

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR SESSION  
March 26, 2018

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

Chairman Culver welcomed everyone to the March 26, 2018, Houston County Commission Meeting and called the 10:00 a.m. meeting to order. He declared a quorum as all commissioners were present.

Myer Holloway, from the Road and Bridge Department, gave the invocation and Commissioner Doug Siquefield led in the Pledge of the Allegiance.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONERS:

Chairman Culver reminded everyone that the Commission Meeting that is to be held on Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> will be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> due to the state holiday on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. He also mentioned that Foster Fest will be held on Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> and he encouraged everyone to support downtown Dothan.

Commissioner Siquefield announced that on March 28, 2017 President Trump signed the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act designating March 29<sup>th</sup> as National Vietnam War Veterans Day. This is a day that displaying the United States Flag is encouraged and he asked everyone to remember those veterans that served our country during that war and also to remember those that did not make it back home.

Chairman Culver reported that Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, is "Houston County Gives Day" and this will be held at Eagle Eye Outfitters. Non-profit organizations from the community will be set up to provide awareness and to gain support for their cause. Also, Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, is "Spirit of Service" Day and Chairman Culver encouraged everyone to be part of a project that day or to contact Linda Kelly at the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce and she would help you to get involved with a project to help clean up our community. In addition, Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, is the annual "Elected Officials VS Media Softball Game" to be held at Colby & Bottoms Field at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Shoupe reported on the Community Survey that was sent out a few months ago and the results showed a lot of dissatisfaction with broadband internet speed and internet service providers in our area. Mr. Shoupe stated that last week he attended a community economic development course in Prattville and that broadband was the focus of that course. After some research, Mr. Shoupe found communities that really make the biggest strides in building out broadband infrastructure for the public

are those communities that have created public entities for broadband development. He added that even in communities where that did not take place, the interest being there tends to spur private investments into broadband because private companies felt threatened by additional competition. Commissioner Shoupe stated that it would be nice to bring some of the broadband companies to the commission meeting and give them the opportunity to discuss what plans they have and to let them know the dissatisfaction our citizens have with the current area service.

Chairman Culver then stepped down to the podium and asked Commissioner Sinquefield to join him for a special recognition. Chairman Culver called Sgt. Major Tracy Adams to come forward. Commissioner Sinquefield began by stating that he was honored to have in attendance some wonderful people representing our schools. Sgt. Major Adams began by thanking the Commission for having them and appreciated the support from the county for the students in the area. He continued by explaining the JROTC programs and how they have the honor of molding students into productive and good citizens. Each instructor introduced their Cadet of the Year representing their school and spoke fondly of each one. The cadets, in turn, approached the podium and gave thanks to the instructors for all they do.

Commissioner Sinquefield thanked all of the JROTC instructors and cadets for being present today and for all they do. Chairman Culver and Commissioner Sinquefield presented them with a Houston County pin.

#### REGULAR AGENDA

1. Request to award bid for Houston County Jail Phone System to Legacy Inmate Communication and authorize Chairman to execute contract – William J. Dempsey, Chief Administrative Officer.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the request to award the bid to Legacy Inmate Communication. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

2. Request to purchase laptops and printers utilizing a \$10,000 Grant from the Department of Public Health, Center for Emergency Preparedness – Chris M. Judah, Director EMA

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the request with the appropriate budget amendment. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. With no questions, the motion passed unanimously.

3. Request to approve emergency expenditure from Capital Replacement Fund for replacement of a HVAC Gas Pack at the Parole & Probation Building for \$7,207 – Sean Curtis, Maintenance Manager

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve and Commissioner Shoupe seconded. Commissioner Sinquefield commented that, as serving on the ACCA Legislative Committee, House Bill 69 is moving to Governor Ivey's desk for signing. This bill will allow counties to purchase heating and ac

units through the National Association of Counties. This will give us another opportunity to get the best pricing for units. Chairman Culver called for the question; the motion carried unanimously.

4. Request to approve bid for Concrete Roadway Drainage Pipe and Reinforced Arch Concrete Pipe, meeting specs – Road & Bridge

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5. Request to sell assorted air and electrical tools on GovDeals – Road and Bridge

Commissioner Battles made the motion to approve to sell the items. Commissioner Sinuefield seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### STAFF REPORTS:

Chief Administrative Officer – No Report

County Engineer – 2 closed roads; County Road 33 and Edsel Deese

County Attorney – No Report

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to adjourn and it passed unanimously.