

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
February 13, 2023

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

ABSENT: Commissioner Tracy Adams

Chairman Shoupe called the 10 a.m. meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the February 13, 2023, Houston County Commission Regular Session. He declared a quorum as all commissioners were in attendance with the exception of Commissioner Adams, as he is in Cottonwood representing the county at an opening of a new health care clinic there.

Commissioner Curtis Harvey gave the invocation and Chairman Shoupe led in the pledge of 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 began by announcing to “men only” (laughter by all) that tomorrow is Valentine’s Day and they should know what to do and that is to get your significant other some wine, roses, or chocolates for this special day. He then announced that he had some sad news to announce as there was a house fire in Columbia this morning and it resulted in one tragedy. Chairman Shoupe said that the fire departments from Columbia, Webb and Kinsey all responded quickly and they did a great job but unfortunately the way the fire broke out they were not able to recover one of the residents in the home. Chairman Shoupe stated that he was also told that Ashford Rescue and Columbia Rescue responded as well and so did the Houston County Sheriff’s Department. He wanted to let everyone know that the commission greatly appreciates the work that the volunteers do and for the dedication of the deputies serving in the Sheriff’s Department. The commission sends their condolences to the family of the victim and also sends out appreciation to all who responded and aided in this rescue.

Chairman Shoupe announced that Commissioner Ivey reminded him that the Mardi Gras Parade is this Saturday in downtown Dothan and he encouraged everyone to make plans to attend this popular event.

Chairman Shoupe ended announcements by stating that next Monday, February 20, 2023, the county offices will be closed for President’s Day as it is a state holiday and the county is closed on state holidays.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Proclamation – “Arbor Day” – Dan Williams, City of Dothan Horticulturist

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the proclamation and Commissioner Harvey seconded. The motion passed unanimously. At this time, Commissioner James Ivey read the proclamation and presented it to Dan Williams and asked for comments. Mr. Williams commented that he wanted to thank the County for joining in with the city of Dothan for this proclamation. He added that each year they plant a tree for a group in the community and this year they are doing this in honor of the Master Gardener’s as they provide the service of a hotline for questions/answers on gardening and they do this as a free service. Mr. Williams announced that on Feb. 23rd, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., at the Botanical Gardens, there will be a celebration while planting a tree and the forestry department will also be doing a few tree giveaways. Afterwards they will be hosting a tree walk with Ed Lewis. He encouraged everyone to come out and join in the celebration on Feb. 23rd.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Appointment to the Houston County Water Authority – Danny McNeil

2. Appointment to Southern Alabama Regional Council on Aging – Glen Malloy

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the appointments in the consent agenda. Commissioner Ivey seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Request to approve annual Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Board License Fees for Houston County

Chairman Shoupe reminded everyone that this is an annual item and the commission is not allowed to change or deny this item. Commissioner Herring made the motion to approve the license fees and Commissioner Harvey seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Request for 020 Restaurant Retail Liquor License – Season, LLC, d/b/a Seasons located at 2005 S. Brannon Stand Rd., Ste. 1, Dothan, AL 36305

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the request for the liquor license and Commissioner Ivey seconded. Chairman Shoupe asked if anyone was in attendance that would like to speak for or against this item. There being none, Chairman Shoupe asked for a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Request to approve bid for (2) F250 4x2 XL trucks with Utility Body and approve accompanying budget amendment – Sean Curtis, County Buildings Manager
Commissioner Ivey made a motion to approve the bid and the accompanying budget amendment. Commissioner Herring seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Request to approve FY2022 Emergency Management Performance Grant and accompanying budget amendment – Chris Judah, EMA Director

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the grant and budget amendment and Commissioner Herring seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Request to sell the following items on GovDeals:

(1) Sheriff's Dept.: Two-way radios

(2) Road & Bridge: Two-way radios; misc. computer equipment; 2006 Chevrolet truck; 2004 Ford Truck; 4 batwing bushwhacker bush hogs; misc. equipment items.

Commissioner Ivey made a motion to approve the request to sell the stated items on GovDeals. Commissioner Herring seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

Chief Administrative Officer – No report

County Engineer – One closed road: Fortson Road in Wicksburg replacing cross drains.

County Attorney – No report

Adjourn