

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION

AUGUST 13, 2012

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

ABSENT: Commissioner Curtis Harvey and Mark Pool, County Engineer

Chairman Mark S. Culver called the 1000 A.M. meeting to order, declared a quorum was present, and welcomed everyone. Rev. Ricky Carroll, Pastor, Liberty Baptist Church, gave the invocation. Commissioner Sinquefield led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

### Announcements and Public Comments from Chairman and Commissioners

Chairman Culver reminded everyone that there would be no administrative meeting on August 23<sup>rd</sup> due to the commissioners attending the ACCA Annual Meeting. He reported the commission would meet on August 27<sup>th</sup>, and they would be operating under a few different rules than normal.

He stated representatives from the Choctawhatchee, Pea, and Yellow River Watershed Management Authority would be at the meeting on August 27<sup>th</sup>, to make an announcement. He stated members of the legislative delegation, Mr. Pool, and Mr. Matthews and others that took part in it would be invited.

The chairman reported that the city and county schools would be starting Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, and he urged everyone to drive cautiously in the school zones.

Chairman Culver reminded everyone that the county's tire program is over. He stated if persons have brought tires to the road then the county will pick them up; but asked that no more tires be placed at the road.

He reported the Wiregrass Museum of Art would be holding their fundraiser, The Yard Party for Art, on August 25<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Culver stated it was a great event, and encouraged anyone interested to contact the Museum for ticket information.

### Awards and Presentations

#### 1. Proclamation – Ms. Caroline Crowley – Miss Teen International

Chairman Culver reported it is always a pleasure to recognize people who have done well; particularly when it is someone most of the commission has watched grow up.

At that time, the chairman called for a motion on the Proclamation for "Miss Caroline Crowley – Miss Teen International." Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the proclamation as prepared. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion; and it carried unanimously.

Chairman Culver asked Ms. Crowley to come forward. He stated Ms. Crowley has been recently involved in several events, but the reason she was in attendance was in order for the commission to let her know how proud they are of her. Chairman Culver reported Ms. Crowley was Miss Teen Alabama, went to Chicago and participated in the Miss Teen International 2012 Program, and was crowned Miss Teen International 2012 on July 28<sup>th</sup>. He pointed out 40 of the top contestants from around the world were in the competition. Chairman Culver reported Ms. Crowley has been very active in the community all of her life helping people. He stated Ms. Crowley will be a senior this year at Ashford High School, and attends Wallace College. The chairman pointed out Ms. Crowley is a member of numerous academic organizations including the National Honor Society and participated in Youth Leadership Dothan-Houston County. He stated Ms. Crowley has also worked with the Miracle League. Chairman Culver reported in 2002, Ms. Crowley was Little Miss National Peanut Festival, Jr. Miss Alabama Forestry in 2004, Miss Teen Houston County in 2010, and Teen Miss Wiregrass in 2011.

The chairman then read the Proclamation declaring August 13<sup>th</sup> as "Caroline Crowley Day" in Houston County and presented it to her. He stated the county recognizes queens and is always glad to do so, but Ms. Crowley had gone above and beyond. He stated as Miss Teen international she would be taking her Houston County roots and spreading them around the world.

Ms. Crowley thanked the chairman and the commission. She stated each contestant in the Miss Teen International had a platform and it was a cause that was close to their heart. Ms. Crowley reported her platform is Miracle League and Shane's Inspiration. She stated her mom had taught children with autism since she was a baby and her stepdad has a baseball academy. She stated she was terrible at sports but has a passion for working with children with special needs. Ms. Crowley reported Dothan is one of 250 cities with a Miracle League organization throughout the world and the community is very fortunate. She stated Dothan has one of 40 Shane's Inspiration playgrounds in the world. Ms. Crowley pointed out it is very rare to have both of these in the same park. She encouraged people who have never been to go out and experience one game in the Miracle League and Shane's Inspiration. Ms. Crowley stated even though she has been a volunteer since she was 13, she would like to think she blesses them but she receives a much bigger blessing from them. She reported children with mental or physical disabilities can play baseball at the Miracle League, which is all inclusive. Ms. Crowley stated Shane's inspiration is an all inclusive playground. She pointed out if someone is in a wheelchair, they can still go down the slides. She pointed out they have Buddies and they try to pair them with children their own age so that children can be taught from a young age that is okay to be different. Ms. Crowley stated just because a person might have a disability, they should not be made fun of because sometimes they can do things better than the person making fun of them. She stated they try to teach kids at a young age they are supposed to serve others. Ms. Crowley reported each time she visits the playground, she can see that they are accomplishing that mission. She said so many friendships have been made with children that attend the same school and they have never met the person with the disability and now they are best friends and they walk down the hall together everyday.

Chairman Culver then asked for comments from the commissioners. Commissioner McClendon reported when she introduced herself to the Crowley family, she asked her brother if he was sick and tired of all of the beauty pageant stuff? She stated his mother asked him to tell her who he was? Mrs. McClendon stated his mother thought he would say he was Caroline's bodyguard, but instead he told her he was the neglected middle child.

Chairman Culver reported as many know, Commissioner McClendon was very involved in the Miracle Field. She stated it was not about her. Chairman Culver reported Commissioner McClendon has a place in her heart for the Miracle Field.

Commissioner Sinquefield reported he could not say any more than what has already been said. He stated he was so proud of Ms. Crowley, what she has accomplished, and the work she is doing with the disabled children and adults. Commissioner Sinquefield stated she has accomplished a lot at this young age and she has a very bright future, and will make a difference in a lot of lives. Commissioner Sinquefield stated Ms. Crowley also was from District 2.

Chairman Culver thanked Ms. Crowley for everything she has done and will do in her future endeavors.

#### Regular Agenda

1. Request to approve road construction for the Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the road construction to the Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported as announced on Thursday, the state has made available funds to use on various projects that will offset the cost of the work. He stated some of the work will be contracted, some of it involves re-locating roads, and he pointed out there is a portion the county can go ahead and get started on. The chairman reported the county will begin work on Drew Road between Cowarts Road and Highway #84. He stated there would be some changes made at the intersection but the county will be doing some resurfacing and widening down the middle. Chairman Culver reported work would be ongoing and there would be some transfers of roads with Drew Road ultimately becoming a county road. He stated Cowarts Road

would become a city road. The chairman reported this is the beginning and the commission is glad to a part of the college and the process of bringing it to fruition. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Request from Probate Judge to use HAVA Grant Funds for the purchase of Election Supplies – Judge Luke Cooley.

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the Probate Judge's request to use HAVA Grant Funds for the purchase of Election Supplies. Commissioner McClendon seconded the motion; and it carried unanimously.

3. Request from EMA to approve Mitigation Grant #HMGP DR (1971-419) for six (6) Individual Safe Rooms (100%) Grant – Clark Matthews, EMA Director.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve EMA's request for a (100%) Mitigation Grant #HMGP DR (1971-419) for six (6) Individual Safe Rooms. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion. Chairman Culver stated the county was not opening up a new list. He pointed out this is the continuation and completion of the entire project. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Request from EMA to negotiate and execute Memo of Understanding with the Civil Air Patrol – Clark Matthews, EMA Director.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve EMA's request to negotiate and execute a Memo of Understanding with the Civil Air Patrol. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Liquor License Request – 040 – Retail Beer (On or Off Premises) License – Dothan Raceland d/b/a Dothan Raceland, LLC, 222 Bud Moore Road, Cottonwood, AL 36320

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the request for a 040 – Retail Beer (On or Off Premises) License for Dothan Raceland d/b/a Dothan Raceland, LLC, 222 Bud Moore Road, Cottonwood, AL 36320. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. Chairman Culver asked if there was anyone in opposition to the request? There being none, he called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Liquor License Request – 010 – Lounge Retail Liquor – Class I License – Cecil Hadden d/b/a Highway 109 Bar, 4542 State Highway 109, Slocomb, AL 36375

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the request for a 010 – Lounge Retail Liquor – Class I License for Cecil Hadden d/b/a Highway 109 Bar, 4542 State Highway 109, Slocomb, AL 36375. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion. Chairman Culver asked if there was anyone in opposition to the request? There being none, he called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

7. Request to approve agreement with the State of Alabama for resurfacing Rocky Creek Road from Hickory Grove Road to U.S. 84. Approx. 7.239 miles ( ATRIP Project)

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the agreement with the State of Alabama for resurfacing Rocky Creek Road from Hickory Grove Road to U. S. 84, approximately 7.239 miles. Commissioner McClendon seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported this is the one ATRIP project the county has received and it will be let later this month. Chairman Culver called for the question; and it carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

8. Request to adopt revised Resolution adding Glen Lawrence Road to resurfacing project with Saunders Road and Forrester Road. Approx. 7.54 miles (ATRIP Project)

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to adopt the revised Resolution adding Glen Lawrence Road to the resurfacing project with Saunders Road and Forrester Road, approximately 7.54 miles. Commissioner McClendon seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported this is an adjustment to an ATRIP Project the county has submitted but has not been approved. The chairman reported if these

ATRIP Projects are not approved, the work will not be done imminently. He called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

9. Request to approve Resolution to resurface Broad Street and Webb to Kinsey Road from Bethel Road to approximately 0.40 miles north of AL Hwy. 52 E. Approx. 5.80 miles ( ATRIP Project)

Commissioner McClendon made a motion to adopt the Resolution to resurface Broad Street and Webb to Kinsey Road from Bethel Road approximately 0.40 miles north of Alabama Highway 52 East, approximately 5.80 miles. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion. The chairman reported this project is to be added to the county's submittals hoping for ATRIP funding. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

10. Request to approve Resolution to resurface County Road 8 from Rocky Creek Road to AL Hwy. 95 S. Approx. 13.50 miles (ATRIP Project)

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to adopt the Resolution to resurface County Road 8 from Rocky Creek Road to Alabama Highway 95 South, approximately 13.50 miles. Commissioner McClendon seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported this project is another ATRIP submittal. He called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

11. Request to approve Resolution to resurface Cumbie Road from Geneva County Line to Judge Logue Road. Approx. 2.10 miles (ATRIP Project)

Commissioner McClendon made a motion to adopt the Resolution to resurface Cumbie Road from the Geneva County Line to Judge Logue Road, approximately 2.10 miles. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported this is also an ATRIP submittal. He called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

12. Request from Road and Bridge to approve budget amendment.

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve a budget amendment as requested by Road and Bridge. Commissioner McClendon seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported this budget amendment deals with something the commission has already approved. He pointed out some trucks have been sold and they are taking those funds to purchase new equipment. He called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see attached Budget Amendment in Minute Book)

Staff Reports:

Chief Administrative Officer

Chairman Culver reported there was a proposed budget amendment if everyone agrees. Mr. Dempsey reported the budget preparation is going well and he should have something to the commission by next Monday afternoon.

Chairman Culver reported after Thursday, there was discussion with the Sheriff regarding reimbursement for some labor they received for work they did. He stated the budget amendment to be considered is to bring that money in and amend the overtime line. The chairman reported it takes unanimous consent to add anything, and he asked if any of the commissioners had any objections? There were no objections. Mr. Dempsey reported this is very akin to a grant but it is not a grant. He stated if the county receives a grant, they receive additional revenue and allow departments to increase their spending budget by offsetting the revenue. He stated this is exactly what has happened in that the Sheriff, in the FEMA disaster earlier, had dispatched some of his employees and was reimbursed. He pointed out the Sheriff spent his labor dollars at that time, and the reimbursement will allow his budget to be increased by the same amount, \$77,268.00. Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the proposed budget amendment for the Sheriff's Department in the amount of \$77,268.00. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see attached budget amendment in Minute Book)

County Engineer – there was no report

County Attorney – there was no report

Adjourn

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