

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
JULY 25, 2011

PRESENT: Chairman Mark S. Culver, Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Commissioner Doug Sinuefield, Commissioner Jackie Battles, Commissioner Phillip L. Forrester, Gary Sherrer, County Attorney, Mark Pool, County Engineer, and William J. Dempsey, Chief Administrative Officer

ABSENT: None

Chairman Mark Culver called the 10:00 A.M. meeting to order, established that a quorum was present, and welcomed everyone. Commissioner Battles led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Rev. Andy Thomas, Youth Minister, First United Methodist Church, gave the invocation.

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

Announcements and Public Comments from Chairman and Commissioners

Chairman Culver reminded everyone that the Sales Tax Holiday would be August 5th-7th, and Houston County and the City of Dothan would be participating. The chairman reported Houston County chose long ago to be a part as long as the state does it. He pointed out during that weekend there would be no sales tax on school supplies, school clothing, computers, and other school related items. He encouraged people to go out and take advantage of the special weekend.

The chairman also reported there would be no Administrative Meeting on August 18th because the commissioners would be attending the Association of County Commissions of Alabama's Annual Conference. He stated the commission would have its regular meeting on Monday August 22nd.

Chairman Culver recognized Representative Dexter Grimsley. He stated it's always a pleasure to have our elected officials in attendance. He thanked him for the great job he is doing and for his support of the initiatives that the county has worked on.

Commissioner Sinuefield reported Mr. Mark Bentley, Director of the Alabama Clean Air and Fuel Coalition, would be at Troy University-Dothan on Wednesday, July 27th, from 1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. for a Bio-Diesel Workshop. He stated he and some others would be attending.

Awards and Presentations

1. Recognition of Houston County Queens – Mrs. Lisa Peter, Altrusa Club – Jean Elizabeth Miles – Ms. Houston County, Julianna Singley, Little Miss, Madeline Overby, Teen Miss, Taylor Skipper, Junior Miss, Sara Beth Mounce, Young Jr. Miss, and Claudia Aplin, Future Little Miss

Chairman Culver reported each year the commission looks forward to recognizing the Houston County Queens. He thanked the young ladies and he stated it gives the community an opportunity to see the good young people this county has and what they do. The chairman asked them to come forward and introduced them as follows: Claudia Aplin, Future Little Miss, Sara Beth Mounce, Young Junior Miss,

Taylor Skipper, Junior Miss, Madeline Overby, Teen Miss, Julianna Singley, Little Miss, and Jean Elizabeth Miles, Ms. Houston County. The chairman presented each of them with an official Houston County pin.

Ms. Overby stated she was excited to represent Houston County as Teen Miss and this would be an exciting year. She reported thus far, she has had a great time.

The chairman reported Ms. Singley and Ms. Miles would be participating in the National Peanut Festival.

Ms. Singley thanked the commission for having them, and she stated she was looking forward to representing Houston County in the National Peanut Festival.

Ms. Miles stated she attended Rehobeth High School where she was a majorette. She pointed out this fall she would be dual-enrolling at Wallace Community College. She stated she had enjoyed her year thus far and it had been a lot of fun. Ms. Miles reported more memories had been made than she could have ever imagined, and she was looking forward to the journey ahead. She stated she hoped she could make the citizens as proud of her as she is to represent Houston County.

The chairman thanked the queens for coming and they received a round of applause.

Regular Agenda

1. Request to adopt Resolution for William J. Dempsey to submit application to ACCA for designation as a Certified County Administrator.

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to adopt the Resolution for William J. Dempsey to submit application to ACCA for designation as a Certified County Administrator. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. The chairman reported the County Certified Administrator Program was adopted by law several years ago, and there are requirements that have to be met and Mr. Dempsey has met those. Chairman Culver reported the county was fortunate to have someone with Bill's ability. He pointed out Mr. Dempsey came from Sony and he stated the commission appreciated Sony training him well to serve the citizens of Houston County. The chairman stated the commission appreciated all he had done during the time he had been with the county and looked forward to more things in the future. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

2. Request from The Alabama Cooperative Extension System to remove asphalt and concrete in area in front of the office for a Master Gardeners' project.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the request from The Alabama Cooperative Extension System to remove asphalt and concrete in the area in front of the office for a Master Gardeners' project. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported this was discussed on Thursday, and it is a beautification project. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Request from the Probate Judge to approve “The Ashford City Cemetery, Second Addition” – Probate Judge Cooley.

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the Probate Judge’s request for “The Ashford City Cemetery, Second Addition.” Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported there is a process that involves the Probate Office and the Health Department and all of the criteria have been met. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Request from the Town of Columbia for preliminary approval to assist with new Senior Center.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the request from the Town of Columbia for the preliminary approval to assist with the new Senior Center. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported Columbia is applying for a grant, and as part of the grant process, they are asking the county to preliminarily approve doing the site work. He stated it is a good site and there would not be a lot of work. Chairman Culver reported in the past, the county has helped all of the senior centers that they could to help serve that part of the population. He stated that is why it is preliminary because the Town of Columbia has to get the grant first. Commissioner Forrester asked if it would be new construction? Chairman Culver stated it would be a new building on a new site. The chairman called for the question; and it carried unanimously.

5. Liquor License Request -010 Lounge Retail Liquor – Class 1 – Clayton W. Smith d/b/a Highway 109 Bar, 4542 State Highway 109, Slocomb, AL 36375 (Houston County)

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the request for an 010 Lounge Retail Liquor – Class 1 License for Clayton W. Smith d/b/a Highway 109 Bar, 4542 State Highway 109, Slocomb, AL 36375 (Houston County). Commissioner Forrester seconded the motion. Chairman Culver asked if anyone was present in opposition to the license? There being no opposition, he called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Request to approve items to be sold on GovDeals.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the items to be sold on GovDeals. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion; and it carried unanimously. (Please see attached in Minute Book)

Staff Reports:

Chief Administrative Officer -

Mr. Dempsey reported the department heads’ budget information was due July 26th. He stated everything was going well.

County Engineer – there was no report

County Attorney – there was no report

Chairman Culver thanked all the queens for coming and wished them the best during their year. He also wished Miss Houston County and Little Miss Houston County the best of luck as they participate in the National Peanut Festival.

Adjourn

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