

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
June 22, 2020

PRESENT: Chairman Mark Culver, 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 June 22, 2020, Houston County Commission Meeting and called the 10:00 a.m. meeting to order. He declared a quorum as a majority of the commissioners were in attendance.

ABSENT: Commissioner Curtis Harvey

The invocation was led by Commissioner Herring and Commissioner Shoupe led in the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Siquefield and seconded by Commissioner Herring. The motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONER

Chairman Culver began by announcing that the county offices will be closed on Thursday, July 2nd for the July 4th Holiday. He also mentioned that the drive-in 4th of July Fireworks Show will be at the National Peanut Festival Fairgrounds and because of the COVID-19 guidelines you will be required to stay in your vehicle. Chairman Culver reported that the Commission will not meet again until the second week of July, due to the extra Monday in June, so the next commission meeting will be held on July 13th and the intent is to hold an administrative meeting on the Thursday prior to the 13th. He commended the downtown Dothan merchants for the event, Downtown Stroll, which was held this past Saturday. Chairman Culver stated that it was well attended and was a family fun day.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Request to approve budget amendment for replacement of map plotter printer for Reappraisal Dept. – Starla Moss, Revenue Commissioner

Commissioner Sinuefield made a motion to approve the budget amendment. Commissioner Herring seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Request to approve to hire (4) deputies for added court security caused by COVID 19 – Sheriff's Dept.

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to approve the request to hire (4) deputies and Commissioner Sinuefield seconded the motion. Chairman Culver stated that there will not be a budget amendment at this time for this item as they feel that between the county budget and the sheriff's budget, there are funds to cover this for the remainder of this fiscal year. He also reported that this will be approved as of August 1st and that the most important factor is that this is caused by the unusual court schedule that is being created because of the COVID-19 and its' regulations. Chairman Culver added that this will help the Sheriff's Department to continue their services that are required of them. Commissioner Sinuefield commented that certainly added court security is needed and as updates continue through the ACCA on the CARES Act, hopefully reimbursements will be available for this. Chairman Culver stated that as this moves forward the definitions of what can be reimbursed are changing constantly and the reimbursements go back to March and go through December 30th. He is in hopes that these positions can be reimbursed and is optimistic of that as every little bit helps. When called for the vote, the motion passed unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS:

Chief Administrative Officer – No report

County Engineer – Hubbard Road closed for cross drain replacement

County Attorney – No report

Meeting adjourned