

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
JANUARY 9, 2012

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

ABSENT: Commissioner Doug Sinquefield and 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. Rev. Jim Tate, Pastor, Memphis Baptist Church, gave the invocation. Commissioner Harvey led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Announcements and Public Comments from Chairman and Commissioners

Chairman Culver reported he had been notified by the Alabama Historical Commission that the Ben Ivey Home located at 3035 Ben Ivey Road in Webb, had been listed on the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage. He stated the Iveys' residence is located in Commissioner Harvey's district, and they are a very influential family in Webb. He thanked the Iveys for their service to Houston County and stated he was glad to see the site designation.

The chairman reported that the county had received a certificate in recognition of valuable contributions to preserving the environment through its shredding contract with Assured Data Construction, a division of the Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center. Chairman Culver reported the county has had a total of 14 tons of paper collected and they had saved 238 trees.

Regular Agenda

1. Appointment to fill unexpired term on the Dothan-Houston County Mental Retardation Board, Inc. – Judge Rose Gordon.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to appoint Judge Rose Gordon to fill the unexpired term on the Dothan-Houston County Mental Retardation Board, Inc. Commissioner Battles seconded; and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Request from Probate Judge to award bid to publish 2012 Houston County Voter List.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to award the bid to publish the 2012 Houston County Voter List to the low bidder meeting specs, The Dothan Eagle. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion; and it carried unanimously. Chairman Culver reported since Thursday's meeting, they had found out under the new state law, that the state will pay 100% of the cost to publish the voter's list. He stated the county still wanted to get the price.

3. Request to approve Houston County Pageants, Inc. as sponsor of the Houston County Pageants with the net proceeds going to the Altrusa Club.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the Houston County Pageants, Inc. as the sponsor of the Houston County Pageants with the net proceeds going to the Altrusa Club. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. He reported this group has had good success with the girls from Houston County over the past 3-4 years, and he stated the commission wanted all of the girls in the pageants to have a good experience and he looked forward to this group working in conjunction with the benefactor, the Altrusa Club. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Request to approve budget amendment for Conference Room renovations.

Commissioner Harvey mad a motion to approve a budget amendment for Conference Room renovations. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported this budget amendment would be primarily to replace the drapes in the Conference Room, and it should be less than \$3,000.00. He pointed out if the cost exceeds \$3,000.00, the commission would have to come back and address it. The chairman reported there may be a couple of other things included also. He called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Request to award bids on hot plant mix, MC70 prime, seed, herbicide, signs, sign faces, and sign making materials.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to award the bids on hot plant mix, MC70 prime, seed, herbicide, signs, sign faces, and sign making materials to the low bidders meeting specs in each category. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. Mr. Pool reported the asphalt bid was cheaper than the one they had bid a few months ago. Chairman Culver reported if the county had some money they could do some resurfacing. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see attached Bid Summary Sheets in Minute Book)

Staff Reports:

Chief Administrative Officer – there was no report

County Engineer –

Mr. Pool reported the county was experiencing unusual winter weather for road maintenance, and since the county has had not had much rain, it has resulted in a lot less maintenance on dirt roads. He stated potholes on paved roads are caused predominantly by water penetrating cracks. Mr. Pool pointed out in the winter, there are a lot more potholes because they have to let the freeze thaw. He reported with the warm winter thus far, there are a lot less problems. He stated he had never seen it as dry as it has been and they have been able to do a lot of dirt work.

Mr. Pool pointed out Fortner Street and Whittaker Road, located past Brannon Stand Road, would be closed for 4 weeks for some extensive work. He stated the road was clearly marked. Chairman Culver requested that the media assist the county in making the traveling public aware of the road closure.

Commissioner Battles asked for a report on the Madrid Town Hall parking lot. Mr. Pool reported they had started work, and their progress depended on the rain that was forecast for the week. Chairman Culver pointed out that location also serves as a voting place, and the county's intent is to have it completed by the end of February before the March Primary.

County Attorney – there was no report

Adjourn

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