

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR SESSION  
OCTOBER 9, 2018

PRESENT: Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Acting Chairman, Commissioner Doug Sinuefield, Commissioner Jackie Battles, Commissioner Brandon Shoupe, County Attorney Pres Register, Asst. County Engineer Brittney Clayton, Chief Administrative Officer William J. Dempsey.

ABSENT: Chairman Mark Culver

Acting Chairman Harvey welcomed everyone to the October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Houston County Commission Meeting and called the 10:00 a.m. meeting to order. Acting Chairman Harvey declared a quorum.

Commissioner Jackie Battles gave the invocation and Commissioner Doug Sinuefield led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Doug Sinuefield 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

Acting Chairman Harvey announced that the Houston County Administrative Building will be closed tomorrow due to the arrival of Hurricane Michael. The days after will be determined on a day to day basis.

Chief Administrative Officer William Dempsey reported that on behalf of Safety Director, Kelly Crowell, they wish to congratulate all the employees and department heads on their safety efforts. During the last year, there have been only 13 recordable accidents, which is a record for the county. He noted that 10 years ago there were over 60 recordable accidents. Sanitation leads the list with no accidents for last year and Road and Bridge only had one. He stated that huge strides were made in the Jail and Sheriff's Department as well. Mr. Dempsey congratulated all the departments for their efforts in keeping employees safe and also adding great savings to the county.

Mr. Sinuefield thanked Kelly and all the employees for their dedication and efforts in making our county safe.

Acting Chairman Curtis Harvey asked EMA Director, Chris Judah, to give an update on the approaching storm.

Mr. Judah began by stating that the storm is a very serious storm and has been unpredictable since the beginning. At this time, Houston County is in the path of the storm and could approach as a Category 2 or 3 when it makes landfall in our area. The area should expect downed trees and power lines and we

will experience power outages. The main priority at this time is to keep the main roads open as there are evacuees coming into and through our area. Mr. Judah added that he has been in contact with Alabama Power, Wiregrass Electric, and Plant Farley and all emergency plans are in execution mode at this time. He asked that residents begin preparing as these storms are unpredictable and if anyone has questions concerning shelter, evacuations, supplies, etc., to please call 2-1-1 unless it is a true emergency then call 9-1-1. Commissioner Battles commented that after the storm, citizens should stay in their homes and not ride around site-seeing so that emergency workers can do their jobs.

## AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

### 1. Proclamation – “Farm City Week” – Randy Davis, Committee Chairman and Gloria Jeffcoat

Acting Chairman Curtis Harvey asked the Farm City Committee Members to step forward to accept the proclamation. After reading the proclamation, Mr. Randy Davis thanked the commission for the proclamation on behalf of “Farm City Week”, the Farm City Committee and more importantly, the farmers. He continued by stating that the committee had been very busy promoting agriculture with sponsoring over twenty events in the area. The final event will be the Farm City Banquet, which will be held on November 15<sup>th</sup> and he extended an invitation to the commission to attend. This event will be held at the Dothan Civic Center as the City of Dothan is the host for this year’s banquet. Mr. Davis also announced that during the farm city swap, Dothan Mayor Mark Saliba will be leaving the city and heading to the country this year on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October and swap roles with a farmer. He added that Houston County is well represented in the State level of competition events as area students compete in poster contest and media presentations.

Commissioner Sinquefield spoke on behalf of “Farm City Week” as he serves on the committee. He noted that this year’s event is celebrating two-hundred years of agriculture in Alabama. He thanked the Farm City Committee for all the work they have done for this year’s event.

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to approve the proclamation and Commissioner Battles seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## REGULAR AGENDA

### 1. Request from Landmark Park for assistance with roadway repair – William Holman, Executive Director Landmark Park

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the request from Landmark Park. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### 2. Request to approve the Houston County/Dothan City Gasoline and Diesel Fuel Joint Bid Agreement – William Dempsey, Chief Administrative Officer

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the Joint Bid Agreement and Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Request to award ACCA Region 2 Debris Removal Services Bid

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the request to award the ACCA Region 2 Debris Removal Services Bid. Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. Request to award ACCA Region 2 Debris Monitoring Services Bid

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the request to award the ACCA Region 2 Debris Monitoring Services Bid. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5. Request to approve Emergency Management Performance pass through grants 18EMS and 18EMF – Chris Judah, EMA Director

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the pass through grants and Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Request to approve \$2,400 funding from Southern nuclear for Ashford VFD computer equipment – Chris Judah, EMA Director

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the funding and Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Request to approve vendor agreement to offer voluntary vision care plan to employees – Sheri Garner, Personnel Director

Commissioner Battles made a motion to approve the vendor agreement to offer voluntary vision care to employees. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

8. Request to award bid for network equipment to lowest bidder meeting specs – Danny Cumbie, IT Manager

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to award the bid for network equipment and Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Request to award Food Service Program Bid – Maj. Bill Rafferty, Sheriff's Dept.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to award the Food Service Program Bid. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

10. Request to approve all overtime reimbursement grants for the budget year 2018-2019 – Maj. Bill Rafferty, Sheriff's Dept.

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve all overtime reimbursement grants for the budget year 2018-2019. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

11. Request to add one full-time Certified Deputy by eliminating 2 part-time positions – Maj. Bill Rafferty, Sheriff's Dept.

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the request and Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Request to sell the following items on GovDeals; vehicle, 2 plotters, misc. air compressors and brake lay machines – Road and Bridge

Commissioner Battles made the motion to approve the GovDeals sale items. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### STAFF REPORTS

Chief Administrative Officer – Mr. Dempsey reported that the County will be offering approximately 40 acres of land to lease on State Line Road. This will be posted on the County website and all quotes must be in by November 5<sup>th</sup>.

County Engineer – Sanitation will not be running on Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> due to Hurricane Michael. It will be delayed by one day for the remainder of the week. Road and Bridge is staffed and ready for the storm and the main goal is to keep the county roads open. At this time, State Line Road remains closed until further notice.

County Attorney – No Report

Commissioner Sinquefield asked the acting county engineer about the debris removal plans for after the storm. Mrs. Clayton reported that equipment is staged and ready to go and as soon as the equipment can get on the roads they will begin clearing roads then pick up of debris should commence the week or two after. Priority at this time is to clear the roads and keep them open.

Commissioner asked what number citizens should call to report trees or debris on the road. County Engineer asked that they call 2-1-1 and report this information.

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