

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
MARCH 26, 2012

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

ABSENT: Mark Pool, County Engineer

Chairman Mark S. Culver called the 10:00 A.M. meeting to order, declared a quorum was present, and welcomed everyone. Rev. Aaron Dickinson, Pastor, Cloverdale Baptist Church, gave the invocation. Commissioner Battles led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#### Announcements and Public Comments from Chairman and Commissioners

Chairman Culver reported since the last meeting, Judge Luke Cooley, Probate Judge, had developed an election procedure to fill the vacancy on the commission in District 4. He reported April 5<sup>th</sup> is the last day to qualify, the Primary is May 22<sup>nd</sup>, and depending on the results of the Primary, the other elections will take place in July and August. The chairman reported there is a cost to this election, but it was felt by the people of District 4 that they needed someone seated in that position before the General Election in November.

The chairman reported the weekend of March 30<sup>th</sup> would be City Fest in Downtown Dothan and also the Wildlife Expo. He encouraged people to come downtown and participate in these two major events. He stated this past weekend, the Toadlick Festival had been held, and was quite successful. He stated at the next meeting he would start talking "smack" about the elected officials and media softball game scheduled on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Culver asked Mr. Gary Knight, Director, Community Corrections, to come forward. He reported most everyone knew and Mr. Knight had spoken at the last meeting regarding his retirement effective April 1<sup>st</sup>. The chairman stated the commission wanted to make a formal expression of appreciation to Mr. Knight for all that he had done in establishing the Community Corrections Program and serving as the Director for the past 12 years. Chairman Culver reported Community Corrections was just a dream until 12 years ago. He pointed out the program was developed by Mr. Knight and he turned it into the outstanding program it is today. He reported Mr. Knight will be retiring on April 1<sup>st</sup> and the commission will miss him. Chairman Culver then presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the commission. Mr. Knight reported he had traveled throughout the state with other community corrections programs and elected officials and there is not another place in the state that he had rather be than Houston County, Alabama. He reported the quality of the elected officials and the support he has received over the years is second to none, and he certainly appreciated it. Mr. Knight also stated Houston County has some of the best judges in the State of Alabama. He thanked the commission for the recognition and support.

#### Regular Agenda

1. Request to adopt Resolution to enter into an Agreement with the City of Dothan for Solid Waste Disposal.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to adopt the Resolution to enter into an Agreement with the City of Dothan for Solid Waste Disposal. Commissioner Siquefield seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported this was discussed on Thursday. He pointed out Houston County has been a part of the Solid Waste Authority for the last 20 years. The chairman reported this authority was formed to have some control by the 30 odd entities that are members over the cost and manner in which solid waste is disposed. He reported the authority has served its purpose and continues to serve for many of the entities in the region, and is a viable alternative for them. Chairman Culver reported since the contract was ending in May, the commission looked at several alternatives to try to get the best rate and

opportunity for the citizens of the county. He reported the agreement with the City of Dothan ended up being the best from a cost perspective, from a use of operation perspective, and from not having to invest any money in capital equipment perspective. Chairman Culver reported he appreciated the city working with Houston County. He stated the price will be \$28.00 per ton. Chairman Culver reported the contract will be worked out at that price for a period and then there will be some acceleration but not anything terrible. He pointed out this would save the county over \$100,000 per year. The chairman stated it was important due to the rising cost of fuel and equipment, and the solid waste program has to pay for itself by saving money and the county will not have to consider any increase in charges to the citizens anytime soon. Chairman Culver reported he really appreciated the Solid Waste Authority and everything they have done with the county and for the county over the last 20 years. He stated he appreciated the City of Dothan for sitting down and working this out to be beneficial to them and the county. Chairman Culver reported he felt this was a good move for the commission and its future. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

2. Liquor License Request – 160 – Special Retail – More Than 30 Days – SMS Accounting Group, LLC d/b/a PAR 72, 7410 South U.S. 231, Dothan, AL 36301

Chairman Culver requested that this item be tabled because the property has changed ownership. He reported their application will have to be re-submitted. Commissioner Battles made a motion to table the Liquor License Request – 160 – Special Retail – More Than 30 Days – SMA Accounting Group, LLC d/b/a PAR 72, 7410 South U.S. 231, Dothan, AL 36301. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. Chairman Culver asked if anyone present was in opposition or wished to discuss it? There being none, he called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Request to award bids for crushed limestone, fertilizer, cement mortar flowable backfill, fiber mesh concrete, hot plant mix 416, and bulk cement.

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to award the following bids to the low bidder meeting specs:

Crushed Limestone, AHD #5 – Johnston Trucking - \$26.35 – AHD #78 – Johnston Trucking - \$26.35 – Crusher Run – Dolomite of Marianna - \$6.75 – Class I Rip Rap – Johnston Trucking - \$29.50 – Class II Rip-Rap – Johnston Trucking - \$29.50  
Fertilizer – Farmer’s Co-op of Ashford - \$625.00 per ton bulk - \$17.25 per 50 lb. bag  
Cement Mortar Flowable Backfill – Couch Ready Mix - \$80.00  
Fiber Mesh Concrete – Argos Ready Mix - \$90.00 per yard  
Bulk Cement – South Alabama Concrete - \$155.00 per ton  
Hot Plant Mix 416 – APAC - \$66.50 per ton

Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported these bids are customary every six months. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

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

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

Staff Reports:

Chief Administrative Officer – there was no report

County Engineer

Acting County Engineer, Barkley Kirkland, reported on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, County Road #81 between County Road #75 and County Road #8 would be closed for approximately two months. He reported a detour had been developed. Chairman Culver requested the media’s assistance in making the traveling public aware of the closure.

County Attorney – there was no report

Commissioner Battles asked Mr. Kirkland how the litter pickup was going? Mr. Kirkland reported they had not gone out on the last two Saturdays, and this past Friday they were rained out early. Chairman Culver thanked Mr. Knight and Sheriff Hughes for their efforts to make this program a success.

Adjourn

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