

Franklin County Commissioners' Court  
Commissioner Court Minutes  
Workshop Session  
October 18, 2017

The Franklin County Commissioners' Court met in a Workshop Session October 18, 2017 at 6:00 PM at the Franklin County Law Enforcement Center Multi-Purpose Training Room located at 208 Hwy 37, Mount Vernon, Texas

Members present: Scott Lee, County Judge  
Jerry Cooper, Commissioner, Precinct 1  
Larkin Jumper, Commissioner, Precinct 2  
Charlie Emerson, Commissioner, Precinct 3  
Sam Young, Commissioner, Precinct 4  
Betty Crane, County Clerk

VISITORS: Gail Reed, Linda Hammond, Jennifer Cooper, Lillie Bush-Reves, Margaret Sears, Diane Newsom, Willie Bane, Jacque Miller, Pablo De Santiago Jr., Carolyn Teague, Kathy Lovier, Tina Rose, Cathy Jumper, Wayne Bryan, Linda Bryan, Donna McFarland, Bryan Giguere, Sandra Dunn, Charles Dunn, Tina Phillips, Joe D, Stanley, Amy Stanley, Betty Sue Allen, Katie Stump, Gene Stump, B.F. Hicks, Jim Taggart, Jack Kemp and Justin Bragiel.

Judge Lee called the meeting to order and Commissioner Young offered prayer.

**DISCUSS FRANKLIN COUNTY HOTEL / MOTEL TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE WITH A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE TEXAS HOTEL LODGING ASSOCIATION – PRECINCT 2 –**

Commissioner Jumper introduced Justin Bragiel, General Counsel for the Texas Hotel and Lodging Association. Mr. Bragiel reported the Hotel Tax Occupancy statutes can be found in Tax Code 351 and 352. Every expenditure must directly promote tourism and the hotel industry.

Provided the first test of directly promoting tourism and hotel activity is met, the expenditure then must fit into one of the categories authorized by statute.

These categories include:

- the construction, maintenance and operation of a convention or visitor center;
- facilities and personnel for the registration of convention delegates;
- advertising and promotional programs to attract tourists;
- encouragement and promotion of the arts;
- historical restoration and preservation projects;
- advertising to encourage tourists to visit historic sites and museums;
- signage directing the public to sights and attractions frequently visited by tourists;
- certain transportation systems serving tourists and hotel guests;
- and, for certain cities,
- sporting events for which the majority of participants come from out of town;
- qualifying sports facilities that routinely host regional or national tournaments; and
- coliseums or multiuse facilities.

Numerous questions from the public were asked. One of the questions was about museums. Mr. Bragiel explained museums can be historical preservation or restoration. He pointed out that renovation is not listed.

Mr. Bragiel suggested creating a policy and figure out what kind of activities you want the funds to be spent on. He offered to assist with creating the policy if needed.

Commissioner Young made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Cooper seconded the motion. Motion carried.

I, Betty Crane, County Clerk certify that this is an accurate accounting of the proceedings of Commissioner's Court Workshop meeting on October 18, 2017.

Witnessed and recorded this 18th day of October, 2017.

---

Betty Crane, County Clerk