

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
May 13, 2019

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

Chairman Culver welcomed everyone to the May 13, 2019, Houston County Commission Meeting and called the 10:00 a.m. meeting to order. He declared a quorum as all commissioners were in attendance.

Commissioner Brandon Shoupe gave the invocation and Commissioner Curtis Harvey led in the pledge of allegiance. Upon the conclusion of the invocation and the pledge, Chairman Culver commented that it is an honor and a pleasure to serve with four gentlemen that can be called on at any time that will open the meeting with prayer and do it well.

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

Commissioner Shoupe commented that he attended his child's Honor Day today and the students received a Houston County Commission pin for their BETA Club recognition.

Commissioner Siquefield stated the he appreciated the Sheriff's Department and first responders as yesterday was a very busy day with a lot of calls coming in on a Mother's Day holiday.

Chairman Culver mentioned that one of our local businesses, which has done really well for themselves, is celebrating their 50th Anniversary this week. DSI Security was founded by former Sheriff A.B. Clark and his family. Chairman Culver wanted to commend the family for taking Sheriff Clark's vision by growing and making it a successful business and by becoming a national organization, not just a local company.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Proclamation – "Small Business Week" – Hayden Tew Camp, Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce

Chairman Culver stepped to the podium and asked Hayden Tew Camp to come forward to accept the proclamation. Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to approve the proclamation and Commissioner Siquefield seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Upon the completion of reading the "Small Business Week" Proclamation, Chairman Culver presented it to Mrs. Camp and commented that this is a small token of appreciation for what all the Chamber does to recognize the largest part of our economy, which are small businesses. He added that all the things the Chamber does for small

businesses is so very important and the backing that the Chamber provides helps them to be successful. Mrs. Camp reported that since 1963, the US Small Business Association has set aside one week to honor the accomplishments of small businesses. The Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, along with Houston County, has declared May 13-17 as Small Business Week. She added that small businesses in Houston County cover over half of the local business market and Small Business Week was created to celebrate the drive and ambition of these small businesses. Mrs. Tew also reported that 84% of the Chamber's membership is small business and this week is filled with activities to honor and support them including the Small Business Person of the Year Luncheon to be held on Wednesday.

2. Proclamation – “Foster Care Month” – Jessica Oppert, Anna Nolen and Courtney Singleton,
Department of Human Resources

Chairman Culver asked the representatives from DHR to come forward. He commented that “Foster Care Month” is a good time for everyone to stop and remember those who are foster parents because it is an area that does not get thought about very often but is such an important area, particularly for the foster children. Commissioner Harvey made the motion to approve the “Foster Care Month” proclamation and Commissioner Herring seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Upon reading of the proclamation, Chairman Culver presented the proclamation and thanked all those involved in foster care. Jessica Oppert accepted the proclamation and thanked Chairman Culver and the commission for acknowledging such a great cause. She stated that the slogan this year for Foster Care Month is “Foster Care as a support for families, not a substitute for parents”. Ms. Oppert added that one of the beautiful things about foster families is that not only are they taking care of children, but their goal is to also come beside birth families, when it is possible, to help reunify and that is a major task. She asked that if you know of a foster family to please thank them and maybe cook them dinner one night or if anyone is interested in being a foster parent they could always use more. She reported that the number of foster care children continues to go up and the number of foster parents goes down.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Request to approve the vacating of a portion of Faulkner Road

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the vacating of a portion of Faulkner Road and Commissioner Herring seconded the motion. Chairman Culver noted that a public hearing was just held on this item and there were no negative comments regarding this request. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Request to approve Resolution to authorize notice of public hearing, public hearing, and meeting to address vacating portion of Zachary Road based upon petition to vacate made by abutting land owners – Jason Crowley

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

3. Request from Houston County Personnel Board to approve funding for job reclassification for the position of Payroll Specialist/Retirement Administrator and position of Chief Revenue Clerk – Sheri Garner, Personnel Director

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

4. Request to extend challenge to Houston County citizens, businesses and organizations to establish a minimum of five new Adopt-A-Mile Sponsors

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the request and Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion. Chairman Culver commented that this topic was discussed at length at the Administrative Meeting and Commissioner Shoupe stated that he already has had feedback on this. Commissioner Sinquefield added that he has had comments back from Thursday's meeting as well and people are asking how they can get involved in PALS and he appreciates them taking an interest in this. He also appreciates the media and their involvement in this. Chairman Culver asked that an update be given during the first meeting in June. Commissioner Shoupe reported that if you Google "Alabama Adopt-A-Mile", you can apply and adopt a federal or state highway or a county road online. He added that it is a quick application and there are some screening criteria involved as well as committing to picking up trash twice per year. When called for the question, the motion passed unanimously.

5. Request to award bid for painting contract to lowest bidder meeting specs – Sean Curtis, Maintenance Manager

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to award the bid for painting contract. This was seconded by Commissioner Sinquefield and passed unanimously.

6. Request to award bid for flooring contract to lowest bidder meeting specs – Sean Curtis, Maintenance Manager

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the awarding of the bid for flooring contract and Commissioner Sinquefield seconded the motion. Commissioner Shoupe commented that during the Administrative Meeting there was talk about the bid process and the concern of only having one bidder and that maybe the bid process needs to be looked into and made easier for others to bid and get the most competitive price as possible. When called for the vote, the motion passed unanimously.

7. Request to award bid for HVAC Maintenance, Service and Replacement to lowest bidder meeting specs – Sean Curtis, Maintenance Manager

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the request to award bid for HVAC Maintenance, Service and Replacement to lowest bidder meeting specs. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

8. Request to award roof replacement for Community Corrections building to lowest bidder meeting specs – Sean Curtis, Maintenance Manager

Commissioner Siquefield made a motion to approve the request to award roof replacement and Commissioner Herring seconded the motion. Commissioner Siquefield commented that there were seven different entities in the bid process and only one bid on the project. He felt that if we had more options or contractors that would bid, that would give a better idea of how the price could be reduced. When called for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

9. Request to reject bid for Department of Human Resources roof replacement – Sean Curtis, Maintenance Manager

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to reject the bid for the DHR roof replacement. Commissioner Siquefield seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

10. Request to approve Income and Expense Budget Amendment regarding sale of Bluebird Bus – Chris Judah, EMA Director

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to approve the budget amendment. Commissioner Herring seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

11. Request to approve preliminary plat for Chase Ridge Phase III and IV – Road and Bridge

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the preliminary plat for Chase Ridge Phase III and IV. Commissioner Siquefield seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

12. Request to approve preliminary plat for Bear Creek Estates Phase II – Road and Bridge

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to approve the preliminary plat for Bear Creek Estates Phase II and Commissioner Herring seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS:

Chief Administrative Officer – No Report

County Engineer – 3 Closed Roads: Indigo Pond, State Line, Lanier

County Attorney – No Report

Adjourn