

Franklin County Commissioners' Court  
Commissioner Court Minutes  
Regular Session  
January 12, 2015

The Franklin County Commissioners' Court met in Regular Session January 12, 2015 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: Steve Slaton, Bryan Giguere, Tina Phillips, Bill Wilson, Chad Woody, Sandra Dunn, Bert Edmondson, Cathy Jumper, Jerry Cooper, Sue Ann Harper, Lisa Lawrence, Ricky Jones, Jim Alford, B. F. Hicks, Phil Davilla, Margaret Sears, Betty Sue Allen, Carolyn Teague, Todd Conradson and Lillie Bush-Reves

Judge Lee called the meeting to order and offered prayer. Judge Lee asked if anyone would like to make opening remarks. He also announced the meeting is not open for discussion and plans were to stay with the agenda.

**APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 22, 2014 REGULAR SESSION, - COUNTY CLERK** - Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 22, 2014 regular session and Commissioner Chitsey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**SECOND READING REPLAT OF KINGS COUNTRY SUBDIVISION LOT L41R-2 SECTION TWO - B F HICKS FOR DAVID AND JANICE PHILLIPS** - Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the second reading of Kings Country Subdivision Lot L41R-2, of Section 2 and Commissioner Carr seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. See Plat Cabinet #291A

**RECORD COMPLETION OF CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS FOR MELISSA MCSWAIN - TAX ASSESSOR** - Tax Assessor Sue Ann Harper presented the 2014 Continuing Education Certificates showing the completion of 36.75 continuing education hours for Melissa McSwain and requested it be put on record in the minutes. See Volume 1Y Page \_\_\_\_\_

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING ERECTING SIGN DIRECTING HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE ENTRANCES AND PARKING AT THE COURTHOUSE - COUNTY JUDGE** - Judge Lee reported receiving a request for signs to be put in place in front of the courthouse indicating where the handicap parking and an easy access entrance to the courthouse. The Commissioners explained the Texas Historical Commission will not let a sign be put on the property. It was suggested to put a sign on the edge next to the sidewalk but no definite plans were made. Judge Lee reported he will talk with the City and the County Attorney to see if this could be done. Commissioner Carr made a motion to table this agenda item until the Judge could

report his findings and Commissioner Jumper seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. See Volume 1Y Page \_\_\_\_\_

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT FOR JEAN LATORTUE AS LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY - COUNTY JUDGE** - Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve the appointment of Jean Latortue as the Local Health Authority for Franklin County and Commissioner Young seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. His appointment will be from January 1, 2015 through January 1, 2017. See Volume 1Y Page \_\_\_\_\_

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING REPAIR OF HOSPITAL PARKING LOT - COUNTY JUDGE** - Judge Lee reported the parking lot behind the hospital needs to be repaired for the ambulance service. Commissioner Chitsey reported this area is in his precinct but he didn't think he needed to be the only one responsible for it. Judge Lee agreed that it is a County-wide owned facility. Commissioner Carr reported they would work together to repair it. He did report it was not the time of year for this type of work to be done.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING TRANSFERRING THE ACCOUNT NAME FOR ELECTRIC BILL TO FRANKLIN COUNTY AND ROOF REPAIR FOR EMS BUIDLING BEHIND THE HOSPITAL – COUTY JUDGE** – Judge Lee reported the roof needed to be repaired and the heater and air conditioner needed to be repaired or replaced. Treasurer Betty Sue Allen reported the whole building needed to be inspected since several problems have arose and suggested an overall evaluation of the Franklin County EMS building. Judge Lee explained the need to get a separate meter for the EMS building so Dr.Latortue would not be responsible for the EMS building. No action on this agenda item.

**COURTHOUSE RESTORATION – STANDING AGENDA ITEM – COUNTY JUDGE** – A list of courthouse issues that needed to be addressed was presented in court. A few items had already been addressed. Chad Woody from MMI gave a report of what was being done with the issues. See Volume 1Y Page \_\_\_\_\_. Mr. Woody reported he would supply a dead bolt for the door in the County Judges office and the County could get maintenance to install. He also reported giving extra light bulbs to maintenance. Mr. Woody reported he still had not gotten the breakdown of the material to build the desks in the treasurer's office. He believed he had \$5,500 in material in the desk and would forget the labor. Commissioner Carr said it seems it was a lack of communication and the desk were built.

**AUDIT CLAIMS AGAINST THE COUNTY AND AUTHORIZE THEIR PAYMENT – TREASURER** - Treasurer Betty Sue Allen reported two additional claims needed to be added and a change to the Conroy Tractor invoice in the amount of \$18.43. The funds need to be changed to precinct 3 instead of precinct 2. Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve all the claims against the county including the two additional claims and the change on the Conroy Tractor invoice from precinct 2 to 3 and Commissioner Jumper seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. See Vol. 1Y Page \_\_\_\_\_

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING APPOINTEES AS OFFICERS FOR THE FRANKLIN COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION – COUNTY JUDGE -**

B. F. Hicks, President of the Franklin County Historical Association presented the 2015 Officers and Directors. He reported Eleese Hubbell is leaving the Board and Pat Hudson has been added to the Board. Commissioner Chitsey made a motion to approve the appointees as officers for the Franklin County Historical Association and Commissioner Carr seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The appointees are B. F. Hicks, Cynthia Loftis, Donna McFarland, Kay Howell, Lillie Bush-Reves, Mary Lou Russell, Elaine Thomas, Elaine McFeely, Martha Hare, Randall Higgins, Pat Hudson, Nicki Armstrong, and John Tudor. See Volume 1Y Page \_\_\_\_\_

**MONTHLY AND QUARTERLY REPORTS -** County Treasurer Betty Sue Allen presented the December monthly reports and the fourth quarter reports for 2014. Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the monthly and quarterly reports as presented and Commissioner Jumper seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. See Volume 1Y Page \_\_\_\_\_

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING STATEMENT OF APPOINTED AUDITOR AND OATH OF OFFICE FOR TINA PHILLIPS – COUNTY AUDITOR –**

County Auditor Tina Phillips presented her Statement of Appointed Auditor and her Oath of Office that was approved by District Judge Eddie Northcutt on January 2, 2015 and requested they be put on record in the Minutes. No action needed.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATIVE WORK WITHIN THE 8<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT – SHERIFF-**

Sheriff Jones explained this Interlocal Agreement is between Hopkins County, Franklin County, Delta County, City of Sulphur Springs and the City of Mt. Vernon. The parties agree to make available their law enforcement personnel for assistance, investigation and the performance of any and all duties of law enforcement outside of each party's home jurisdiction and within the home jurisdiction of another party to this agreement if requested by each party's respective Chief of Police, Sheriff or designee and approved by the corresponding agency head. Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative work within the 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District and Commissioner Carr seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. See Volume 1Y Page \_\_\_\_\_

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING THE REMOVAL OF SCOTT LEE AS A MEMBER OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY SPORTS COMPLEX COMMITTEE AND RECOMMENDING NEW BOARD MEMBER – COUNTY JUDGE –**

Judge Lee explained since becoming the County Judge he felt he needed to resign from the Franklin County Sports Complex Committee and wanted to put it on record. He also suggested Jeff Briscoe as a new committee member. Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve the removal of Scott Lee as a member of the Franklin County Sports Complex Committee and approve Jeff Briscoe as a new Committee member and Commissioner Chitsey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE ADVERTISING FOR BIDS TO ERECT THE LIGHT POLES AND LIGHT POLE ELECTRICAL WORK AT THE SPORTS COMPLEX – STEVE SLATON –**

Commissioner Young made a motion to approve advertising for bids to erect the light poles and to accept bids for the light pole electrical work at the Sports Complex and Commissioner Jumper seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The bids can be for either job or for both jobs.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING LARKIN JUMPER TO BE SUPERVISOR OF THE WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT, GIVING HIM THE AUTHORITY TO HIRE/FIRE AND OVERSEE DAILY OPERATIONS AS NECESSARY – TREASURER** – Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve Larkin Jumper to be the supervisor of the waste management department and to give him the authority to hire or fire and oversee the daily operations as necessary and Commissioner Young seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING TRANSFER OF CELL PHONE ALLOWANCE PREVIOUSLY HELD BY DONNIE SURRATT, PRECINCT 2 COMMISSIONER – TREASURER** – Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the transfer of the cell phone allowance previously held by Donnie Surratt to Larkin Jumper, Commissioner of Precinct 2 and Commissioner Chitsey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**PRESENTATION REGARDING RAILROAD BENEFITS FOR EDC – PHIL DAVILLA AND WAYNE DEFENBAUGH – NETEX** – Executive Director, Phil Davilla gave a presentation regarding railroad benefits for EDC and requested everyone write support letters for the Northeast Texas Rail Preservation and Economic Development Project to the Secretary of the US Department of Transportation.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:** Treasurer Allen expressed a need for a place for Todd Conradson to have an office area and a place for his tools. Judge Lee suggested the County Court jury room as an office area for now. Judge Lee asked if there was an area at the Annex East building to put tools or is a storage shed available there. Auditor Phillips suggested moving everything left over from the courthouse restoration project that is in the glove factory building to the Annex East property by next week. Commissioners agreed to move the items from the glove factory at 1PM on Thursday. Todd Conradson reported the dorms that the ambulance drivers are staying have several problems – including electrical problems, no heat or air and a leaky roof. Sheriff Jones reported receiving a \$15,000 reimbursement check for the 911 System that was installed and the Auditor requested all 2014 invoices be turned in by January 21<sup>st</sup>.

Commissioner Young made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Jumper 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 January 12, 2015.

Witnessed and recorded this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2015.

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Betty Crane, County Clerk