

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AUGUST 10, 2009

PRESENT: Chairman Mark S. Culver, Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Commissioner Bobby R. Snellgrove, Commissioner Frances M. Cook, Commissioner Phillip L. Forrester, Gary Sherrer, Attorney, Mark Pool, Engineer, William J. Dempsey, Chief Administrative Officer

ABSENT: None

Chairman Mark S. Culver called the 10:00 A.M. meeting to order, declared a quorum was present and welcomed everyone. Rev. Matt Albritton, Pastor, Ashford United Methodist Church, gave the invocation. Commissioner Curtis Harvey led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Commissioner Cook seconded; and the motion carried unanimously.

Announcements and Public Comments from Chairman and Commissioners

Chairman Culver reported the United Way Drive would begin this week and county employees would be receiving their information. He stated it would be due back by August 31st. The chairman encouraged all of the county employees to participate in the United Way particularly at this time when things are so difficult for so many. He thanked Mrs. Stephanie Weed and the Personnel Department for spearheading the county's drive.

The chairman reported Saturday, August 15th, a golf tournament would be held at Highland Oaks on the short course to help the Dothan High School Tiger Club. He pointed out he and Mayor Thomas were co-chairs, and he encouraged anyone interested in playing in the tournament to contact Kim Lambert at Dothan High School.

Chairman Culver reported Sunday, August 16th, at 2:30 P.M. at the Houston County Courthouse, there would be a Good Luck Reception for Ms. Houston County and Little Ms. Houston County as they will represent the county in the National Peanut Festival competition.

He stated Saturday, August 22nd, the Yard for Art Party would be held at the Wiregrass Museum of Art from 6:00 P.M. until 12:00 P.M. He reported tickets for the fundraiser could be purchased at the Museum or from any member of The Dothan Association of Young Professionals.

The chairman reported the Budget Hearings begin August 10th at 1:00 P.M. and begin August 11th at 8:00 A.M. He stated the commission hoped to approve it at the first meeting in September.

Awards and Presentation

1. Commendations for two Houston County deputies – Sheriff Andy Hughes
2. Update of Houston County Jail Plan for H1N1 flu pandemic – Sheriff Andy Hughes

Sheriff Hughes presented Certificates of Commendation to Sgt. Gary Jenkins and Investigator Rose Shirley for going above and beyond the call of duty to assist an elderly woman who was living in deplorable conditions. He pointed out the house was filthy and a fire hazard. The Sheriff reported Sgt. Jenkins and Investigator Shirley assisted in the clean up and helped to make the woman's son decide to do the right thing in looking after his mother's welfare.

Sheriff Hughes reported that Dr. Sam Banner, Jail physician, had met with them and had expressed his concerns about the H1N1 (swine flu) threat being very real. The sheriff pointed out that Dr. Banner was worried about the number of inmates coming in, bonding out, and the number of staff that could be infected in the Jail. Sheriff Hughes reported over the past few months, Dr. Banner, the Jail Commander and he have been working on a plan and he stated the county Jail was prepared to meet the possibility of a H1N1 (swine flu) pandemic, should an outbreak occur.

Regular Agenda

1. Joint re-appointment to the Dothan-Houston County Airport Authority – Hayne Hollis.

Commissioner Forrester made a motion to re-appoint Mr. Hayne Hollis to the Dothan-Houston County Airport Authority as the city and county's joint appointee. Commissioner Cook seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported this appointment is a joint one between the City of Dothan and Houston County. He stated the city had this item on their Administrative meeting on August 1st to move it forward to their regular meeting on August 25th to make the same appointment. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Request to make appointments to the Houston County Health Care Authority.

Chairman Culver reported the request was to make appointments to the Houston County Health Care Authority in the names of Dr. Myland Brown, Mr. Tony Strickland, Dr. Charles Conner and Mr. Don Owens. Commissioner Cook made a motion to approve the request to appoint the above named as members of the Houston County Health Care Authority. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Request to award special bid on dump truck through the ACCA Joint Bidding Program.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to approve the request to award the bid on a dump truck through the ACCA Joint Bidding Program, to the low bidder meeting specs. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported Houston County is the awarding authority for the state joint bids for counties and this item has been added. He pointed out there are two other items that at some point the commission will probably be asked to award the bid. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see Bid Summary Sheet in Minute Book)

4. Request from Sheriff to approve budget amendment transferring funds to purchase traffic radar units for patrol vehicles - \$14,000.00.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to grant the Sheriff's request approving a budget amendment transferring funds to purchase traffic radar units for patrol vehicles in the amount of \$14,000.00. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. Sheriff Hughes stated this money was being transferred from Motor Vehicle Purchases to Other Miscellaneous Supplies. Mr. Dempsey reported the budget number that had been submitted was incorrect and the funds were there. He stated this was not necessary. Chairman Culver called for the question and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see attached budget amendment in Minute Book)

5. Request from Sheriff to increase work hours for the Houston County Jail Pharmacist.

Chairman Culver stated he spoke with the Sheriff about this item on Friday. He reported since the commission was meeting with Sheriff Hughes later that afternoon relative to the budget, and if they approved the request it would be a commitment for next year's budget, he has agreed, if the commission chooses, to table this until after it is discussed. Commissioner Harvey made a motion to table the sheriff's request to increase the work hours for the Houston County Jail Pharmacist. Commissioner Forrester seconded the motion. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Request to award bid on sealing and caulking of the Administrative Building.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to award the bid on sealing and caulking of the Administrative Building to the low bidder meeting specs, Doyle Restoration, Inc., in the amount of \$43,120.00. Commissioner Forrester seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported the issue the commission had on the item was on the warranty. He stated Mr. Gary Sherrer, Attorney, had written a letter recommending the commission do exactly what they are doing. The chairman stated Mr. Sherrer or Mr. Sean Curtis, Maintenance Manager, could answer any questions.

Commissioner Harvey asked Mr. Sherrer to explain the letter and the warranty? Mr. Sherrer stated he had been asked to find ways to try to provide as much assurance with regard to warranty work in regard to sealing and caulking the Administrative Building which he understood had been a problem in the past. He stated he talked with the contractor's Commercial Surety Company. Mr. Sherrer reported the commission wanted a 5 year warranty and the Commercial Surety Company would only extend the performance bond for two years upon completion of the project in order to cover the warranty, and the contractor would have the other three years. The attorney pointed out this is the best the county can get without a lot of expense trying to buy a separate warranty. Mr. Sherrer stated once the bid is let, the performance bond itself needs to reference the warranty with regards to two years. Chairman Culver asked Mr. Curtis and Mr. Dempsey to work with the attorney to make sure it was all done? Commissioner Snellgrove stated he had spoken with Mr. Curtis on Thursday and he had assured him that he would be spot checking the work and would be the inspector in order to get quality work.

Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried. (Please see attached Bid Summary Sheet and Warranty in Minute Book)

7. Request to approve list of items to be put on Govdeals.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the list of items to be placed on Govdeals. Commissioner Snellgrove seconded the motion. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see attached list in Minute Book)

8. Request to adopt Resolution to resurface, G-treatment and spot level on Smithville Road and County Road #33 from right-of-way of U.S. Highway #231 easterly to the right-of-way of State Highway #53. (Approximately 5.88 miles)

Commissioner Cook made a motion to adopt the Resolution to resurface, G-treatment and spot level on Smithville Road and County Road #33 from right-of-way of U.S. Highway #231 easterly to the right-of-way of State Highway #53. (Approximately 5.88 miles) Commissioner Snellgrove seconded the motion. Chairman Culver stated this begins a process although it will not happen this year or next but whenever the county gets the funds. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see attached in Resolution Book)

9. Request to adopt Resolution to resurface, G-treatment, spot level and widen on Prevatt Road running from the State right-of-way of Ross Clark Circle, easterly to the Forrester Road intersection. (Approximately 2.38 miles)

Commissioner Snellgrove made a motion to adopt the Resolution to resurface, G-treatment, spot level and widen on Prevatt Road running from the State right-of-way of Ross Clark Circle, easterly to the Forrester Road intersection. (Approximately 2.38 miles) Commissioner Cook seconded the motion. Chairman Culver stated this project is the same as the previous one in that it begins a process. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see attached in Resolution Book)

Staff Reports:

Chief Administrative Officer –

Mr. Dempsey reported the budget hearings would begin at 1:00 P.M. and continue on August 11th beginning at 8:30 A.M.

County Engineer –

Mr. Pool reported the estimated damages for Houston County roads that occurred during the March floods were \$4,280,000. He pointed out federal and state reimbursements are estimated to be \$3,690,000, and they are still negotiating.

County Attorney – there was no report

Adjourn.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cook seconded; and the motion carried unanimously.