

Franklin County Commissioners' Court
Commissioner Court Minutes
Regular Session
November 14, 2016

The Franklin County Commissioners' Court met in Regular Session November 14, 2016 at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Courtroom at the Franklin County Courthouse located at 200 North Kaufman Street, Mount Vernon, TX

Members present: Scott Lee, County Judge
Danny Chitsey, Commissioner, Precinct 1
Larkin Jumper, Commissioner, Precinct 2
Deryl Carr, Commissioner, Precinct 3
Sam Young, Commissioner, Precinct 4
Betty Crane, County Clerk

VISITORS: Ricky Jones, Sue Ann Harper, Bob McFarland, Willie Bane, Telisa Newman, Margaret Sears, Cathy Jumper, Kevin Spence, Brent Smith, Bryan Giguere, Betty Sue Allen, Ellen Jagers, Jerry Cooper, Todd Conradson, Robert Moore, Jim Alford, Tina Phillips, Diane Newsome, and Lillie Bush-Reves

Judge Lee called the meeting to order and Commissioner Young offered prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag was recited.

Public Comments: None

AUDIT CLAIMS AGAINST THE COUNTY AND AUTHORIZE THEIR PAYMENT – TREASURER – Commissioner Young made a motion to approve all the claims against the county including the additional claims and Commissioner Jumper seconded the motion. Motion carried. **See Exhibit 11/14/2016 - A**

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING THE ACCOUNT RECAP FOR AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2016 - TREASURER -Treasurer Betty Sue Allen presented the account recaps for August and September, 2016. Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve the account recaps for August and September, 2016 and Commissioner Chitsey seconded the motion. Motion carried. **See Exhibit 11/14/2016 – B**

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING HOTEL / MOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AMENDED 2017 FUNDING REQUESTS – BOB MCFARLAND, FRANKLIN COUNTY HOTEL / MOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX COMMITTEE - Bob McFarland representing the Franklin County Hotel / Motel Occupancy Tax Committee presented an Amended 2017 Funding request which now includes \$5,500 to be awarded to the Genealogy Historical Preservation as well as the funding request that was previously presented in an earlier meeting but was tabled. **See exhibit 11/14/2016 – C.** Commissioner Jumper reported he had talked to the State and giving them some examples of the way the money is being spent on these events and according to the event reports how many nights we are getting. The State said that is not an appropriate use of the funds. The person from the State said these events are supposed to be self-perpetuating so that when we give \$4,000 to fund an event, the event should generate that much money back to the Hotel / Motel Occupancy

Fund. He reported he planned to go to Austin to visit with this gentleman from the State and get more details. He reported he thought the money could be used for capital purposes and could be used to put the light poles up at the ball field. He entertained holding off until we see if we can possibly utilize this money for the ball field lights. There are other capital alternatives for use of this money that will be utilized on a more day to day basis as opposed to three or four one or two day events a year. Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the Hotel / Motel Occupancy Tax Committee's recommendations for 2017 and Commissioner Carr seconded the motion. Commissioner Carr did say he would like to see the lights put up at the ball park and if it legal to do this, we need to get with them next year to fund it. Auditor Tina Phillips reported it will take more than one year to collect enough funds to put the lights up at the ball park. Commissioner Chitsey reported he was for the ball park but did not want to cancel these events. Commissioner Jumper reported he thought the entities had enough funds to fund their events without Hotel / Motel Occupancy Tax funds. Judge Lee called for a vote on the motion. Motion carried with Chitsey, Carr and Young voting in favor and Commissioner Jumper voted no because he thought it was inappropriate use of the funds.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING REQUEST FORM AND COST FOR USAGE OF SPORTS COMPLEX FIELDS AND LIGHTING – COUNTY JUDGE –

After much discussion about the increase in the cost of the electric bill when the lights are used at the ball park no action was taken. Died for a lack of a motion.

See exhibit 11/14/2016 - D

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING SETTING THE DATE TO CANVASS THE NOVEMBER 8, 2016 GENERAL ELECTION – COUNTY CLERK -

County Clerk Betty Crane reported the Canvass had to be done between November 16th and November 22nd. Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve setting the canvass date for Thursday, November 17th at 10AM. Commissioner Young seconded the motion and the motion carried. Later in the meeting Judge Lee requested amending the time in the motion to 10:30 AM since the current meeting had gone passed 10 AM and needed time to post the agenda for 72 hours in advance. Commissioners Chitsey, Jumper, Carr and Young all voted to amend the time to 10:30 instead of 10:00.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN FRANKLIN COUNTY AND TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES FOR ADDITIONAL RTS WORKSTATIONS IN THE TAX OFFICE – TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR –

Tax Assessor – Collector Sue Ann Harper requested approving a lease agreement between Franklin County and the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles for 2 additional RTS workstations to be placed on the tax side of her office so the tax office staff can do motor vehicle registrations as well as tax. She explained since her office is short one person at this time and with the cutting back the fourth person to part-time in 2017 she needed the motor vehicle RTS workstations on the tax side of her office so her staff on the tax side can also do motor vehicle registrations and receipt payments from their own cash drawer. At this time there is multiple people working out of one cash drawer and that is not good accounting practice. She also explained she will eventually want to get a tax workstation for the motor vehicle side so Cristi can do tax as well as motor vehicle and will have her own cash drawer. She reported having money in the budget to pay for the lease of the two RTS workstations. The state provides us two (that we already have now) based of the volume of transactions that we do. She reported there is an additional cost of \$1,500 a year for the two workstations. Commissioner Carr had questioned if it was worth \$1,500 a year to keep from having to walk from one

side of the office to the other. Commissioner Chitsey made a motion to approve the Lease Agreement between Franklin County and the Texas Department of Motor Vehicle for two RTS workstations in the Tax Assessor's office and Commissioner Jumper seconded the motion. Motion carried with Chitsey, Jumper and Young all voting in favor. Commissioner Carr voted against the motion. Motion carried.

See exhibit 11/14/2016 - E

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING FY2017 INDIGENT DEFENSE GRANT RESOLUTION – COUNTY JUDGE - Commissioner Jumper made a motion to approve the FY2017 Indigent Defense Grant Resolution and Commissioner Chitsey seconded the motion. Motion carried. See exhibit 11/14/2016 - F

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING CJD BODY CAM GRANT RESOLUTION – COUNTY JUDGE – Commissioner Chitsey made a motion to approve the CJD Body Cam Grant Resolution and Commissioner Jumper seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Exhibit 11/14/2016 – G

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING AUTHORIZATION FOR COUNTY JUDGE TO REQUEST ALLOCATION OF TXDOT ANNUAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ALLOTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,529.00 – COUNTY JUDGE – Commissioner Young made a motion to approve authorizing the County Judge to request an allocation of the TxDOT Annual Local Government Assistance program allotment in the amount of \$13,529.00. Commissioner Carr seconded the motion and the motion carried. See Volume 11/14/2016 - H

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING FRANKLIN COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION'S FUNDING REQUEST FOR ELEVATOR MAINTENANCE CONTRACT QUARTERLY PAYMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$300.00 FOR THE ELEVATOR IN THE OLD FIRE STATION MUSEUM – COUNTY JUDGE – After some discussion, no action take. Died for a lack of a motion.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR THE AWARD OF CONTRACTS FOR ADMINISTRATION SERVICES TO AMAZING GRANTS, INC. AND ENGINEERING SERVICES TO HAYES ENGINEERING, INC. FOR THE COUNTY'S ANTICIPATED 2017 – 2018 TXCDBG PROJECT ON BEHALF OF CYPRESS SPRINGS SUD, AND AUTHORIZING THE SELECTION COMMITTEE TO NEGOTIATE CONTRACTS, AS APPLICABLE – COUNTY JUDGE – Commissioner Young made a motion to accept the recommendations of the Selection Committee for the award of contracts for administration services to Amazing Grants, Inc. and Engineering services to Hayes Engineering, Inc. for the County's anticipated 2017 – 2018 TxCDBG Project on behalf of Cypress Spring Special Utility District and authorizing the Selection Committee to negotiate contracts, as applicable. Commissioner Carr seconded the motion and the motion carried. See Volume 11/14/2016 - I

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON ACCEPTING RECOMMENDATIONS OFF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR THE AWARD OF CONTRACTS FOR ADMINISTRATION SERVICES TO AMAZING GRANTS, INC. AND ENGINEERING SERVICES TO HAYES ENGINEERING, INC. FOR THE COUNTY'S 2016 STEP TXCDBG #7216016 ON BEHALF OF CYPRESS SPRING SUD, AND AUTHORIZING THE SELECTION COMMITTEE TO NEGOTIATE CONTRACTS, AS APPLICABLE – COUNTY JUDGE – Commissioner Carr made a motion to accept the recommendations

off the Selection Committee for the award of contract for administration services to Amazing Grants, Inc. and Engineering services to Hayes Engineering, Inc. for the County's 2016 Step TxCDBG # 7216016 on behalf of Cypress Springs Special Utility District and authorizing the Selection Committee to negotiate contracts, as applicable. Commissioner Young seconded the motion and the motion carried.

See Exhibit 11/14/2016 - J

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING AGREED EARLY TERMINATION OF EMS CONTRACT WITH TITUS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 20, 2016 UPON WRITTEN AMENDMENT OF CONTRACT – SHERIFF –

Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve the agreed Early Termination of EMS contract with Titus Regional Medical Center effective December 20, 2016 upon written amendment of the contract and Commissioner Young seconded the motion. Motion carried. **See Exhibit 11/14/2016 - K**

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING AGREED EARLY COMMENCEMENT DATE OF DECEMBER 20, 2016 FOR EMS CONTRACT WITH HOPKINS COUNTY EMS UPON WRITTEN AMENDMENT OF CONTRACT - SHERIFF

Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the agreed early commencement date of December 20, 2016 for EMS Contract with Hopkins County EMS upon written amendment of contract and Commissioner Jumper seconded the motion. Motion carried. **See Exhibit 11/14/2016 - L**

DISCUSSION ITEMS: The Commissioners' reported the loose brick had been removed and repaired at the airport, put a new covered porch at the Extension Agent office, and the gutters at the Multi-Purpose building had been cleared of debris. Treasurer Betty Sue Allen asked for payables to be turned in by noon on Tuesday because of the Thanksgiving holiday. She also reported there is an auction in process and will end on December 1st. Commissioner Young reported he was attending the City Council meeting at 6PM today to discuss the railroad. Auditor Tina Phillips reported meeting with the new outside auditors and they will be doing work in April and should be completed in May.

Commissioner Jumper made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Carr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

I, Betty Crane, County Clerk certify that this is an accurate accounting of the proceedings of Commissioner's Court Regular meeting on November 14, 2016

Witnessed and recorded this 14th day of November, 2016.

Betty Crane, County Clerk