

Franklin County Commissioners' Court
Commissioner Court Minutes
Regular Session
September 8, 2014

The Franklin County Commissioners' Court met in Regular Session September 8, 2014 at 9:00 AM at the District Courtroom at the Franklin County Courthouse Annex located at 208 Highway 37, Mount Vernon, Texas

Members present: Paul Lovier, County Judge
Danny Chitsey, Commissioner, Precinct 1
Donnie Surratt, Commissioner, Precinct 2
Deryl Carr, Commissioner, Precinct 3
Sam Young, Commissioner, Precinct 4
Betty Crane, County Clerk

VISITORS: Bill Wilson, Keith Medders, Cade Hohenberger, Bert Edmondson, Larkin Jumper, Sandra Dunn, Willie Bane, Sue Ann Harper, Margaret Sears, Tina Phillips, Betty Sue Allen, Teresia Wims, Tommy Grimes, Jack Brooks, Vivian Rhoades, Bryan Giguere, Gene Stump, Ellen Jaggars, Ricky Jones and Lillie Bush-Reves

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

APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 25, 2014 REGULAR AND WORKSHOP SESSIONS – COUNTY CLERK – Commissioner Surratt made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 25 regular and workshop sessions and Commissioner Young seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

AUDIT CLAIMS AGAINST THE COUNTY AND AUTHORIZE THEIR PAYMENT – TREASURER - Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve all the claims against the county including three additional add on claims which totaled \$10,620.00 from Texas Association of Counties, Texasability LLC and Tyler Technologies, Inc. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
See Vol. 1X Page _____

MONTHLY REPORTS - County Treasurer Betty Sue Allen presented the August 2014 monthly reports. Commissioner Chitsey made a motion to approve the August monthly reports as presented and Commissioner Young seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. See Volume 1W Page _____

SECOND READING REPLAT LOTS 7R AND 8R MARINA POINT SUBDIVISION – TOMMY GRIMES FOR STRAWBERRY DEVELOPMENTS, INC AND ARLISS TREDWAY -Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve the second reading of lots 7R and 8R in the Marina Point Subdivision and Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. See Plat Cabinet #290 A

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING REPAIRS FOR THE AIRPORT COMMUNITY ROOM - TREASURER- Treasurer Betty Sue Allen presented a bid proposal from Whitaker Construction for repairs to the Community Room at the Franklin County Airport. After discussion, Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve replacing the doors and 45 ceiling tiles as well as tinting the windows with the total

amount being \$9,120.00. The bid also included three metal awnings and painting the ceiling but not enough funds were not in the budget. Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

See Volume 1X Page _____ to view the bid proposal.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING DEPUTATION OF CRISTI GONZALES AS DEPUTY IN MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION OFFICE – TAX ASSESSOR

Tax Assessor Sue Ann Harper presented the Deputation for Cristi Gonzales as Deputy in the Motor Vehicle Registration office. Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the Deputation of Cristi Gonzales as Deputy in the Motor Vehicle Registration office and Commissioner Chitsey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. See Volume 1X Page _____

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING CLOSING ALL COUNTY OFFICES FROM SEPTEMBER 22 – 26, 2014 AND ADDITIONALLY CLOSING THE DISTRICT CLERK’S AND TREASURER’S OFFICES ON SEPTEMBER 29, 2014 TO MOVE BACK INTO THE COURTHOUSE – COUNTY JUDGE

District Clerk Ellen Jagers reported she would have staff at both locations to accept filings during the move. County Clerk Betty Crane reported she would remain open as long as possible during the move and accept filings as soon as possible at the new location when servers are back up and running. The public is encouraged to check with the office they are doing business with. Clerk Crane reported she would update the clerk website nightly to keep the public informed as well as accept calls on her cell phone which is also on the website. Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve the closing of all county offices from September 22 – 26, 2014 and the District Clerk and Treasurers’ office will also be closed on September 29, 2014 for their move back into the courthouse. Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE’S REQUEST TO USE EMPLOYEE PARKING LOT BEHIND COURTHOUSE AS THE SITE FOR AN ICE SKATING RINK BEGINNING THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 3, 2014 THROUGH THE WEEK OF JANUARY 5, 2015 – CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Cade Hohenberger, representative for the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce reported he was at the meeting to request using the parking lot directly behind the courthouse for the ice skating rink from November 3, 2014 – January 5, 2015 but stated he was withdrawing his request after discussing this with a few members of the court before the meeting started. No action taken.

PRESENT 2014 COUNTY JUDGES AND COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS FOR SAM YOUNG – PRECINCT 4

County Clerk reported she had received the 2014 County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas Continuing Education hours from Sam Young and would put them on record in the minutes. See Volume 1X Page _____

COURTHOUSE RESTORATION – STANDING AGENDA ITEM – COUNTY JUDGE

Bill Wilson from MMI reported glass had been installed in the balcony area, the Judge’s benches are complete, courtroom furniture is complete, and Suddenlink has completed installing phone and IT.

DISCUSS AND CONDUCT SECOND PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PROPOSAL TO INCREASE TOTAL TAX REVENUE – 5 MINUTES PER PERSON – COUNTY

JUDGE – Judge Lovier convened the second public hearing regarding the proposal to increase total tax revenue at 9:25 AM. Jack Brooks asked if it was true that \$200,000 had been dedicated to the sports complex and was concerned how long tax dollars was going to be used to support the sports complex. Auditor Tina Phillips addressed his questions. She explained \$30,000 of the funds are left over from funds not used originally and \$170,000 is coming from the fund balance. Mr. Brooks asked if it was a bottomless pit and asked how much money is made at the sports complex. Auditor Tina Phillips reported 10 to 15 thousand dollars a year at this time. Mr. Brooks went on to say the sports complex does not make enough funds to support it. He stated he thought the parents and sports associations needed to take it over because the tax payers are tired of paying for it. Judge Lovier adjourned the Public Hearing at 9:32 AM

ACKNOWLEDGE EARLY PAYOFF OF JAIL LOAN – SHERIFF – Sheriff Ricky Jones reported the jail expansion had been paid off 19 months early by making a final payment of \$284,115.00. Commissioner Young congratulated him for paying for the expansion with out-of-county inmate funds. Sheriff Jones reported a note burning will be held after Commissioners Court today.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: Sheriff Jones reported the hot water heater blower fan had been fixed for about \$200. Judge Lovier reported a committee has been created to pursue any attractive offers we may have for the hospital and ambulance service. Members of the committee are Mayor Margaret Sears, Economic Development Head Teresia Wims, Commissioner Sam Young, County Judge Elect Scott Lee and Judge Lovier. Auditor Tina Phillips reminded everyone about the Special Commissioner Court meeting held on Monday, September 15th at 9:00 AM to adopt the tax rate and budget. County Clerk Betty Crane reported she had some documents that needed to be destroyed and would like to have that done before the move back into the courthouse to make more room in the storage building. She was instructed to get with Commissioner Carr since he had a burn pile but rain was needed before he could burn. Commissioner Young asked about when the paint would be in so the commissioners could paint the flag pole and Mr. Wilson reported it should be here by Friday.

Commissioner Surratt made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Young 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 September 8, 2014.

Witnessed and recorded this 8th day of September, 2014.

Betty Crane, County Clerk