

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
NOVEMBER 28, 2016

PRESENT: Chairman Mark S. Culver, Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Commissioner Doug Sinuefield, Commissioner Jackie Battles, Commissioner Brandon Shoupe, Pres Register, County Attorney, Barkley Kirkland, County Engineer, and William J. Dempsey, CAO

ABSENT: None

Chairman Mark S. Culver called the 10:00 A.M. meeting to order, declared a quorum present, and welcomed everyone. Dr. Hays McKay, Pastor, Covenant United Methodist Church, gave the invocation. Commissioner Jackie Battles led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Sinuefield 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 there would be no Admin meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup> because the majority of the commissioners would be attending the ACCA Legislative Conference in Montgomery. He reported there would be a combined meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Culver asked everyone to please keep the Mack Dove and Brent Cook families in their thoughts and prayers due to a death in their family. The chairman reported Mr. Dove has been a leader in the community for many years.

Commissioner Sinuefield reported that the Ashford Christmas Parade would be Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. He also pointed out Commissioner Shoupe and he would be having birthdays that day.

Commissioner Shoupe reported he would not be going to the ACCA Legislative Conference on the 8<sup>th</sup> because he would be speaking at the Wiregrass Foundation's 2030 regarding jobs.

Chairman Culver congratulated Commissioners Harvey, Battles and Shoupe and the other Alabama fans.

Regular Agenda

1. Request to approve 2015/2016 budget overspending – Bill Dempsey, CAO.

Commissioner Sinuefield made a motion to approve the 2015/2016 budget overspending. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported the commission is required each year to approve this, and most of them are small amounts. He called on Bill Dempsey to explain the item regarding the 2014 Bond Issue. Mr. Dempsey reported the variance was \$76,579 and stems from when the bond payment was made, and it had no impact on the bottom line. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see Summary Sheet in Minute Book)

2. Request to approve 2016/2017 Budget Amendments – Bill Dempsey, CAO.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve 2016/2017 Budget Amendments. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported the commission is also required to approve the budget amendments. Mr. Dempsey reported these are special projects that were included in the 2015-2016 budget, and the spending portion was not completed in the budget year. He pointed out they were not included in the 2016-2017 budget, and the budget amendments have to be approved in order to move them forward. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see Summary Sheet of Budget Amendments in Minute Book)

3. Request to approve Lease Agreement for cultivatable land at the Houston County Industrial Park – Bill Dempsey, CAO.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the request to enter into a Lease Agreement for cultivatable land at the Houston County Industrial Park. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion. Mr. Dempsey reported this was advertised, and the only person interested, Mr. Rex Buntin, has been leasing it from the county for several years. Chairman Culver reported he had received a call about the land regarding using it for hunting, and he told the person that was not allowed. Engineer Barkley Kirkland stated Mr. Buntin is down there every day, and it has helped to save the county money on the equipment. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Request to authorize consideration of the 2017 Property Insurance provider – Bill Dempsey, CAO.

Mr. Dempsey reported the county's property insurance expires December 31<sup>st</sup>. He stated he had received quotes from the ACCA, Cincinnati (Flowers Insurance), and Scottsdale (Flowers Insurance). He pointed out this is the first year that ACCA has started the property insurance coverage through Meadowbrook, who also manages the county's liability and workmen's comp insurance. Mr. Dempsey reported the property insurance will take effect January 1, 2017, and has a 3 year guaranteed commitment. He pointed out Flowers can guarantee its price for one year, and in six months they would know what they could do after a year. He stated that ACCA quoted \$74,370 with a \$5,000 deductible Cincinnati (Flowers Insurance) quoted \$52,448 with a \$50,000 deductible, and Scottsdale (Flowers Insurance) quoted \$73,487 with a deductible of \$5,000.00. Mr. Dempsey stated he felt the choice should be between ACCA and Scottsdale (Flowers Insurance). Mr. Dempsey pointed out that ACCA covers 38 different categories and Flowers covers 18 of the 38 categories. He stated although some of the coverage is probably not needed, it is included in the quote, and the county will be getting that much more. Mr. Dempsey stated he would feel good with either group. He covered the key points. Chairman Culver stated Flowers Insurance has done a good job over the years. He reported they are local and they carry a lot of weight in the community. The chairman reported ACCA has put together insurance for counties, and Meadowbrook has a record with the county in that they have saved Houston County millions of dollars. He stated the commission has two great companies to choose from. He pointed out the commission likes to do business with local companies in an effort to get the best for the citizens of the county. After discussion, it was felt that the commission should go back to Flowers Insurance to see if they could give a quote on the items that ACCA had submitted, and authorize the Chairman, Chief Administrative Officer, and another commissioner to select the vendor. Commissioner Harvey made a motion that Flowers Insurance be contacted to see if they could give a quote on all the items that ACCA

had submitted in their bid for property insurance coverage, and authorize Chairman Culver, Bill Dempsey, CAO, and Commissioner Shoupe to select a vendor. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the vote was: YEAS: Commissioners Harvey, Shoupe, and Battles with Commissioner Sinquefield abstaining. (Please see attached in Minute Book)

5. Request from Probate Judge for County Expenditure with Reimbursement for Five Temporary Project Employees – Mrs. Heather Helms, Chief Probate Clerk.

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the Probate Judge's request for county expenditure with reimbursement for five temporary project employees. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion. Mrs. Heather Helms, Chief Probate Clerk, reported this request will not cost the county any money in that the Probate Judge's office will reimburse the county from the Records Preservation Fund. She pointed out they did not anticipate the project lasting any longer than 4 months. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Request to award bid for security services at Community Corrections to Twin City Security, LLC, low bidder meeting specs – Tony Weber, Director, Community Corrections.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to award the bid for security services at Community Corrections to Twin City Security, LLC, low bidder meeting specs. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion. Mr. Weber reported another company was actually the low bidder, but they did not meet specs. Chairman Culver called for the question; 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 –

Mr. Kirkland reported Blackman Road was the only road closed.

County Attorney – there was no report

Chairman Culver reported that Blackman Road was used the last Saturday night of the National Peanut Festival to help with the crowd overflow, and he asked if it was any worse than it was? Mr. Kirkland stated no.

Adjourn

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to adjourn.

