

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION

APRIL 25, 2017

PRESENT: Chairman Mark S. Culver, Commissioner Doug Sinquefield, Commissioner Jackie Battles, Commissioner Brandon Shoupe, Pres Register, County Attorney, Barkley Kirkland, County Engineer, and William J. Dempsey, CAO

ABSENT: Commissioner Curtis Harvey

Chairman Mark S. Culver called the 10:00 A.M. meeting to order, declared a quorum present, and welcomed everyone. He reported Commissioner Harvey was unable to attend due to a doctor's appointment. Rev. Kody Kirchoff, Pastor, The Harbor, gave the invocation. Commissioner Shoupe led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Sinquefield made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

Announcements and Comments from Chairman and Commissioners

Chairman Culver reminded everyone that Saturday, April 29th, was Spirit of Service Day, a great day in our community. He pointed out there were a lot of projects scheduled, and he stated if anyone wanted to be a part of the activities, to contact Ms. Linda Kelley at the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, 792-5138. Chairman Culver stated they would be remiss if they did not mention Robert Crowder who brought this idea to our community. He stated Houston County is so blessed to have the many volunteers who help to make our community great. He encouraged everyone to get out and be a part of this great program.

The chairman reported Saturday was the 9th Annual Media vs. Electeds softball game. He reported they had a great time, there were no serious injuries, and the Electeds won this year. The chairman pointed out the big winner was the Wiregrass Area United Way Food Bank. He stated they raised more this year than ever before. Chairman Culver reported this year's win was just the third time the Electeds have won. He stated Commissioners Harvey and Shoupe, and Probate Judge Davenport all hit home runs. He pointed out Commissioner Battles played great ball and was a threat each time, and Commissioner Sinquefield did a great job pitching. He thanked all of the media for their participation as well as the other elected officials, the City of Dothan for the use of the field, and everyone who was involved.

Awards and Presentations

1. Recognition – Wicksburg High School FBLA members Gavin Weber and Hunter Dillard – Commissioner Brandon Shoupe

Chairman Culver invited Gavin Weber and Hunter Dillard, students at Wicksburg High School and Mrs. Sarah Swafford, Teacher/Sponsor, to come forward. Commissioner Shoupe reported it was his honor to introduce Mr. Weber and Mr. Dillard, members of the Wicksburg High School Future Business Leaders of

America, and Mrs. Swafford. He stated they went to the FBLA State Competition and competed as a team in the 3-D Animation category and earned 1st place in the State. Mr. Dillard reported they are going to go to the National Leadership Conference to represent Alabama on June 27th, in Anaheim, California. Mr. Weber stated they made a video about a car company and they go before 3 different judges at the national competition. It was pointed out that they are looking to raise \$5,000 to offset expenses. Commissioner Shoupe thanked Mr. Weber and Mr. Dillard, and he thanked Mrs. Swafford for all of her efforts. He stated he would like to go on record to state that they need to do everything to keep Mrs. Swafford as their teacher because she exemplifies all of the qualities of an excellent teacher. Chairman Culver thanked the students for coming and wished them well in their competition. He stated it is always great to see the quality of young people in our county.

2. Proclamation – “Houston County Gives Day” – Mr. David Duke, Executive Director, Wiregrass United Way 211

Commissioner Siquefield made a motion to approve the Proclamation for “Houston County Gives Day” as prepared. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Chairman Culver asked Mr. David Duke, Executive Director, Wiregrass United Way 211, to come forward and those representing the different agencies involved. Chairman Culver read the Proclamation proclaiming April 28th, as “Houston County Gives Day” and presented it to Mr. Duke. He reported in 2011, they participated in “Alabama Gives Day” and that was the last year for that. Mr. Duke stated they decided they can do so much more in the community when they all work together, and they decided to continue it on a local basis and named it “Houston County Gives Day.” He pointed out this is the 6th year they have done it. He reported it will be April 28th, from 3:30 -6:00 P.M., at Eagle Eye Outfitters. Mr. Duke reported there will be 34 agencies represented this year, which is the most they have ever had. He stated the Ice Cream Man, Ernie’s Snowballs, and the Salvation Army’s Food Truck will be on site and Travis Perry’s band will be there as well. He encouraged everyone to come and check it out. Chairman Culver thanked all of the participating agencies for all the good they do in our community.

Regular Agenda

1. Request to adopt Resolution to participate in the “Back-to-School” Sales Tax Holiday for 2017.

Commissioner Battles made a motion to adopt the resolution to participate in the “Back-to-School” Sales Tax Holiday for 2017. Commissioner Shoupe seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported the county has been participating in this for years, and the date has been changed from the 1st weekend in August until the third full weekend in July. The chairman called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see in Resolution Book)

2. Request to approve budget amendment increasing budgeted expenditures for relocation into the Dothan-Houston County Communication Center – Bill Dempsey, CAO.

Commissioner Siquefield made a motion to approve the budget amendment increasing budgeted expenditures for relocation into the Dothan-Houston County Communication Center. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. Chairman Culver asked Captain Rafferty when they planned to move?

Captain Rafferty reported the tentative date is May 23rd. Chairman Culver called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Request from Probate Judge to approve budget amendment to purchase a trailer to transport election machines – Mrs. Heather Helms, Chief Clerk.

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to grant the request from the Probate Judge to approve the budget amendment to purchase a trailer to transport election machines. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion; and it carried unanimously. (Please see attached in Minute Book)

4. Request from Probate Judge to approve budget amendment for Special Primary Election and Special Run-off Election – Mrs. Heather Helms, Chief Clerk.

Commissioner Siquefield made a motion to grant the request from the Probate Judge to approve the budget amendment for the Special Primary Election and Special Run-off Election. Commissioner Battles seconded the motion. Chairman Culver reported he found out after the meeting Thursday that Houston County has a cost involved due to the local supplements the county gives to the poll workers. He called for the question; and the motion carried unanimously. (Please see attached in Minute Book)

Staff Reports:

Chief Administrative Officer – there was no report

County Engineer –

Mr. Kirkland reported there were 2 closed locations on Eddins Road, and then they will lack one more. He stated they will begin work on Blackman Road and Malvern Road.

County Attorney – there was no report

Commissioner Shoupe asked Mr. Kirkland about the work orders. Mr. Kirkland reported they are working on Fridays on those.

Adjourn

Commissioner Shoupe made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded; and it carried unanimously.