

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
DECEMBER 8, 2014

PRESENT: Chairman Mark S. Culver, Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Commissioner Jackie Battles, Commissioner Brandon Shoupe, Gary Sherrer, County Attorney, Barkley Kirkland, County Engineer, and W. J. Dempsey, Chief Administrative Officer

ABSENT: Commissioner Doug Sinquefield

Chairman Mark S. Culver called the 10:00 A.M. meeting to order, declared a quorum present with everyone in attendance except Commissioner Doug Sinquefield, who was out of town, and he welcomed everyone. Rev. Andrew Sharp, Assistant Pastor, Dothan Christian Fellowship, gave the invocation. Commissioner Brandon Shoupe led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Announcements and Comments from Chairman and Commissioners

Chairman Culver reported this would be the last meeting of 2014, and he wished everyone a Very Merry Christmas. He reminded everyone that the birth of Jesus is the reason for the season, and he urged them to enjoy spending time with their family. The chairman wished everybody a very Safe and Happy New Year, and he stated he looked forward to seeing them back in 2015.

The chairman reported on Wednesday, December 10th, the city and county would be ringing the Salvation Army Bell at Northside WalMart. He urged everyone to come out and do their shopping that day, and to support the Salvation Army. Chairman Culver reported that the county would be defending their title from last year.

Chairman Culver reported at the ACCA Legislative Conference last week, Mr. Bill Dempsey received a plaque for dedicated service to the ACCA Liability Self Insurance Fund. The chairman pointed out they have term limits and he has served 6 years. He reported Mr. Sonny Brasfield, Executive Director, ACCA, recognized Mr. Dempsey's dedication and what a positive influence he has been on that board. Chairman Culver thanked Mr. Dempsey for serving on the board and representing Houston County so well.

The chairman reported there are a lot of Christmas events going on. He stated he and Commissioner Sinquefield rode in the Ashford Christmas parade on Saturday, and it was the biggest parade they had in years. He pointed out Columbia's Parade was Saturday also. The chairman reported Gordon's Parade is Saturday, December 13th, and he encouraged everyone to get out and enjoy the season and be part of the community. Commissioner Shoupe reported Wicksburg's Parade is Saturday, December 13th at 10:00 A.M., and he had been asked to invite the chairman and commissioners to participate.

Chairman Culver reported since there was no Administrative meeting, the commission would be operating under different rules in that discussion in advance of a motion would be allowed if necessary.

Regular Agenda

1. Appointment to fill vacancy on the Houston County Health Care Authority.

Chairman Culver reported that the Houston County Health Care Authority had contacted the commission regarding filling a vacancy on their board. He reported one of the members who lived in Commissioner Harvey's District passed away. Chairman Culver reported as per the Health Care Authority's by-laws, the commission has received a Resolution submitting the names of 3 individuals for consideration. Commissioner Harvey made a motion to appoint Mr. Tellis Copeland to fill the unexpired term on the Houston County Health Care Authority. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Request to accept lowest/best responsive and responsible bid for the Sheriff's Inmate Telephone System for the Jail.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to accept the lowest/best responsive and responsible bid for the Sheriff's Inmate Telephone System for the Jail. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported work has been done on this for quite a while. The chairman stated, as he felt everyone is aware, there is a phone system at the Jail where the inmates can make calls. He pointed out there are charges and the county receives some revenue from this. The chairman reported it has to be bid and the county has a company that handles it for them because it is very complicated. He stated Mr. Dempsey and the Sheriff's staff at the Jail, and Praeses have been working on this for quite some time. The chairman reported the recommendation is one that they feel will benefit the county long term. He called on Mr. Dempsey for comments. Mr. Dempsey reported as stated, it is a contract that is up every 3 years. He pointed out the current contract is with GTL, and the new contract has 2 or 3 major changes. Mr. Dempsey reported the most major change is that it will include a video system. He stated there are 2-3 components with the first guaranteed revenue from the proposed company, Legacy Inmate, \$540,000 over the 3 year period, \$15,000 per month for 18 months. He reported of that, the county would receive 90%. Mr. Dempsey reported the county partners with a company, Praeses, and they would retain 10% for over viewing the monthly activity on the phone calls. He stated the video system would belong to the county at the end of the 3 year period. Mr. Dempsey pointed out GTL provides a Jail Management System to the county at no charge. He reported the new vendor would provide up to \$20,000 per year to cover expenses for the Jail Management System. Mr. Dempsey reported these are the major items involved. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see attached in Minute Book)

3. Request to adopt a Parameter Resolution regarding the 2015 bond (refinance of the 2004 bonds).

Commissioner Battles made a motion to adopt a Parameter Resolution regarding the 2015 bond (refinance of the 2004 bonds). Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported this Resolution sets out parameters by which the county will sell bonds, and it allows him as Chairman to execute the documents. He pointed out it will not have to come back to the commission, and when the market is right they can move and hopefully create some savings. The chairman reported the intent at

this point is the county would then take the savings and put them toward lowering the cost of the county's portion of the E-911 facility. Mr. Dempsey reported the major item the commission is being asked to approve is on page 23 in the first paragraph which states the county would receive no less than \$100,000 for refinancing. He stated if the market does not bear at least \$100,000 this will not happen. Chairman Culver reported the county's goal will be more than \$100,000. He stated what they did not want to do was to get down to the end, and be in a position where they could not move, and lose the amount of money the county spent on the rating. Mr. Dempsey reported the rating is good for 6 months, and allows some flexibility. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

4. Request to extend contract for another year with Twin City Security, LLC, to provide security services for Community Corrections – Tony Weber, Director.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the request to extend the contract for another year with Twin City Security, LLC, to provide security services for Community Corrections. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion. Chairman Culver asked Mr. Tony Weber, Director, to come forward and make comments. Mr. Weber reported this is an annual contract that is renewable every 3 years or they can choose to extend that bid for a year, and that is what they are electing to do. Commissioner Battles asked if there were any rate increases? Mr. Weber stated there was no change in the contract at all. Mr. Dempsey stated the renewal is good for one year. Mr. Weber stated it is extending what they have. Commissioner Battles asked Mr. Weber if he was satisfied with the company? Mr. Weber stated yes. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Request for a 050 – Retail Beer License (Off Premises Only) for CM Restaurant, Inc. d/b/a CM Mini Mart – 3597 Nuclear Plant Road – Columbia, AL 36319

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the request for a 050 Retail Beer License (Off Premises Only) for CM Restaurant, Inc. d/b/a CM Mini Mart – 3597 Nuclear Plant Road – Columbia, AL 36319. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion. Chairman Culver asked if anyone present was in opposition to the request? There being none, the chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Request for a joint water project between the Town of Rehobeth, the Town of Taylor, and the Houston County Commission.

Chairman Culver reported this joint project is for the county to pay one-third of the cost not to exceed \$15,000.00. Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the request for the joint water project on Johnny Murphy Road between the Town of Rehobeth, the Town of Taylor, and the Houston County Commission with the county paying one-third of the cost not to exceed \$15,000.00. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion. Chairman Culver stated neither Mayor was present, but letters were in the packets. Chairman Culver called on Commissioner Battles who explained the project was in his district. He stated this project has been ongoing for some time and it involves a mile stretch of water

pipe that was neglected to be put in back when they put the water lines in, and it will complete a loop on Johnny Murphy Road. He stated after many meetings and conversations, they got the two entities together to complete the water line. Commissioner Battles reported they hope it will bring more customers to Taylor and help Rehobeth in their fire rating. This project will complete a section that was left out years ago. Chairman Culver reported several years ago, the county was doing large projects in conjunction with towns back when they were able to. He pointed out one of the county's goals was to get water on all the roads in the county, and in 2007 and 2008, they had to change their direction. The chairman stated he felt more importantly than the service itself it is another example of cooperating with other entities. He stated this is Rehobeth, Taylor, and the county cooperating together on a project to help the citizens, and that is extremely important. The chairman commended Commissioner Battles with finally getting this project done. He stated Commissioner Battles and Mr. Dempsey will work out the details. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

Staff Reports:

Chief Administrative Officer – there was no report

County Engineer – there was no report

County Attorney – there was no report

Chairman Culver asked Mr. Kirkland if there were any roads closed? Mr. Kirkland reported Highway #53 to the Florida Line is closed. He stated they are fixing a bad section of the road. He reported the garbage collection was going well. He pointed out they are getting a list every day adding customers. Commissioner Battles stated he had received several comments about how they liked the new system. Mr. Kirkland reported they have received around 75 calls regarding the second can, and this week they are putting them out.

Chairman Culver wished the University of Alabama the very best in the National Championship effort.

Adjourn

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Battles; and it carried unanimously.