration Building as located at 322 Courthouse Square, Bay Minette, Alabama.

3) The December 25, 2018, work session of the Baldwin County Commission is cancelled.

4) The January 1, 2019, regular meeting of the Baldwin County Commission is rescheduled to, instead, be held and conducted on Wednesday, January 2, 2019, at 8:30 a.m., in the County Commission Chambers at the Baldwin County Administration Building as located at 322 Courthouse Square, Bay Minette, Alabama.

The motion passed by the following vote:

**Aye:** 4 - James E. Ball, Joe Davis III, BillieJo Underwood, and Charles F. Gruber  
**Nay:** 0  
**Absent:** 0  
**Abstain:** 0

## **GM FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING**

### **GM1 Resolution 2019-003 - Authorization for Chairman and Clerk/Treasurer to Sign Bank Documents**

**19-0041**

Motion by Commissioner James E. Ball, seconded by Commissioner Billie Jo Underwood, to adopt Resolution #2019-003, authorizing Chairman and Clerk/Treasurer to sign all necessary bank documents such as bank signature cards, bank resolutions, bank night depository agreements, etc. that must be updated.

The motion passed by the following vote:

**Aye:** 4 - James E. Ball, Joe Davis III, BillieJo Underwood, and Charles F. Gruber  
**Nay:** 0  
**Absent:** 0  
**Abstain:** 0

## **H COMMISSIONER REQUESTS**

### **HA COMMISSION DISTRICT 1**

### **HB COMMISSION DISTRICT 2**

### **HC COMMISSION DISTRICT 3**

### **HD COMMISSION DISTRICT 4**

## **I ADDENDA**

## **J ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

Ron Cink, County Administrator/Budget Director, welcomed the Commissioners.

## **K COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

David Conner, County Attorney, welcomed the Commissioners and said congratulations.

## **L ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **M PUBLIC COMMENTS**

## **N PRESS QUESTIONS**

## **O COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Ball thanked the citizens of Baldwin County who elected him to office and said he looks forward to working with the Commissioners. He is looking forward to the challenges of the job and to doing a good service for Baldwin County.

Commissioner Davis said he echoes Commissioner Ball's comments; this is an honor and privilege. The Commissioners have traveled around the County. There are 14 cities/municipalities and the uniqueness the cities/municipalities have is what makes this County a paradise. The Commission wants to make sure those cities continue that uniqueness and also continue to work better to handle the things that will come in the future. Commissioner Davis read the poem "Two Kinds of People."

Commissioner Underwood thanked everyone for attending today's meeting and the people of Baldwin County for electing her as Commissioner of District 3. She is overwhelmed at the response of everyone that is here today. Commissioner Underwood thanked her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and said she gives Him all the glory.

Chairman Gruber thanked everyone for coming and said he looks forward to working with the new Commissioners. He is looking forward to helping the Commissioners as they move into their new challenges. There are a lot of things that will happen where the Commissioners will have to be the deciding factor. Chairman Gruber welcomed the Commissioners and said he is looking forward to the next four years and working with them; they will be the best.

Commissioner Ball thanked the families, especially his wife and child, who have endured the campaign. He thanks his family publicly for standing beside him and believing in him. Commissioner Ball thanked his parents, who are here today, for raising him.

Commissioner Davis thanked the Lord and his wife of 50 years, who was the best thing that happened to him. Commissioner Davis said his son is present today, but he was not into politics until he heard a gentleman speak at Ladd Stadium; it changed his outlook. Commissioner Davis thanked his son for not only taking that route into his life, but also for all the help he has provided. The poem he read earlier was read at his dad's funeral in 1985; it means a lot to him and his family. Commissioner Davis said more importantly, he will make it mean a lot to the County.

Commissioner Underwood said she has about a dozen family members present today and she could not do this without them. Her husband has tirelessly spent months helping her to get to this point, as well as all of her family. She is thankful for those present. Commissioner Underwood said she and the other incoming Commissioners have worked hard for months to learn what they will have to get done. They appreciate everyone's prayers as they move forward to make Baldwin County even better than it already is. The Commissioners all love Baldwin County; they want to keep it great. That is why they are all here. Commissioner Underwood thanked everyone from the bottom of her heart and said she appreciates them.

Chairman Gruber said family is very important. The Commissioners will learn that they will become a family because they work together. The employees are one great, big family. Without those employees, the County would not be where it is today. Chairman Gruber said the employees are the best of the best and the Commissioners appreciate their hard work. Without the employees, whatever the Commission does, as a body, would be meaningless. The Commissioners need the employees to carry out their wishes and agenda. Baldwin County is strong and there are a lot of things the County has been "first" in and will continue to do that because it means a lot to the citizens of Baldwin County.

## **P ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Commissioner James E. Ball, seconded by Commissioner Joe Davis, III, to adjourn the November 14, 2018, Regular (Organizational) meeting at 8:54 a.m.

The motion passed by the following vote:

<b>Aye:</b>	4 -	James E. Ball, Joe Davis III, BillieJo Underwood, and Charles F. Gruber
<b>Nay:</b>	0	
<b>Absent:</b>	0	
<b>Abstain:</b>	0	

Chairman Gruber said the November 14, 2018, Baldwin County Commission Regular (Organizational) meeting is adjourned at 8:54 a.m.