

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
April 8, 2019

PRESENT: Chairman Mark Culver, Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Commissioner Doug Siquefield, Commissioner Brandon Shoupe, County Attorney Pres Register, County Engineer Barkley Kirkland, and Chief Administrative Officer Peter Covert.

Chairman Culver welcomed everyone to the April 8, 2019, Houston County Commission Meeting and called the 10:00 a.m. meeting to order. He declared a quorum as the majority of the commissioners were present.

Absent: Commissioner Ricky Herring

Lt. Austin Sturdivant, from the Salvation Army, gave the invocation and Commissioner Doug Siquefield led in the pledge of allegiance.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Culver began by announcing that the Media vs. the Elected Officials softball game will be held on Saturday, April 27th, and he encourages everyone to come and support their team. This game is to benefit the Wiregrass Area Food Bank so canned or non-perishable items are accepted at the gate for admission. He added that at this time, they either have injuries or folks that will be out of town so they are struggling to get enough people to play.

Chairman Culver also announced that at the next meeting we will have a short public hearing and approve, per the constitutional amendment that authorizes this, the change in policy regarding the Houston County Retirement Incentive Program and Houston County Recognition Program. This will be on the agenda in two weeks.

Commissioner Shoupe announced that he will be holding his spring Town Hall meeting tomorrow, Tuesday, April 9th, at 6:00 p.m., at the Westgate Library and anybody that is interested is welcome to attend.

Commissioner Siquefield announced that the Cottonwood Parade will be on April 13th, this coming Saturday, and it starts at 3:00 p.m. He added that it is always a wonderful event and encouraged everyone that can to attend.

Chairman Culver commended Sheriff Valenza for his personal involvement with the tragic accident that happened on Hwy. 84. He added that Sheriff Valenza was there with the family and again wanted to commend him on being personally involved in things like that happen in our community and we are very fortunate to have the sheriff that we do. He asked Major Rafferty convey thanks to Sheriff Valenza.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Proclamation – “Houston County Gives Day” – Phillip Gilley, Executive Director, Boys and Girls Club

Chairman Culver stepped down to the podium and asked Phillip Gilley to join him to present to him the “Houston County Gives Day” Proclamation. Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the proclamation and Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Culver then read the proclamation and presented it to Mr. Gilley. Chairman Culver encouraged, not just citizens of Houston County but throughout the Wiregrass, to participate in Houston County Gives Day and come out to Eagle Eye on Friday. Mr. Gilley then accepted the proclamation and stated that it is the 8th Annual Houston Gives Day and it will be held this Friday from 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. at Eagle Eye Outfitters. He commented that they are thankful for Eagle Eye’s participation and all their encouragement and support that they give Houston County Gives Day. Mr. Gilley continued by saying that this will be a great event with a lot of fun things going on and as the proclamation says, this is a gathering of non-profits and this provides, mainly, information and awareness of the fantastic non-profits that are in Houston County, and the Wiregrass area, and the fact that they support and help so many in need. He reported that this year there will be a kid’s zone which will be a lot of fun. There will be goody bags given to the first one-hundred people, food trucks will be on site along with over forty agencies represented. Mr. Gilley encouraged everyone to come and support this great event.

2. Proclamation – “Houston County Spirit of Service Day” – Linda Kelley, Director of Community Development, Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce

Chairman Culver asked Linda Kelley to come forward to accept the proclamation for “Houston County Spirit of Service Day”. Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the proclamation and Commissioner Shoupe seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Culver asked Commissioner Sinquefield to come down to the podium as well and continued by reporting that this year marks thirty years that “Spirit of Service” has been going on and that the previous Chairman, Robert Crowder, brought this idea to Houston County. He stated that Ms. Kelley has done an outstanding job with organizing and keeping everyone straight and numerous projects have been completed in the community to beautify Houston County. Chairman Culver thanked everyone that has been involved, and continues to be involved, over the past thirty years. Upon reading of the proclamation, he presented it to Ms. Kelley and thanked her for her efforts and hard work. Ms. Kelley then thanked the Chairman and the Commissioners for all their support over the years for “Spirit of Service Day”. She stated that there are several projects that are going to be completed on Saturday and

they still need volunteers. She urged anyone that is interested in volunteering to look on the Chamber of Commerce face book page and the needs will be listed there.

Commissioner Sinquefield commented that PALS (People Against a Littered State) is coming up April 20-27 and he has brochures and information that anyone can pick up and learn about how Alabama PALS works in our county. Commissioner Sinquefield recognized Mr. Steve and his wife, that are in attendance today, that have volunteered to go out and get involved with PALS by adopting a mile of their own road and Commissioner Sinquefield thanked them. He encouraged everyone to participate and help clean up our county and if they have any questions, to please contact the county office and we can get the information to them.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Request to reappoint Commissioner Doug Sinquefield and Commissioner Brandon Shoupe to the Wiregrass Resource Conservation and Development Council

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the request to reappoint Commissioner Doug Sinquefield and Commissioner Brandon Shoupe. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Request to reappoint Mr. Alan Livingston and Mrs. Aleda Holmes to the Dothan-Houston County Intellectual Disabilities Board

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to approve the request to reappoint Mr. Alan Livingston and Mrs. Aleda Holmes to the Dothan-Houston County Intellectual Disabilities Board. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. Request that the recently damaged excavator be deemed surplus and, as it is no longer needed, it be disposed of in accordance with County Policy #28 – Road and Bridge

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the request to deem the damaged excavator as surplus and disposed of in accordance with County Policy #28. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. Request to sell the following items on GovDeals – 2009 Freightliner FLD120 (m916A3) – Road and Bridge

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the request to sell the 2009 Freightliner on GovDeals. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

Chief Administrative Officer – No Report

County Engineer – Closed roads: State Line, Lanier, Indigo Pond, and Dee Clark Road
County Attorney – No Report

Chairman Culver asked the County Engineer on the status of State Line Road. Engineer Kirkland answered that work has begun last Thursday and forms were being built about a week prior to that date. It is going to be about a three month project and looks like completion could be end of June, depending on weather conditions.

Commissioner Sinquefield commented that Road and Bridge will be picking up PALS bags from each town's designated central location.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Sinquefield seconded. The motion passed unanimously.