

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
OCTOBER 24, 2011

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

ABSENT: Commissioner Phillip L. Forrester

Chairman Mark S. Culver called the 10:00 A.M. meeting to order, declared a quorum was present, and welcomed everyone. Mr. Dennis Pool of Care Ambulance gave the invocation. Chairman Culver led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Announcements and Public Comments from Chairman and Commissioners

Chairman Culver reported this year the "Red Ribbon Week" Proclamation would be presented on October 27th, at 6:00 P.M. on the field prior to the Ashford-Rehobeth football game in Ashford. He encouraged everyone who might be interested to attend.

He extended congratulations to Ms. Julianna Singley, Houston County's Little Miss, who was recently crowned as "Little Miss National Peanut Festival." Chairman Culver reported the commission is proud of her, and they look forward to working with her during her reign. He pointed out that she is the second "Little Miss Houston County" to be crowned "Little Miss Peanut" queen in the last 5 years.

The chairman reminded everyone the next two administrative meetings would be held on Wednesday, November 9th and November 23rd due to s and Thanksgiving Holidays.

Chairman Culver extended congratulations to the Carver Middle School B.E.S.T. Robotics team for winning this past Saturday's competition. He also pointed out that Beverly Middle School will also be going to Auburn for the state completion, and he congratulated them.

Awards and Presentations

1. Proclamation – "Farm City Week" – Commissioner Doug Siquefield, Chairman, Farm City Week Committee

Chairman Culver asked Commissioner Siquefield to step down for the Farm City Week Proclamation. The chairman asked for a motion on the proclamation. Commissioner Siquefield made a motion to approve the Proclamation declaring November 18-24, 2011 as "Farm City Week" in Houston County. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion; and it carried unanimously. Chairman Culver reported Mr. Siquefield is the chairman this year and is doing a tremendous job. He stated Ms. Linda McGhee serves on that committee also. He stated every year Farm City Week is established to remind everyone of the relationship between the city and the county. The chairman then read the Proclamation and

presented it to Commissioner Sinquefield. The chairman reported not only does he serve as the chairman of this event but he also represents all of the farmers of Houston County. Commissioner Sinquefield thanked Chairman Culver and the commission for allowing the proclamation. He stated he looks forward to this time of the year, and partnering with the rural and urban citizens of Houston County. Mr. Sinquefield reported farming is a great industry and also one of the most important industries in our state and nation. Mr. Sinquefield pointed out the need to recognize the farmers and city partners who work to put the Farm City Week together. He stated Houston CUOonty is hosting the event this year, and he is enjoying being the chairman. Ms. Sinquefield pointed out it takes a lot of time and effort to put the event together, and all of the committee members are working hard to make it happen. Mr. Sinquefield reported the Farm City Week Banquet will be held on November 17th at 6:00 P.M., at the Houston County Farm Center. He stated over 50 years ago, National Farm City Week was provided a link between the nation's rural and urban people, and it was founded by the Kiwanis International. He reported the week was established to achieve unity among all American workers on and off the farm with an ongoing theme: "Partners in Progress." Mr. Sinquefield stated National Farm City Week has increased understanding between two vital parts of our nation today. He reported when you look back over 50 years and see what Kiwanis has done, and it is still ongoing today, you appreciate all of their efforts. Chairman Culver thanked Mr. Sinquefield.

Regular Agenda

1. Request for the county to handle pass through money for grants awarded to the Regional Alliance 4 Children – Judge Butch Binford.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the request for the county to handle pass through money for grants awarded to the Regional Alliance 4 Children. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported Judge Binford was here and explained it on Thursday. Commissioner Harvey asked if they have figured out how the checks would be handled? Mr. Dempsey recommended that separate checks be written rather than a lump sum because it would be much easier to audit. Chairman Culver stated when Judge Binford is notified that the request was approved, he should also be advised of the way the county wants to handle the checks. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Request to award bids for ACCA Joint Bid Program.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the request to award bids for the ACCA Joint Bid Program. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported as previously discussed, Houston County is the awarding authority for the county joint bid program in the State of Alabama. He pointed out this program allows counties from all across the state to buy off this bid. The chairman reported the idea is all counties bidding together should be able to get a better price than individual counties bidding separately. He stated the low bidder meeting specs were the ones that were awarded. Chairman Culver reported one bidder was present for the meeting, and he thanked him for taking time to attend the meeting. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see attached in Minute Book)

3. Liquor License Request – Lounge Retail Liquor – Class II (Package) Pansey Grocery BP Bait and Tackle, LLC d/b/a Pansey Package Store – 13076 U.S. Highway 84 East, Ashford, Alabama 36312.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to deny the request for a Class II (Package) Lounge Retail Liquor License for Pansey Grocery BP Bait and Tackle, LLC d/b/a Pansey Package Store – 13076 U.S. Highway #84 East, Ashford, Alabama 36312 based on the Sheriff's letter of reference regarding the good name and character that previously took place with the Sheriff. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion. Sheriff Hughes stated he appreciated the Commission taking his recommendation as the Sheriff. He reported these individuals were caught selling precursor chemicals and they knowingly were selling them to be used to make methamphetamine several years ago. Sheriff Hughes stated they have shown a propensity to break the law and he did not feel they should be granted a liquor license. He thanked the commission. Chairman Culver asked if anyone was present in opposition or support of the request? There being none, the chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Request to concur with the award of contract to low bidder, H & L Construction Co., Inc. for guardrail installation project on Nuclear Plant Road and County Road #33 in the amount of \$3,670.00 matching funds. (10% of project cost)

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the request to concur with the award to the low bidder, H & L Construction Co., Inc. for guardrail installation project on Nuclear Plant Road and County Road #33 in the amount of \$3,670.00 matching funds. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion. The chairman called for the question; and it carried unanimously.

5. Request to adopt Resolution for the resurfacing of South Rocky Creek Road from Hickory Grove Road to U.S. Highway #84 East.

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to adopt the Resolution for the resurfacing of South Rocky Creek Road from Hickory Grove Road to U.S. Highway #84 East. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported, as was pointed out on Thursday, this is the first step in a very long process to get a road resurfaced. He pointed out this is being done in order to have it ready in case there is any extra money that becomes available at the state, or through other sources. The chairman reported there is not money in the county's budget to do the project, but they want to always be prepared. He stated this is the beginning of that process and it will probably take a couple of years depending on the funding. Commissioner Battles asked Mr. Pool how long the road was? Mr. Pool stated it was 11.83 miles. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

6. Request to award bids for motorgrader blades.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to award the bids for motorgrader blades to Flint Equipment Company, low bidder meeting specs, in the amount of \$47.85 per 7 foot blade for 250 blades, and a total bid price of \$11,952.50. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see attached bid summary sheet in Minute Book)

Staff Reports:

Chief Administrative Officer – there was no report

County Engineer – there was no report

County Attorney – there was no report

The chairman asked if there were any questions for the staff?

Commissioner Sinquefield asked about the Rowland Road project? Mr. Pool stated everything was on go unless something pops up.

Commissioner Battles asked about the Rehobeth Town Hall, Senior Center project? Mr. Pool stated it would be two weeks.

Adjourn.

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