

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION

JUNE 22, 2009

PRESENT: Chairman Mark S. Culver, Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Commissioner Bobby R. Snellgrove, Commissioner Frances M. Cook, Commissioner Phillip L. Forrester, Gary Sherrer, Attorney, Mark Pool, Engineer, and William J. Dempsey, Chief Administrative Officer

ABSENT: None

Chairman Mark S. Culver called the 10:00 A.M. meeting to order, established that a quorum was present, and welcomed everyone. Rev. Jerry Hood, Pastor, Mt. Enon Baptist Church, gave the invocation. Commissioner Frances Cook led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Commissioner Forrester seconded; and the motion carried unanimously.

Announcements and Public Comments from Chairman and Commissioners

Chairman Culver extended his appreciation to Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Ms. Chancey Siquefield, and Rev. Troy Fountain for the outstanding job they did on the 2010 Census Kickoff that was held on June 19th.

The chairman reported the Commission will not meet for three weeks because there are five Mondays in June.

Chairman Culver read a letter from Chairman Steve Thompson, Coffee County Commission, thanking the following Houston County EMA personnel for their efforts and support of the recent BamaJam event: Mr. Charles Finney, Mr. Clark Matthews, Mr. Steve Carlisle, Mrs. Martha Harrell, Mr. Nolan Harrell, Mr. Densie Williams, and Ms. Shirley Sandy.

Chairman Culver reported Congressman Bobby Bright would be in Kinsey at the Volunteer Fire Department at 2:45 P.M. Commissioner Snellgrove reported he would be in Avon at 4:00 P.M.

Consent Agenda

1. Request from Sheriff to award bid on jail transport vans.
2. Request to award bids for oil, grease & fluids, and hot plant mix.
3. Request to take bids on one (1) track excavator.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the consent agenda which included the award of the bid on the jail transport vans to Ben Atkinson Ford, low bidder meeting specs, \$21,293.00 each, award the bid on oil, grease & fluids to Davis Oil Company, low bidder meeting specs for 40 cases of SAE 15W-40 in the amount of \$3,587.00, 5 cases of Multi-Purpose ATF in the amount of \$2,842.95, and 60 buckets of AW68 Hydraulic Oil in the amount of \$1,599.00, and award the bid for 168 cases of SAE 10W-30 to Home Oil Company, low bidder meeting specs, in the amount of \$2,307.24, and to award the bid for hot

plant mix to APAC-Southeast, Inc., low bidder meeting specs, in the amount of \$1,343,200.00 total bid price, and to take bids on one (1) track excavator. Commissioner Snellgrove seconded the bid. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see attached Bid Summary Sheets in Minute Book)

Chairman Culver reported Probate Judge Luke Cooley had reported she had a hearing, and requested that Item #4 be moved to the top of the Regular Agenda. He asked if there were any objections? There being none, her request was granted.

Regular Agenda

4. Request from Probate Judge to move polling place for the Kinsey Precinct.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to grant the Probate Judge's request to move the polling place for the Kinsey Precinct. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. Judge Cooley reported the polling place would be located in the Volunteer Fire Firefighters building, and was a much larger and improved location. Chairman Culver pointed out the commission has done this for several of the municipalities, and it has worked out well for everyone. The Judge stated the next step would be to send the information to the Justice Department. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

1. Request to adopt Resolution to approve tax abatement for a Brownfield site – Cottonwood Corners – Matt Parker, President, Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to adopt the Resolution to approve the tax abatement for a Brownfield site at Cottonwood Corners. Commissioner Forrester seconded the motion.

Mr. Matt Parker, President, Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, reported the site is located at the corner of the Ross Clark Circle and Cottonwood Road, and a Publix Supermarket will be located there along with several other retail establishments.

Mr. John Argo, of Aronov Realty, the developer, reported the tax abatement was crucial in order to move the project forward. Mr. Argo reported the plans are for the supermarket to open by the second quarter of 2010.

Commissioner Forrester asked when the proposed Publix on John D. Odom Road was scheduled to open? Mr. Argo stated that although both projects would start at approximately the same time this summer, it would not be opened until the third quarter of 2010 because it was going to be larger than the Cottonwood Corners store.

Chairman Culver reported the tax abatement was discussed in depth at the Administrative meeting, and the portion of the taxes that could not be waived is designated for education and the schools would receive approximately \$31,000 a year.

The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

2. Request to approve proposed exchange of maintenance and traffic control on roads with the City of Dothan.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to approve the proposed exchange of maintenance and traffic control on roads with the City of Dothan. Commissioner Forrester seconded the motion.

Chairman Culver reported negotiations with the City of Dothan have been ongoing for two years and he felt as though a fair exchange had been reached. He stated there are numerous roads that contain 30 to 40 foot sections maintained by either the city or the county, and when there is a problem, the citizens do not know who to call. The chairman reported this will help to take care of those type problems.

He reported under the proposed exchange the City of Dothan would be responsible for the maintenance on the following roads: Napier Field Road, Flynn Road, Woodham Road, Moore Road, Whitaker Road, Stephanie Lane, Patsy Lane, Carmen Lane, Andy Lane, Geiger Road, Beaver Creek Road, Flowers Chapel Road, Maple Road, Sweet Gum Road, East Wayne Road, Grey Hodges Road between Headland Avenue and Highway 431, and a portion of Murphy Mill Road.

The chairman reported the County will pave Cherry Rock Road and Rowland Road, and the City of Dothan will assume the cost of acquiring the right-of-way, provide the base dirt, move utilities, design roads, providing curbing and pipes or inlets and concrete as necessary. He stated after these two roads are paved, they will be maintained by the City of Dothan.

Chairman Culver reported with the exception of the roads listed as City maintenance above, the County would maintain a portion of Murphy Mill Road and all of the existing County maintained roads in the City limits. He reported the County would provide traffic control on roads maintained by the County in the Dothan City limits.

After discussion, Commissioner Snellgrove stated he had concerns about paving dirt roads in the City limits while many miles of county roads needed paving.

Chairman Culver called for the question; and the vote was: YEAS: Commissioners Cook, Forrester, and Harvey. NAYS: Commissioner Snellgrove The motion carried.

Chairman Culver reported the City of Dothan still had to approve the agreement, and it would be on their next meeting's agenda. (Please see attached in Minute Book)

3. Request to receive and appropriate funds for training for Houston County Rescue Squad.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to approve the request to receive and appropriate funds for training for the Houston County Rescue Squad. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported the commission is always glad to assist the Houston County Fire and Rescue Squads because

they are so important to the county. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Request to approve items to be sold on GovDeals.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to approve the items to be sold on GovDeals. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Request from Cottonwood Rescue Squad for six (6) loads of dirt.

Commissioner Snellgrove made a motion to approve the request from the Cottonwood Rescue Squad for six (6) loads of dirt. Commissioner Forrester seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported the dirt would be used for leveling behind the new rescue squad building.

7. Request to approve invoice from ALDOT in the amount of \$94,296.00, Houston County's portion for the construction of the bridge replacement on County Road 83 at Cedar Creek.

Commissioner Snellgrove made a motion to approve the invoice from ALDOT in the amount of \$94,296.00, Houston County's portion of the bridge replacement on County Road 83 at Cedar Creek. Commissioner Cook seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported the state uses an old numbering system, and County Road 83 is actually East Cook Road. He called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Snellgrove asked how long the road would be closed? Mr. Pool stated it would be closed for approximately a year after they begin construction in about 45 days. (Please see attached in Minute Book)

Staff Reports:

Chief Administrative Officer – there was no report

County Engineer

Mr. Pool reported the following roads were closed:

Lanier Road from E. County Road #4 to Indigo Pond Road due to being under water, and did not know when it would re-open

E. Cook Road from Ed Tolar Road to Bruner Pond Road due to structure damage to the bridge, and did not know when it would re-open

Bruner Pond Road from N. County Road #75 to Pleasant Grove Road due to cross drain undermined, and estimated it would re-open 7-31-09

Jimbo Road from Furnie Folks Road due to cross drain undermined, and flood damage, and did not know when it would re-open

Fortner Street from Hulon Road to Cumbie Road due to cross drain undermined, and flood damage.
Estimated re-opening – 6-30-09

County Road #22 from Benton Store Road to Pea Market Road due to void under road and pavement collapsed. Unknown when it would re-open

Waddell Road from Barnes Road due to cross drain undermined and pavement collapsed. Unknown when it would re-open.

Mr. Pool reported the following roads had been re-opened in the last two weeks:

Pilgrim Church Road, Lamp Brothers Road, Windmill Road, Sealy Wells Road, Ebenezer Road, and County Road 55 South

Mr. Pool reported they are closing the portions of the roads they are working on because he does not have any inmates to use to flag traffic. He also reported the litter pick-up is dead because there are no inmates.

County Attorney – there was no report.

Adjourn.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Snellgrove seconded; and the motion carried unanimously.

