

HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
JULY 11, 2005

PRESENT: Chairman Mark S. Culver, Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Commissioner Phillip L. Forrester, Justin Barfield, Acting Engineer, and Roy Roberts, Administrator.

ABSENT: Commissioner Bobby Snellgrove, Commissioner Frances Cook, and Gary Sherrer, Attorney.

Chairman Mark Culver called the 10:00 A.M. meeting to order. Rev. Mark Bristow, Pastor, Webb Baptist Church, gave the invocation. Commissioner Forrester led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Announcements.

Chairman Culver asked that everyone keep Commissioner Snellgrove and Commissioner Cook's family in their prayers. He reported Commissioner Snellgrove is under the weather and will probably be out another meeting. The chairman reported Commissioner Cook is with her husband who is having some health issues and is in the hospital. Chairman Culver stated that hopefully Mr. Cook will be back on his feet soon and the commissioner will be back.

The chairman reported Mr. Gary Sherrer is also ill today and unable to attend.

Chairman Culver called on Mr. Shelby Womack, EMA Director, and Mr. Justin Barfield, Acting County Engineer, for a wrap-up of Hurricane Dennis. The chairman thanked all of the volunteers, city employees and county employees, representatives from the agencies, and everyone who worked so diligently during the storm. He stated our area was blessed once again and we are grateful.

ITEM #1. Request from Wiregrass Church – permission to build steps.

Chairman Culver reported this item was discussed at the administrative meeting. He pointed out they will be taking two parking spaces and putting in the steps and our engineering staff will oversee the project. The chairman reported when they leave, the requirement will be for them to put it back like it is and it will be overseen by the county to ensure they pack the dirt right. He reported he would get the attorney to draw up a lease for \$15-\$20 per month, which is a general market fee. Mr. Culver stated that he believed it is acceptable to the church to put it in the lease depending on the motion. Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the request from Wiregrass Church for permission to build the steps. Commissioner Forrester seconded; and the motion carried.

ITEM #2. Request to adopt Resolution on the 7th Division Bidding Program.

Mr. Barfield reported this is another way counties can come together and lower costs in bidding out certain items that are regularly used. He pointed out these are the nine counties in the 7th Division only. Mr. Barfield reported they also have the joint county wide bids along with the state bids. Commissioner Forrester made a motion to adopt the Resolution on the 7th Division Bidding Program. Commissioner Harvey seconded; and the motion carried. (Please see attached in Resolution Book)

ITEM #3. Request to take bids for motorgrader blades for 7th Division Bidding Program.

Chairman Culver stated this is the item the county is responsible for in the bidding program. Commissioner Forrester made a motion to approve the request to take bids for motorgrader blades for the 7th Division Bidding Program. Commissioner Harvey seconded; and the motion carried unanimously.

ITEM #4. Request to award bid for asphalt.

Chairman Culver reported APAC is the low bidder meeting specs. He stated on Thursday it was discussed there was approximately a 10% increase. The chairman reported \$60,000 was saved on paving the four roads they just completed by placing next year's resurfacing into the current contract in order to get the lower price. Commissioner Forrester made a motion to award the annual bid for asphalt to APAC, low bidder meeting specs. Commissioner Harvey seconded; and the motion carried. (Please see attached bid summary sheet in Minute Book)

ITEM #5. Administrator's Report.

Mr. Roberts reported they had received the sales tax report and this is the second best month since October. This month the sales tax rate is 7.9%. The chairman stated he felt July would be up because a lot of events are scheduled for this month along with the people who came through as they were evacuated out of the hurricane's path.

Mr. Roberts expressed his appreciation to Shelby Womack, Clark Matthews, and Charles Finney for the work they do in the EMA and he stated they stand at the top. He also stated he appreciated all of the work Chairman Culver does in representing the county in the disasters because it speaks well for our county. Chairman Culver thanked Mr. Roberts and stated he concurred with his assessment of the EMA staff.

ITEM #6. Engineer's Report.

Mr. Barfield stated he had nothing else to report but needed to see about approving the pickup for storm debris. Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the county picking up limbs from storm debris at no charge for the next two weeks. Commissioner Forrester seconded; and the motion carried.

ITEM #7. Adjourn.

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