

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
August 13, 2018

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

Chairman Culver welcomed everyone to the August 13th, 2018, Houston County Commission Meeting and called the 10:00 a.m. meeting to order. He declared a quorum as all commissioners were present.

Vann Cooley, Pastor at First Baptist Church of Columbia, gave the invocation and Commissioner Doug Sinquefield led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Curtis Harvey made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Culver announced that there would not be an Administrative Meeting next week due to the majority of the Commissioners being out of town. The regular meeting will be held two weeks from today which will be August 27th.

He continued by reporting that the state has a program called the Alabama Jail Training Academy and in 2018 alone they have trained more than three hundred officers. Recently, Corrections Deputy James Parker, employee of the Houston County Jail, completed the program and earned his Certificate of Completion from the National Institute of Jail Operations. Congratulations to Deputy Parker.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Request from Personnel Board to approve the 2019 County Holiday Schedule – Ms. Sheri Garner, Personnel Director

Commissioner Brandon Shoupe made a motion to approve the 2019 Holiday Schedule. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

2. Request for Lounge Retail Liquor License – 011 Lounge Retail Liquor-Class II (Package) License – Sander’s Package Store, 10288 U. S. Hwy 84 West, Newton, AL 36352

Commissioner Brandon Shoupe made a motion to approve the request and Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. Chairman Culver asked for any objections from the audience. With there being no objections, the motion carried unanimously.

3. Request to approve Interlocal Agreement between the City of Dothan and Houston County for the 2018 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Award – Sheriff’s Dept.

Commissioner Doug Sinquefield made a motion to approve the Agreement. Commissioner Curtis Harvey seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Before getting to the Staff Reports, Chairman Culver recognized guests that were in attendance from Enterprise that had asked about being on the agenda but did not make arrangements to be on the agenda. Commissioner Jackie Battles made a motion to add SECAP (Southeast Alabama Community Action Partnership) to the agenda for today and Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Culver asked Ms. Karinne Simmons to step to the podium to address the commission. Ms. Simmons began by introducing herself. She stated that her agency was formerly HRDC and they have five (5) counties which they represent in the Wiregrass area with Houston County being one of them. She continued by thanking the commission for supporting SECAP. She also stated that SECAP is a non-profit agency that receives funding through ADECA and other federal and state grants. She commented that a large part of what they do is pay energy bills for those that qualify based on income. Their mission is to help people get out of poverty status by helping them to gain employment and be more self-sufficient. She added that another program they do is a Foster Grandparent Program in which they have 70+ foster grandparents throughout the Wiregrass area that go into schools, daycares, and churches and help special needs children on a one-on-one basis. She continued that they also have a child state nutrition program where they go in and monitor daycares and centers. Ms. Simmons introduced Jennifer Williams, who is the Dothan area coordinator, and then thanked the commission and stated that if there were any appropriations available that they would be appreciated. She concluded by stating that the main reason she was in attendance was to let cities and counties know exactly what they do and that they are also involved in helping, through SARCOA, with the Wicksburg Senior Citizen Center.

STAFF REPORTS

Chief Administrative Officer – No Report

County Engineer – No closed roads.

County Attorney – No Report

Chairman Culver commented that last week we had some closures of Brannon Stand Road and Fortner and he commended the State for alerting us on the closure and doing such a great job in communicating this information. He encouraged everyone to patronize the businesses in the area of Fortner and Brannon Stand Road as they are hurting due to the construction on the roads in this area.

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