

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
November 9, 2020

PRESENT: Chairman Mark Culver, Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Commissioner Doug Sinquefield, Commissioner Ricky Herring, Commissioner Brandon Shoupe, Acting County Engineer Brittney Clayton and County Attorney Pres Register.

Chairman Culver welcomed everyone to the November 9th, 2020, Houston County Commission Meeting and called the 10:00 a.m. meeting to order. He declared a quorum as all commissioners were in attendance. He also welcomed everyone that is watching the meeting via ZOOM and thanked the citizens for doing that in hopes that soon we will be able to welcome everyone back to the meetings. Due to COVID, and for the safety of the employees and the citizens of Houston County, the public is not allowed in the meeting unless they have an item on the agenda.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Sinquefield and Commissioner Harvey led in the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Sinquefield and seconded by Commissioner Shoupe. The motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Culver began by reminding everyone that during the upcoming Veteran's Day Holiday everyone should stop and remember all those that have served and are serving so that we can enjoy the freedoms that we have. He encouraged citizens to participate in Veteran's Day activities and mentioned that the VFW would have their annual event this year as well. Chairman Culver also reminded everyone to keep an eye on the storm which is south of our area and could be heading this way over the next several days. He also recognized Revenue Commissioner Starla Moss and congratulated her for being elected for another term of six years in representing the citizens of Houston County.

Chairman Culver mentioned the possibility of not having a commission meeting on the Monday of Thanksgiving week but due to bid requirements and timing that there will be a meeting held. He added that the meeting will be brief and an Administrative Meeting will be held the Thursday prior as scheduled. Chairman Culver stated that he will not be in attendance for the next Commission Meeting as he will be having a procedure done but Commissioner Herring will

be chairing that particular meeting and it will be his first opportunity as Acting Chairman. Chairman Culver also mentioned that the election is now over and we will have a new President and he congratulated all those that supported the new President and that he will be supportive going forward as the county will move forward with the new leadership as they have done for many years. He also congratulated all the winners of the election and to those that were not victorious but willing to put their selves out there and willing to serve the citizens.

Commissioner Doug Siquefield congratulated the Ashford High School Band for their recent competition at the Sound of the Wiregrass in Jacksonville, FL. The Band received a superior rating from all five judges and placed 3rd in their classification and also won the Fan Favorite Award. Chairman Culver commented that there are so many outstanding young folks in our county and the community and it is always good to recognize their accomplishments.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Proclamation – “The Salvation Army” – Captains Deanne and Nathan Jones, Corps Officers

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the proclamation. Commissioner Siquefield seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Chairman Culver read the proclamation and then presented it to Captain Nathan Jones. He stated that the Commission appreciates all that the Salvation Army does for our area as they are a valuable partner with our EMA during disasters, amongst other things. Chairman Culver reported that there is a friendly competition with the City Commissioners during the “Bell Ringing” fund raising event and the County has been victorious for the previous two years and are looking forward to it this year and bring home the win. Chairman Culver then asked Captain Jones for comments. Captain Jones began by thanking the Commission and stating that they are new to the community and that the people have been very nice and they look forward to the Christmas season and hope to have a good year. He feels that people are in a giving mood now as they have seen how hard things have been during the pandemic and he believes they will hit their goal and that the county will win the completion this year. Chairman Culver thanked Captain Jones for being in attendance today and welcomed him to the community. He asked Captain Jones how long they had been in the community and he responded that they have been here for five months. Commissioner Shoupe asked Captain Jones if he was in the Monday Rotary Club and Captain Jones responded that his wife was and that he is in the process of becoming a Rotarian in the Tuesday Club.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Request to award ACCA Joint County Bids for heavy equipment and liquid asphalt

Commissioner Sinuefield made a motion to approve the request to award the ACCA Joint County Bids and Commissioner Shoupe seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Request to approve bid for purchase of vehicle for Revenue Department to lowest bidder meeting specs – Starla Moss, Revenue Commissioner

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the bid for the purchase of a vehicle for the Revenue Department and Commissioner Shoupe seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Request to award bid for lease of land at the Industrial Park on State Line Road – Peter B. Covert, Chief Administrative Officer

Commissioner Sinuefield made a motion to approve the request to award the bid for the lease of land at the Industrial Park. Commissioner Herring seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Request to approve resolution for the initiation of MPO project for rehabilitating Napier Field Road – Road & Bridge

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to approve the request and Commissioner Sinuefield seconded. Chairman Culver mentioned that this is a project that is partnered with the City of Dothan as this is a city maintained road but MPO Funds are being used for this project. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Request to approve budget amendment to purchase lowboy trailer – Road & Bridge

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to approve the budget amendment and Commissioner Harvey seconded. Chairman Culver stated that this item was in last year's budget that did not get purchased and those funds were moved into this current budget as an ending fund balance. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Request to sell the following items on GovDeals; 2003 Ford F-150, 1997 Ford F-250 and miscellaneous office chairs – Road & Bridge

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the request to sell the items on GovDeals. Commissioner Sinuefield seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS:

Chief Administrative Officer – No report

County Engineer – Closed Roads: S. Park, Middleton, Gilmore, Coot Adams, Cecil Varnum, Ben Ivey and Silcox.

County Attorney – No report

Chairman Culver reported that the Sanitation Department will be running on Wednesday, Veterans Day holiday, even though that is a county holiday.

Commissioner Sinquefield asked the Acting County Engineer if the roads that are still closed awaiting cross drain pipes to come in. Ms. Clayton responded that they are currently working on both sites on S. Park today and they still have shoulder work from “Rebuild Alabama” roads.

Meeting adjourned.