

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
MAY 8, 2017

PRESENT: Chairman Mark S. Culver, Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Commissioner Doug Siquefield, Commissioner Jackie Battles, Commissioner Brandon Shoupe, Pres Register, County Attorney, Barkley Kirkland, County Engineer, and W. 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. Brent Parker, Pastor, Selma Baptist Church, gave the invocation. Commissioner Curtis Harvey led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Siquefield made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

Announcements and Comments from Chairman and Commissioners

Commissioner Siquefield reported Cottonwood's Down Home Festival and Parade was held on Saturday. He stated it was a beautiful day, they had lots of vendors, and a great parade. He reported everyone enjoyed it, and he thanked the Town of Cottonwood and the volunteers for all of their hard work.

Commissioner Siquefield requested prayers for Mayor Ken Hamilton and his family. He reported he is still in Birmingham in the ICU, and they should be receiving an update sometime later today.

Chairman Culver reported Foster Fest will kick off on May 19th, and he encouraged everyone to go out and be a part of it.

The chairman reported high school proms, graduation, and the end of school is upon us, and he urged those who have family members graduating to go out and enjoy being a part of it.

Commissioner Shoupe reported Farm to Fork would be held on May 11th. He stated there will be delicious food and a good time, and he encouraged everyone to attend. The commissioner pointed out he attended last year and enjoyed it, but would be unable to go this year due to a prior commitment.

Chairman Culver thanked Commissioner Battles for filling in for him on Thursday, and he stated he did an outstanding job.

Awards and Presentations

1. Proclamation – "Small Business Week" – Mrs. Hayden Camp, Director of Membership, Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce

Chairman Culver asked Mrs. Hayden Camp to come forward. Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the Proclamation proclaiming May 15th-19th, 2017 as "Small Business Week." Commissioner

Shoupe seconded the motion; and it carried unanimously. Chairman Culver thanked Mrs. Camp for bringing this to the commission's attention. He stated as a small business owner, he understood the important role small business plays in the community and the nation. He then read the Proclamation and presented it to Mrs. Camp. She thanked the chairman and the commission for the Proclamation. Mrs. Camp reported since 1963, a week has been set aside to recognize small businesses. Mrs. Camp pointed out 80% of the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce's membership is comprised of small businesses. She encouraged everyone to participate in the events planned for Small Business Week by checking with the Chamber. Chairman Culver stated small businesses are the backbone of our community, and he thanked Mrs. Camp and the Chamber's staff for the great job they do each year and everyday promoting small businesses.

2. Proclamation – “National Police Week” – Sheriff Donald Valenza

Chairman Culver asked Sheriff Donald Valenza to come forward. Commissioner Siquefield made a motion to approve the Proclamation proclaiming May 11th -17th, 2017 as “National Police Week.” Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion; and it carried unanimously. Chairman Culver thanked Sheriff Valenza for bringing this to the commission's attention, and for the excellent job he and his staff do in Houston County. The chairman then read the Proclamation and presented it to the Sheriff. Sheriff Valenza thanked the chairman and the commission on behalf of his staff and all who work in law enforcement for the recognition. He reported last year 143 law enforcement personnel were killed around the nation, and this year there have already been 46 who have died. Sheriff Valenza pointed out the first officer killed in this country was in 1791. Chairman Culver thanked Sheriff Valenza for his leadership and efforts to keep the citizens of Houston County safe.

3. Proclamation – “Community Action Month” – Ms. Jackie Walker, Foster Grandparents Program Manager, and Ms. Jennifer Williams, Houston County Community Coordinator, SE Alabama Community Action Partnership

Chairman Culver asked Ms. Jackie Walker and Ms. Jennifer Williams to come forward. Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the Proclamation proclaiming May as “Community Action Month.” Commissioner Siquefield seconded the motion; and it carried unanimously. Chairman Culver read the Proclamation and presented it to Ms. Williams. He thanked her for bringing the recognition to the commission's attention. Ms. Williams thanked the chairman and the commission on behalf of the SE Alabama Community Action Partnership family for presenting the Proclamation, and helping those who live in poverty.

Regular Agenda

1. Request from Probate Judge to adopt Resolution approving the implementation of the Community Mental Health Officer Program for Houston County – Judge Patrick Davenport.

Commissioner Siquefield made a motion to approve the request from the Probate Judge to adopt the Resolution approving the implementation of the Community Health Officer Program for Houston County . Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion. Chairman Culver stated it was his understanding

this was discussed in detail at Thursday's meeting. He called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Request from Dothan Downtown Redevelopment Authority (DDRA) to use the side of the Juvenile Services building located on Foster Street to hang artwork for the Foster Farm to Fork event.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the request from the Dothan Downtown Redevelopment Authority (DDRA) to use the side of the Juvenile Services building located on Foster Street to hang artwork for the Foster Farm to Fork event. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion. Chairman Culver called for the question; and it carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

3. Request to approve agreement with ALDOT to resurface Omussee Road from Right of Way of SR-52 to Webb Road – approximately 1.229 miles – Road and Bridge Department.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the agreement with ALDOT to resurface Omussee Road from the Right of Way of SR – 52 to Webb Road, approximately 1.229 miles. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

4. Request to approve budget amendment increasing State FEMA match revenue by \$175,324.67 – Road and Bridge Department.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the budget amendment increasing State FEMA match revenue in the amount of \$175,324.67. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. It was pointed out \$150,000 was placed in the 2015-16 budget for the 2015 flood and the expenses were in the prior year; therefore revenues were accrued to offset the expenses. Mr. Dempsey reported the State Department of Examiners have mandated a reporting change where the county has incurred expenses in one year but will not be reimbursed for the expense until a coming year. Mr. Dempsey reported traditionally they recorded the expense for such items in the year that the expense occurred and he stated that will not change. He pointed out recording all of the income in the year that it is to be received will change. Chairman Culver reported the budget amendment is actually only for \$25,324.67. He called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see budget amendment in Minute Book)

5. Request to approve budget amendment increasing Direct Purchase Construction Equipment by \$60,000 to purchase a cutter head for equipment – Road and Bridge Department.

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to approve the budget amendment increasing Direct Purchase Construction Equipment by \$60,000 to purchase cutter head for equipment. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion. Mr. Kirkland reported instead sending 8 or 9 employees, they are sending out 2. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see attached budget amendment in Minute Book)

Staff Reports:

Chief Administrative Officer –

Mr. Dempsey reported work has begun on the budget with the departments. He stated there will be a budget meeting on June 22nd.

County Engineer –

Mr. Kirkland reported St. Mary, Eddins, and Gene Terry Roads were closed. He pointed out they would be moving to Blackman Road after completing Eddins Road.

County Attorney – there was no report

Adjourn

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.