

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
NOVEMBER 14, 2016

PRESENT: Chairman Mark S. Culver, Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Commissioner Jackie Battles, Commissioner Brandon Shoupe, Pres Register, County Attorney, Mrs. Brittney Clayton, Acting County Engineer, and William J. Dempsey, Chief Administrative Officer

ABSENT: Commissioner Doug Sinquefield and Barkley Kirkland, County Engineer

Chairman Mark S. Culver called the 10:00 A.M. meeting to order, declared a quorum present and welcomed everyone. He reported Commissioner Sinquefield was attending a Legislative Committee meeting in Montgomery, and he would be leaving after the meeting to attend also. Captain Chris Bryant of The Salvation Army 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 Shoupe seconded the motion; and it carried unanimously.

#### Announcements and Comments from the Chairman and Commissioners

Chairman Culver asked to add an item to the Agenda as #6 regarding repairs to a chiller at the Jail that would need to be paid from the Capital Replace Account. He reported the commission needed to discuss it. The chairman pointed out unanimous approval would be needed to place it on the agenda, and he asked if there were any objections. There being none, the chairman stated it would become Item #6.

Chairman Culver reported this year's National Peanut Festival was tremendous, and he stated the weather and the parade were great. He extended kudos to everyone who worked on the Peanut Festival for a job well done. He pointed out the parking lot paving would continue. The chairman stated now that the Festival was over, we needed rain.

The chairman reported the next Administrative meeting would be Thanksgiving Day, and it has been cancelled. He stated the Admin and Commission meetings would be combined on November 28<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Shoupe reported he will have a Town Hall meeting on November 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M., at the Wicksburg Volunteer Fire Department. The commissioner stated Sheriff Donald Valenza has been invited to attend.

#### Awards and Presentations

1. Recognition of "Houston County's Distinguished Young Woman" – Ms. Emma Grace Benton, and Ms. Cecelia Phillips, Chaperone

Chairman Culver asked Ms. Emma Grace Benton, Houston County's Distinguished Young Woman," to come forward. He reported the Distinguished Young Woman was formerly the Junior Miss Pageant. The chairman stated he had served on the Board of the Junior Miss for three years, and it is not a Beauty Pageant. He pointed out these young ladies compete for scholarships based on academics and their accomplishments, etc. Chairman Culver then introduced Ms. Benton and called on her for comments.

Ms. Benton thanked the commission for the recognition, and stated she was excited to represent Houston County this year. She reported she would be going to the State competition in Montgomery on January 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. Chairman Culver thanked Ms. Benton and wished her well in Montgomery.

2. Proclamation – “The Salvation Army” – Captain Chris Bryant

Chairman Culver asked Captain Chris Bryant of the Salvation Army to come forward. Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the Proclamation recognizing “The Salvation Army.” Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion; and it carried unanimously. Chairman Culver then read the Proclamation and presented it to Captain Bryant. Chairman Culver reported the commission was looking forward to ringing the bell during their annual competition with the City of Dothan. Captain Bryant thanked the Commission for the Proclamation and he reported this is their busiest season. He stated last year they helped 500 families during the Christmas season, and over 1700 children and seniors. He pointed out they do a lot in the community all year; especially in times of a disaster, and with law enforcement. Chairman Culver thanked Captain Bryant for his service, and stated their reach is wide spread.

Regular Agenda

1. Request to award ACCA Joint County Bids.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to award the ACCA Joint County Bids. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported these bids were opened on October 7<sup>th</sup>, and Houston County is the awarding authority. He pointed out each county in the state will have access to these bids. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see attached in Minute Book)

2. Request from County Buildings to approve emergency expenditures form the Capital Replacement Account – Sean Curtis, Maintenance Manager.

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to grant the request from County Buildings to approve emergency expenditures in the amount of \$69,607.00 from the Capital Replacement Account to repair the chiller at the Courthouse and replace an air conditioning unit at the Department of Human Resources. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion; and it carried unanimously. (Please see attached in Minute Book)

3. Request to award bids for uniforms for the Sheriff’s Department to the low bidder meeting specs – Captain Bill Rafferty.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to award the bids for uniforms for the Sheriff’s Department to Gall’s Uniforms of Dothan, low bidder meeting specs. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see attached Bid Summary Sheet in Minute Book)

4. Request to adopt Resolution to resurface Omussee Road from Highway 52 East to Webb Road – (Approximately 1.25 miles)

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to adopt the Resolution to resurface Omussee Road from Highway 52 East to Webb Road, approximately 1.25 miles. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported this is an MPO Project. He called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

5. Request to award bids for crushed limestone to low bidder meeting specs.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to award the bid for crushed limestone to low bidders meeting specs, Johnston Trucking and Marianna Hi-Cal, LLC. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see attached Bid Summary Sheet in Minute Book)

6. Request to approve \$39,940 from the Capital Replacement Account for repairs to Chiller #2 at the Jail.

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to grant the request from County Buildings to approve emergency expenditures in the amount of \$39,940.00 for repairs to Chiller #2 at the Jail. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. Chairman Culver asked Mr. Sean Curtis to come and explain the request. Mr. Curtis reported one of the 2 compressors on the backup chiller is leaking oil/refrigerant, and will need to be sent to the factory to be repaired. Chairman Culver reported this will leave \$40,000 in this fund, and we are only a month and a half into this budget year. He stated there will probably be more discussion on this fund because of the amount that has already been spent. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see attached in Minute Book)

Staff Reports:

Chief Administrative Officer – there was no report

County Engineer – Mrs. Clayton, Acting County Engineer, had no report

County Attorney – there was no report

Chairman Culver asked Acting County Engineer Clayton about closed roads. She reported only Blackman Road was closed. Chairman Culver reported Saturday night, the Dothan Police Department had requested the section of Blackman Road that was closed be opened to help with the traffic at the National Peanut Festival. He stated they opened one lane. It was reported that Bay Springs Road was complete.

Adjourn

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