

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR SESSION  
August 8, 2022

PRESENT: Chairman Mark S. Culver, Commissioner Doug Siquefield, Commissioner Ricky Herring, Commissioner Brandon Shoupe, County Engineer Barkley Kirkland, Chief Administrative Officer Peter Covert and County Attorney Pres Register.

Chairman Culver called the 10:00 a.m. meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the August 8, 2022, Houston County Commission Regular Session. He declared a quorum as a majority of the commissioners were in attendance.

ABSENT: Commissioner Curtis Harvey

Pastor Doug Dowdy of Church of the Crossing gave the invocation and Commissioner Siquefield led in the pledge of the allegiance.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Siquefield and seconded by Commissioner Herring. The motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Culver began by stating that he is glad everyone is in attendance today and that it is the most attractive crowd of the year as it is one of his favorite meetings as the queens are in attendance. He also mentioned that on Thursday they had discussed school starting back this week and he encouraged everyone to be cautious in the school zones as children will be coming and going, especially at the bus stops. He asked everyone to be mindful of this.

Commissioner Herring congratulated Mayor Kimberly Trotter as she was recently recognized as the 2022 Young Professional of the Year. He said that is a big accomplishment and he wanted to recognize her and all the hard work and great job she does for Rehobeth. Chairman Culver added that it was a strong field that she was in and they were all honored to be in the final twenty. He heard that Mayor Trotter was shocked and that she is doing a tremendous job and Chairman Culver looks for bigger things from her in the future.

1. Recognition – Houston County Queens

Chairman Culver stepped to the podium and again stated that this is one of the commission's favorite meetings of the year as they get to recognize the queens. He added that they are always so proud of all the young ladies that are chosen to represent Houston County because

they “epitomize the best of the best” and they don’t just recognize themselves but a lot of young ladies that competed and worked to represent Houston County and the commission wants them to know that they are very proud of them. Chairman Culver also thanked the Houston County pageant group for all they do and for putting together the best pageant organization in the area and they are very much appreciated. Chairman Culver then called each queen to the podium and introduced them and asked a few questions. The queens are as follows:

Future Little Miss Houston County	Kathryn Clark (Rehobeth Elementary)
Little Miss Houston County	Lucy Akos (Wicksburg Elementary)
Young Jr. Miss Houston County	Camille Thompson (Northside Methodist Academy)
Junior Miss Houston County	Erin Devin (Slocomb Elementary)
Pre-Teen Miss Houston County	Addison Witherspoon (Northside Methodist Academy)
Teen Miss Houston County	Emma Claire Hinson (Providence Christian School)
Miss Houston County	Taylor Jones (Rehobeth High School)

Chairman Culver stated this is bittersweet as this is his last meeting introducing the queens since he will be retiring soon.

Commissioner Herring told the queens that he is very proud of each and every one of them as his sister was in many pageants when he was young and he knows that hard work goes into these events and the life lessons, such as self esteem and self confidence, will be with them for years to come. He added that the interview process that these queens go through is important as it prepares them for their future, especially when interviewing for a job and other things.

#### REGULAR AGENDA

1. Request to approve pass through grant for Alabama Dept. of Public Health Strategic National Stockpile Program and accompanying budget amendment – Chris Judah, EMA Director

Commissioner Siquefield made a motion to approve the pass through grant and accompanying budget amendment and Commissioner Herring seconded. Chairman Culver stated that this is a normal and customary pass through grant that is for \$11,000. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Request to re-appoint Preston Register to the board of The Cooperative District of Southeast Alabama

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to approve the request and Commissioner Siquefield seconded. Chairman Culver said this board has to do with ACOM. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Request to repeal existing Policy #54 and replace with updated policy regarding federal funding

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the request to repeal existing Policy #54 and replace with updated policy regarding federal funding and Commissioner Sinquefield seconded. Chairman Culver asked if this will also be called Policy #54 and Mr. Covert answered yes. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Request to approve resolution to apply for a change in the Highway Functional Classification of Sanitary Dairy Road from "Unclassified" to "Rural Minor Collector" – Road & Bridge

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the request and Commissioner Herring seconded. Chairman Culver stated that this if necessary so that additional funds can be made available for the resurfacing of said road. When called for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

5. Request to approve Rebuild Alabama FY 2023 County Transportation Plan – Road & Bridge

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the 2023 plan and Commissioner Sinquefield seconded. Due to technical difficulties, Chairman Culver reported that the commissioners have, in their package, the plan for 2023 and asked them to review it and ask any questions. He added that this is required to be approved each year by the commission. He also asked that the technical difficulties be looked into. (Plan is attached to original minutes) Engineer Kirkland reported that this is \$1.1 million of paving with roughly half of the rebuild tax money plus \$415,000 of bond money. He added that on the Lynn Jarvis Road paving project, Kinsey has agreed to give the county their rebuild money to help pay for this. Also, Engineer Kirkland reported that they have asked Rehobeth for their rebuild money to help with the National Road paving project. When called for the vote, the motion carried unanimously. Engineer Kirkland stated that this report is required by law to show where the money is being used.

#### STAFF REPORTS

Chief Administrative Officer – No report.

County Engineer – One closed road; Ashford Rd. for cross drain placement

County Attorney – No report

Meeting adjourned.