

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
AUGUST 14, 2017

Present: Chairman Mark S. Culver, Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Commissioner Doug Siquefield, Commissioner Jackie Battles, Commissioner Brandon Shoupe, Pres Register, County Attorney, Mrs. Britney Clayton, Acting County Engineer, and William J. Dempsey, Chief Administrative Officer

ABSENT: Barkley Kirkland, County Engineer

Chairman Mark Culver called the 10:00 A.M. meeting to order, declared a quorum present, and welcomed everyone. Pastor Roy Rogers, Congregational Chair Minister, Harvest Church, gave the invocation. Commissioner Doug Siquefield led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#### Announcements and Comments from the Chairman and Commissioners

Chairman Culver reported the Army National Guard's 186<sup>th</sup> Battalion is being deployed and there was a Deployment Ceremony yesterday at the Civic Center that was well attended. He thanked Commissioner Siquefield for representing the commission, and he thanked the City of Dothan for putting it together. Chairman Culver reported Houston County has employees and spouses who are going to be impacted by the deployment. He asked everyone to please keep the soldiers and their families in their prayers.

The chairman reported August 15<sup>th</sup> is a state/federal election and he encouraged people to go to the polls and vote. He stated there are thousands of people around the world who would like to have the privilege to go and vote. Chairman Culver pointed out the polls would be open from 7:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M. , and he reminded everyone their voting places would be the same as in the presidential or governor's races.

Chairman Culver reported there would be no Admin meeting on August 24<sup>th</sup> because the commissioners would be out of town at a meeting. He stated the commission would meet again on August 28<sup>th</sup>.

The chairman congratulated Mr. David Butterfield who was recently named Director of Operations for the National Peanut Festival. He reported Mr. Greg Yost tragically passed away earlier this year, and Mr. Butterfield will be assuming that position. The chairman commended the Board for hiring Mr. Butterfield.

#### Awards and Presentations

1. Recognition – Farm City Week Committee Awards – Mr. Glenn Maloy, Chairman, and Mrs. Gloria Jeffcoat – Commissioner Doug Siquefield

Chairman Culver asked Mr. Glenn Maloy and Mrs. Gloria Jeffcoat to come forward, along with the student winners, and Mrs. Sue Clark, Principal, Montana Street Magnet School. He reported the commission was going to recognize the committee and the winners of the awards. He then turned it

over to Commissioner Sinquefield, who reported the following committee members were present: Mr. Fred Helms, Mr. Randy Dean, and Ms. Linda McGhee, along with the previously mentioned members. Commissioner Sinquefield reported it is time to start on another year, and the group had lots to do. He pointed out agriculture has changed in so many ways, and the committee members want to make sure that they do what they can to ensure that all of these students in FFA and 4-H Clubs have every opportunity to become aware of all of the latest technology and advances in agriculture.

Mr. Maloy thanked the chairman and commissioners for the recognition. He reported this year's Farm City Week Banquet would be hosted by Houston County, and would be held November 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Farm Center. Mr. Maloy stated he had enjoyed serving as the chairman, and he appreciated everyone's cooperation. He pointed out Mr. Randy Dean is the new Farm City Week chairman.

Mr. Maloy reported that Mrs. Jeffcoat went to the state conference in Birmingham in April, and Houston County placed 2<sup>nd</sup> overall. He pointed out Houston County was 1<sup>st</sup> runner-up in Division 1 for special activities, and there were 2 poster winners, and a 1<sup>st</sup> place winner in multimedia. Mr. Maloy reported he was so proud of these students. He stated the committee will strive for 1<sup>st</sup> place this coming year. He then introduced Ms. Brook Delvecchio, student at Cottonwood, who won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the poster contest, and Ms. Ariaah Danzey, a student at Montana Magnet School, who received honorable mention in the poster contest. He called on Mrs. Clark who reported that Mrs. Jeffcoat had encouraged her to allow her students to participate in the poster and essay contests. She stated she appreciated the efforts of the Farm City Week committee and her students look forward to participating each year. Mrs. Clark reported they have had several winners, and these winners and their teachers receive money, and they both enjoy it. She pointed out the teachers use it to purchase something needed in their classrooms.

Mr. Maloy then introduced Ty Rikard, student at Rehobeth High School, who took 1<sup>st</sup> place in multimedia. He reported that Ty had done a video over 1 weekend, and was excited when he proceeded to the state level. The video, Career of the Century – Agriculture, was then shown. Mr. Rikard reported he was beginning preparation for next year. He thanked the commission for the recognition.

Chairman Culver thanked Mr. Maloy, Mrs. Jeffcoat, and the members of the Farm City Week committee as well as the students for bringing this to the commission's attention. He also thanked Mrs. Clark for always participating. He reported he looked forward to the Farm City Week Banquet on November 16<sup>th</sup>.

2. Recognition – Ms. Wanda Andress – Fire Chief, Wicksburg Volunteer Fire Department – Recipient of the Sherry Gardner Memorial Award for Female Volunteer Firefighter of the Year – Mr. Chris Judah, Director, EMA

Chairman Culver asked Mr. Judah, Ms. Andress, and Commissioner Shoupe to come forward. Mr. Judah thanked the chairman and Commissioner Shoupe for the opportunity to recognize Ms. Andress. He reported that Houston County has a great group of volunteer firefighters and emergency personnel. He

stated he was pleased to recognize Ms. Andress for recently receiving the Sherry Gardner Memorial Award for Female Volunteer Firefighter of the Year. He pointed out Ms. Andress is very shy but she can change in a heartbeat when the need arises. Mr. Judah then presented her with a congratulatory letter from the Dothan-Houston County Emergency Management Agency. He pointed out Ms. Andress strives for team work and she has created a family atmosphere for her department. Mr. Judah stated Ms. Andress is an example of what all volunteer firefighters should be.

Ms. Andress thanked Mr. Judah and the commission for recognizing her. She stated she was very surprised and humbled to receive the award. Ms. Andress reported her department is comprised of approximately 50 members counting fire and rescue, and they are all very dedicated to serving the people of the west side of the county.

Chairman Culver thanked Ms. Andress for coming and he congratulated her on the award.

#### Regular Agenda

1. Request to appoint a representative to serve on the ACCA Legislative Committee.

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to appoint Commissioner Doug Siquefield to serve on the ACCA Legislative Committee. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion; and it carried unanimously.

2. Request to approve Lease Agreement with The Charles Woods Support Trust for the Tower use, and authorize Chairman to make minor changes as necessary.

Commissioner Siquefield made a motion to approve the Lease Agreement with The Charles Woods Support Trust for the Tower use, and authorize the chairman to make minor changes as necessary. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported the two changes discussed on Thursday have been agreed to. He called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Request from EMA to accept a vehicle from the City of Dothan Police Department – Mr. Chris Judah, Director.

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to approve EMA's request to accept a vehicle from the City of Dothan Police Department. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion; and it carried unanimously.

4. Request to approve Agreement with ALDOT covering the financing of the right of way acquisition 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 covering the financing of the right of way acquisition costs for HSIP-NR17/safety improvements at the intersection of Taylor Road and Campbellton Highway. Commissioner Siquefield seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported this is the roundabout. He pointed out he had received an e-mail to see if the county is going forward with the project. He reported a grant has been received, and this is just the preliminary work. He called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

5. Request to approve Agreement with ALDOT covering the financing of utility relocation 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 covering the financing of the utility relocation costs for HSIP-NR17/safety improvements at the intersection of Taylor Road and Campbellton Highway – Road and Bridge Department. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion; and it carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

Staff Reports:

Chief Administrative Officer – there was no report

County Engineer –

Acting County Engineer Clayton reported Eddins Road is being paved. She stated traffic is down to one lane and moving slowly. She recommended people avoid that area if possible.

County Attorney – there was no report

Chairman Culver called for questions from the staff. Commissioner Shoupe reported Adkinson Road has been closed for a number of weeks. He asked about the status and if there was a timeframe for when it would be re-opened. Mrs. Clayton stated she had no timeframe for re-opening.

Adjourn

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