

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION

APRIL 11, 2011

PRESENT: Chairman Mark S. Culver, Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Commissioner Jackie Battles, Commissioner Phillip L. Forrester, Pat Jones, Acting County Attorney, Barkley Kirkland, Acting County Engineer, and William J. Dempsey, Chief Administrative Officer

ABSENT: Commissioner Doug Sinquefield, Mark Pool, County Engineer

Chairman Mark S. Culver called the 10:00 A.M. meeting to order, established that a quorum was present, and welcomed everyone. Chairman Culver reported Commissioner Sinquefield was representing the county at the Farm City Week Awards Presentation in Birmingham. He stated Commissioner Sinquefield would be accepting an award on behalf of the local Farm City Week organization. Rev. Ed Onley, Pastor, Popular Springs Baptist Church, gave the invocation. Commissioner Forrester led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Announcements and Public Comments from Chairman and Commissioners

Chairman Culver thanked Commissioner Sinquefield for chairing the Administrative meeting on Thursday. He reported he would like for everyone to be aware there was potential for inclement weather overnight.

The chairman thanked everyone involved with two events over the weekend. He stated Spirit of Service was a good success. He reported he and Mit Kirkland were out filming several of the projects which included volunteers from Fort Rucker working at Landmark Park and on a Habitat for Humanity project, about 50 employees of the SE Alabama Gas District working at Faine Elementary, and approximately 30 Perdue employees cleaning out a portion of Omussee Creek which runs under Burdeshaw Street through east Dothan. He pointed out there was a lot of participation this year. He thanked Ms. Linda Kelley at the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce and the others involved for another successful Spirit of Service.

The chairman reported the Tri-States Bar-B-Que Festival at the Farm Center went really well and he urged them to continue their successes out there.

Chairman Culver reported the next commission meeting would be held on April 26th due to April 25th being a State holiday, Confederate Memorial Day. The chairman reported county and state offices would be closed on the 25th. He stated the Admin meeting would be on April 21st.

He reported he had been asked to announce that the Wiregrass Patriots would be holding a rally on April 15th at Popular Head Park from 6:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. He reported they had invited any elected officials and citizens who would like to attend.

The chairman thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers, notes, and e-mails over the last couple of weeks. He stated in his absence, he had really appreciated hearing from everyone. The chairman reported things were going well and he thought they would be coming home on the 12th. He stated it is always good to get injured children home.

Awards and Presentations

Chairman Culver reported he was going to reverse the order because they were waiting on one of the people involved in Item #1.

1. Recognition of Ms. Robbie Treadwell, Excellence in Promoting Adult Education Program – Ms. Linda Watson, Director, Adult Education – Wallace Community College
2. Proclamation – “National Telecommunications Week” – Leigh Steed, Sr. Dispatcher, Vickie Thomas, Dispatcher

Chairman Culver asked Ms. Leigh Steed, Senior Dispatcher and Ms. Vickie Thomas, Dispatcher, to come forward and bring anyone else they would like to. Commissioner Forrester made a motion to approve the Proclamation declaring April 10th-16th as “National Telecommunications Week.” Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. The chairman then read the proclamation and presented it to Ms. Steed.

Chairman Culver stated he thought the word, patience, should have been included. He stated their profession often goes un-noticed because of the way their job is in that no one ever sees them unless they are in the midst of trauma. Chairman Culver reported he knew from firsthand experience recently that is the case, and that they do an outstanding job.

Ms. Steed thanked the Commission for the Proclamation. She introduced the following dispatchers from the Sheriff’s office: Ms. Vickie Thomas, Ms. Danielle Yeomans, and Ms. Kristen Arnold. She thanked the citizens of Houston County for giving them the opportunity to serve them.

The chairman reported they would go back to Item #1:

Recognition of Ms. Robbie Treadwell, Excellence in Promoting Adult Education Program – Ms. Linda Watson, Director, Adult Education – Ms. Linda Watson

Chairman Culver asked Mr. Gary Knight, Director of the Houston County Community Corrections, to come forward along with Ms. Robbie Treadwell. He stated when the other person arrived they would recognize her too. Mr. Knight reported the Community Corrections program in Houston County does more than house inmates and place them on jobs. He stated they try to enhance their education, drug awareness, and community responsibilities where they will not come back to the program. Mr. Knight introduced Ms. Robbie Treadwell, GED instructor, who has worked for several years with the inmates in Community Corrections. He pointed out many of the inmates have completed their two year degrees and some have obtained their 4 year degrees. He stated they were using existing community services. Mr. Knight reported the program as a whole has 30 different programs, and with Ms. Treadwell’s

patience and dedication, she has graded out the highest of all 30 with the Community Corrections. He stated Ms. Linda Watson heads up Adult Education at Wallace Community College. Chairman Culver then presented Certificates of Appreciation to Ms. Robbie Treadwell and Ms. Linda Watson, Director, Adult Education, Wallace Community College. Ms. Treadwell thanked the Commission and stated she felt very honored to receive the recognition, and she loved her job. She reported she had lots of support from two great directors, Ms. Linda Watson, and Mr. Gary Knight, and they were behind her in everything she does, and that makes their program successful. Ms. Watson reported the Adult Education Program at Wallace Community College has been outstanding in the last couple of years, and they have had constant rates of increase in their enrollment. She reported Ms. Treadwell has done an excellent job with the Houston County Community Corrections. Ms. Watson reported this last year was the highest number of GED's that were achieved at that classroom with 4 GED's. Ms. Watson pointed out the part that was so remarkable was that hopefully these individuals will not be there for a long period of time, and can become employed and be a contributing member of society. She reported Ms. Treadwell's class was the highest achieving of all 30 of their classes with 91% of academic gain. Ms. Watson stated they appreciate the dedication Ms. Treadwell has for the program, and for Mr. Knight opening the way to do the class. She thanked the commission. Chairman Culver thanked Mr. Knight for bringing Ms. Treadwell and Ms. Watson.

Regular Agenda

1. Request to approve Resolution for guardrail project to install guardrail and end anchors at Nuclear Plant Road at Meadows Creek and County Road #33 at Breakfast Pond Branch. (HRRR Project)

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the Resolution for the guardrail project to install guardrail and end anchors at Nuclear Plant Road at Meadows Creek and County Road #33 at Breakfast Pond Branch. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

2. Request to award bids for oil, grease and fluids, and reflectorized thermoplastic pavement marking material.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to award the bid for oil, grease and fluids to the low bidder meeting specs, Davis Oil Co., and the bid for reflectorized thermoplastic pavement marking material to the low bidder meeting specs, Ennis Paint, Inc. Commissioner Forrester seconded the motion. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see Bid Summary Sheets in Minute Book)

Staff Reports:

Chief Administrative Officer – there was no report

County Engineer – there was no report

County Attorney – there was no report

Adjourn

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