

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
JULY 10, 2017

PRESENT: Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Doug Siquefield, Commissioner Jackie Battles, Commissioner Brandon Shoupe, Pres Register, County Attorney, Barkley Kirkland, County Engineer, and William J. Dempsey, Chief Administrative Officer

ABSENT: Chairman Mark S. Culver

Vice-Chairman Curtis Harvey called the 10:00 A.M. meeting to order, declared a quorum present, and welcomed everyone. Rev. Don Tew, Pastor, Ebenezer, Baptist Church, gave the invocation. Commissioner Jackie Battles led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Siquefield made a motion to approve the Minutes of the last two meetings. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion; and the motion carried unanimously.

Announcements and Comments from Vice-Chairman and Commissioners

Commissioner Siquefield reported approximately \$34,000 was raised by the National Peanut Festival as a result of their event held over the 4th of July weekend, with the monies going to the Wiregrass Area United Way. He stated 10,000-12,000 attended, and everyone had a great time. Commissioner Siquefield thanked the National Peanut Festival staff and volunteers, vendors and everyone involved for their hard work, that went for such a great cause.

Awards and Presentations

1. Recognition – Houston County Road and Bridge Employees for work completed on project for the Dothan-Houston County Regional Airport Authority

Vice-Chairman Harvey asked County Engineer, Barkley Kirkland, to come forward and bring his crew with him. Mr. Kirkland also asked Mr. Art Morris, Manager, Dothan Regional Airport, and Mr. Michael Cole, Barge, Waggoner, Sumner, and Canon, to come forward. Vice-Chairman Harvey reported the project was a joint effort between the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, the Dothan-Houston County Regional Airport Authority and the Houston County Road and Bridge Department. He reported the Houston County Road and Bridge Department recently won the Association of County Commission's of Alabama's John F. Courson Engineering Award for the airport project, and he presented the plaque to Mr. Kirkland. The commissioner pointed out this award was developed in 2007, and this is Houston County's third time to receive it.

Mr. Art Morris expressed his thanks to the Houston County Road and Bridge crews for their work on this economic development project located on the north side of the airport, and will allow the creation of new jobs in the future. He pointed out that he has been at the airport 31 years, and he stated he could not say enough about the county's employees who worked on the project, and their diligence and dedication.

Mr. Michael Cole, Engineer, expressed his gratitude to Engineer Kirkland, and Brittney Clayton and the crews on this project for all of their outstanding work to insure that it went smoothly.

Mr. Kirkland then introduced the following members of the crew: Ashley Clements, Operations Superintendent, Jason Harper, Supervisor, Josh Harper, Road Foreman, Don McCorkle, Supervisor, Rodney Crooms, Concrete Foreman, Anthony Landingham, Survey Party Chief, and Tyler Wolters, Road Foreman. He stated he could not say enough about these men, and their work ethic. The engineer stated he wanted to publicly recognize this crew, and thank them for the outstanding job they did on this project.

Mr. Kirkland then showed some pictures of the magnitude of the project. He pointed out it was a good project, and it took 4 months to complete, and these men were always up for the challenge.

Vice-Chairman Harvey stated he could not begin to say enough about our Road and Bridge Department and the Sanitation Department for the excellent job they do.

Commissioner Sinquefield reported at the ACCA Annual Meetings, Houston County is always recognized for the wonderful work the employees do as well as the Safety Director.

Commissioner Battles reported all of the county's employees do a great job.

Commissioner Shoupe reported this project will have a big impact on economic development and many people will go to work.

They received a round of applause.

Regular Agenda

1. Request from Revenue Commissioner to approve annual list of 2016 insolvents, errors and taxes in litigation, and uncollected insolvents and litigations for previous years – Ms. Starla Moss, Revenue commissioner.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the Revenue Commissioner's request to approve the annual list of 2016 insolvents, errors and taxes in litigation, and uncollected insolvents and litigations for previous years. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion; and it carried unanimously. (Please see attached in Minute Book)

2. Request from the Wiregrass Area United Way Food Bank for the county to spray for weeds in their parking lot and along the fence line.

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the Wiregrass Area United Way Food Bank's request for the county to spray for weeds in their parking lot and along the fence line. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion. Vice-Chairman Harvey called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Request to approve Agreement with ALDOT for the financing of preliminary engineering costs for HSIP-NR17/Safety Improvements at the intersection of Taylor Road and Campbellton Highway – Road and Bridge Department.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the agreement with ALDOT for the financing of the preliminary engineering costs for HSIP-NR17/Safety Improvements at the intersection of Taylor Road and Campbellton Highway. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion. Vice-Chairman Harvey called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

Staff Reports:

Chief Administrative Officer – there was no report

County Engineer

Engineer Kirkland reported Malvern Road and Adkinson Road were closed.

County Attorney – there was no report

Commissioner Battles reported the crews did a good job on Blackman Road. He asked Mr. Kirkland which road would be next, Enon or Malvern? It was reported they were not through with Malvern Road yet. Mrs. Clayton reported that both roads were under the same contract and would probably be started at the same time.

Adjourn

Commissioner Battles made a motion to adjourn; it was seconded, and carried unanimously.