

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
November 16, 2022

PRESENT: Chairman Brandon Shoupe, Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Commissioner Tracy Adams, Commissioner Ricky Herring, Commissioner James Ivey, County Engineer Barkley Kirkland, Chief Administrative Officer Peter Covert and County Attorney Pres Register.

Chairman Shoupe called the 5:30 p.m. meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the November 16, 2022, Houston County Commission Regular Session. He declared a quorum as all commissioners were in attendance.

Pastor Kyle Gatlin, of Covenant United Methodist Church, gave the invocation and Commissioner Harvey led in the pledge of the allegiance.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Shoupe commented that the next commission meeting will be held on November 28th. There will not be an Administrative Meeting due to it being Thanksgiving Day so it will be held on the 28th at 9:00 a.m. and the Commission Meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. Chairman Shoupe also commended the Dothan Police Dept. and the Houston County Sheriff's Dept. for their swift action during the incident at the National Peanut Festival Parade on Saturday.

Chairman Shoupe then recognized State Representative Rick Rehm from District 85 and welcomed him to the commission meeting. (Applause by all)

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Request to enter into an agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation for the resurfacing of Bethel Rd. from Broad St. to US Hwy 431 – Road & Bridge
2. Request to enter into an agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation for the resurfacing of Ashford Rd. from Enon Rd. to Ben Ivey Rd. – Road & Bridge
3. Request to enter into an agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation for the resurfacing of Hosea Rd. from Geneva County line to AL Hwy 605- Road & Bridge
4. Request to enter into an agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation for the resurfacing of Roney Rd. from US Hwy 431 to Walden Dr. – Road & Bridge

5. Request to enter into an agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation for the resurfacing of Cowarts Creek Rd. and Broad Street from Lucy Grade Rd. to US Hwy 84E – Road & Bridge

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve all consent items as written. Commissioner Ivey seconded and the motion carried unanimously with all consent items being approved.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Request to set commission meeting day and time

Chairman Shoupe proposed that they set the Commission Meeting on the 2nd and 4th Monday of every month at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Herring made a motion to set the Commission Meeting day and times as stated by Chairman Shoupe. Commissioner Harvey seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Request to approve Rules of Procedure for commission and administrative meetings

Chairman Shoupe stated that the new rules would take effect on November 28th and that nothing much is changing except they removed a couple of duplicate items. He added that the only minor change they are making is that previously a citizen could come to the regular meetings on Monday and they could raise their hand and speak on every item and they have run into instances in the past that they have had one person raise their hand to speak on every item and it slowed down the meetings. Chairman Shoupe said the change will be slight in that you will have to sign up to address the commission within an hour of the meeting.

Commissioner Harvey asked if this was for the regular meeting or administrative and Chairman Shoupe said it was for the regular meeting. Chairman Shoupe also said that you still have to sign up for privileges of the floor for the administrative meeting as in the past.

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the Rules of Procedure as presented and Commissioner Adams seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Request to award ACCA Joint County Bids for heavy equipment

Chairman Shoupe stated that the county is the awarding county for the ACCA state bids and this is just for heavy equipment. Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the joint county bids and Commissioner Adams seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Request for 050 Retail Beer (Off Premises Only) License and 070 Retail Table Wine (Off Premises Only) License – Dolgencorp, LLC, d/b/a Dollar General Store 9081 located at 211 W. Church St., Columbia, AL 36319

Commissioner Ivey made a motion to approve the request for the license and Commissioner Adams seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Request to approve expenditure of funds for publication and authorize publication of notice of public meeting on November 28, 2022, pursuant to Alabama Constitutional Amendment 772

Chairman Shoupe asked county attorney Pres Register to come to the podium and provide a brief explanation on why they are voting on this. Mr. Register approached the podium and said that this is in relation to the Bond that they are planning to acquire to use under Amendment 772 to help fund the purchase of the SARCOA buildings on Brannon Stand Road. He stated that Amendment 772 allows for those funds to be given to entities like SARCOA but the requirement is that there is a published notice of the regular meeting stating where the money is going and the approximate amounts. Mr. Register stated that this is simply authorizing the publication and funds related to that publication and the meeting will occur on the 28th. Chairman Shoupe asked if this expenditure of funds is required by law if they are going to proceed with this and Mr. Register answered that yes this is according to the Constitutional Amendment.

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the request of expenditure of funds for publication and authorize publication of notice of public meeting on November 28, 2022, pursuant to Alabama Constitutional Amendment 772. Commissioner Ivey seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Request to approve preliminary plat for Fieldstone Subdivision – Road & Bridge

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the preliminary plat for Fieldstone Subdivision and Commissioner Harvey seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS:

Chief Administrative Officer – No report

County Engineer – One closed road Taylor Road for cross drain pipe replacement.

County Attorney – No report

Meeting Adjourned