

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
OCTOBER 23, 2017

PRESENT: Chairman Mark S. Culver, Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Commissioner Doug Sinquefield, Commissioner Jackie Battles, Commissioner Brandon Shoupe, Pres Register, County Attorney, Barkley Kirkland, County Engineer, and William J. Dempsey, Chief Administrative Officer.

Commission Chairman Culver called the 10:00 a.m. meeting to order and declared a quorum.

Youth Pastor Allen Singley, Grandview Baptist Church, gave the invocation and Commissioner Brandon Shoupe led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Announcements and Comments from Chairman and Commissioners:

Commission Chairman Culver reminded Houston County Employees of the Wellness Fair to be held Tuesday and Wednesday, October 24th and 25th. He also announced that the National Peanut Festival begins on Friday, November 3rd and encourages everyone to enjoy the festivities. He added that another event, the Taylor Made Festival, will be held on Saturday, October 28th, in the Town of Taylor, and that this will be a great event as well. Commissioner Sinquefield stated that the Heritage Foundation held an event in Ashford this past Saturday and it was a successful event for the Ashford Depot.

Chairman Culver stated that the ACCA Joint Bids have been received in Montgomery and will be awarded at the next meeting.

Awards and Presentations

1. Proclamation – “Red Ribbon Week” – Mrs. Susan Trawick, Executive Director, Dothan Houston County Substance Abuse Partnership, Harli Pettus, Youth Council Member and Morgan Brazier, Youth Council Member.

Chairman Culver asked Mrs. Susan Trawick and guests to come forward. Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the Proclamation proclaiming October 23rd – 31st as “Red Ribbon Week”. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. After the

reading of the proclamation, Mr. Culver thanked Mrs. Trawick for her continuing efforts with this cause and presented her with the Proclamation. Youth Council Member's Morgan Brazier and Harli Pettus gave some impressive information on how the Red Ribbon Week started in the 1980's.

2. Proclamation – "Farm City Week" – Mr. Randy Davis, Committee Chairman, Gloria Jeffcoat, Committee Member and Laura Stakelum, Publicity Committee.

Chairman Culver asked Mr. Davis and guests to come forward. Commissioner Siquefield made a motion to approve the Proclamation proclaiming November 17th – 23rd as "Farm City Week". Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Chairman Culver then read the Proclamation and presented it to Mrs. Gloria Jeffcoat. Chairman Culver thanked Mrs. Jeffcoat and the Farm City Committee for all their hard work on this project. He continued by saying that Mrs. Jeffcoat has worked on this program for many years and she has done a great job, especially with the youth in the community and the programs they are involved in with Farm City Week. He added that her leadership is greatly appreciated. Mrs. Jeffcoat announced that former Administrative Assistant to the Houston County Commission, Linda McGhee, is receiving the Volunteer of the Year Award at the Farm City Banquet. She stated that the committee appreciates the County's contribution and what they do to highlight the Farm City Program. Mr. Randy Davis, Farm City Committee Chairman, thanked Chairman Culver and the Commissioners for the recognition for Farm City Week. He stated that the Banquet will be held on November 16th at the Houston County Farm Center.

Commissioner Siquefield, Farm City Week Committee Member, then came forward and introduced and thanked special guest, Jeff and Justin McAllister, who are local farmers in Houston County, and who are very involved with Farm City Week. Jeff McAllister spoke and mentioned how important the road systems are in the county for the local farmers, especially the roadsides. The roadsides need to be in just as good of shape as the roads for the farmers to be able to ride on the roadsides with their equipment while traveling the county roads. He commended Mr. Barkley Kirkland and the Road and Bridge Department staff for doing an outstanding job of keeping the roads and roadsides in great shape.

3. Proclamation – "Wiregrass Best Robotics Day" – Miss Rachel Hudson, Lead Sponsor and Mrs. Sarah Swafford, Sponsor.

Students from Wicksburg High School came forward to accept the Proclamation. Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the Proclamation proclaiming October 28th as "Wiregrass Best Robotics Day". Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The students each spoke on behalf of Best Robotics and explained their roles in the organization and what the Best Robotics competition consist of.

Regular Agenda

1. Request to appoint Kelly Colbert to fill vacancy on the Dothan-Houston County Substance Abuse Partnership.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the request to appoint Kelly Colbert to fill the vacancy on the Dothan-Houston County Substance Abuse Partnership. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

2. Request to approve expenses from Capital Replacement Fund – Sean Curtis

Commissioner Sinuefield made a motion to approve the expenses from the Capital Replacement Fund. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. Request to approve personnel adjustment at Houston County Jail – Sheriff Donald Valenza.

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to approve the request for the personnel adjustment at the Houston County Jail. Commissioner Sinuefield seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. Request to approve all overtime reimbursement grants and agreements for 2017-2018 Budget Year – Bill Rafferty.

Commissioner Sinuefield made a motion to approve the request for all overtime reimbursements grants and agreements for 2017-2018 Budget Year for the Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

5. Request for reassignment of the Employee Assistance Program – Sheri Garner, Personnel Director.

Commissioner Harvey made the motion to approve the request for reassignment of the Employee Assistance Program. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

6. Request to approve the Houston County/Dothan City Gasoline and Diesel Fuel Joint Bid Agreement – Bill Dempsey, Chief Administrative Officer.

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the request for the Houston County/Dothan City Gasoline and Diesel Fuel Joint Bid Agreement. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Commissioner Sinquefield asked if the Houston County Schools are interested in joining the County and City on this joint bid. Chairman Culver commented that they had been contacted and are considering this.

7. Request from Counsel to approve settlement agreement and work related agreement to be performed on County Road 81 – Pres Register, County Lawyer

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the request from Counsel to approve the settlement agreement and work related agreement to be performed on County Road 81. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

8. Request to approve final subdivision plat for Park Ridge Subdivision, Phase III – Road and Bride Department.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the request for the final subdivision plat for Park Ridge Subdivision, Phase III. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion. Pres Register, County Lawyer, stated that under the Rules and Regulations for Houston County Subdivision, a final plat is required to have a signature by the Houston County Health Department and this entire subdivision is on Dothan City Water and Sewer. The County Engineering Department has received a letter stating that the subdivision was constructed and inspected in accordance with City of Dothan water/sewer specifications. Under the Houston County Rules and Regulations for the Subdivision Regulations, the Commission, along with the County Engineer, can make a variation on the Rules and Regulations and that is what Mr. Register would propose at this time. In this particular case, in lieu of the Certification by the Houston County Health Department, being that the County Engineer has received the Certification of Approval from the City of Dothan for the water/sewer construction in this subdivision, that the county remove that as a requirement of the final plat. This variation is specific to this one subdivision. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Request to sell the following items on GovDeals: office equipment and stove – Road and Bridge Dept.

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the request to sell the office equipment and stove on GovDeals. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Staff Reports:

Chief Administrative Officer – No report.

County Engineer – Adkinson Road closed.

County Attorney – No report.

Adjourn

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.