

Franklin County Commissioners' Court
Commissioner Court Minutes
Regular Session
February 28, 2011

The Franklin County Commissioners' Court met in Regular Session February 28, 2011 at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers at the Mount Vernon City Hall located at 109 North Kaufman Street.

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
Will Ramsay, County Attorney
Betty Sue Allen, County Treasurer
Betty Crane, County Clerk

VISITORS: Ellen Jagers, D. K. Michaelson, Jim Alford, Willie Bane, Jerry Cooper, Chuck Armstrong, Pam Swanner, Mark Olinger, Amy Briscoe, Jeff Briscoe, Ben Lanborn, Greg Saxon, Steve Slaton, Richard Hamrick, Paul Fletcher, Tab Beall, Sue Ann Harper, Dr. Jean Latortue, Marie Latortue, Clint Hopkins, Bryan Giguere, B. F. Hicks, Bert Edmondson, Ginny Hamrick, Gerry Allen, Marcia Davis Seale, Mike Edwards, Lillie Bush-Reves

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

APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 14, 2011 REGULAR SESSION AND FEBRUARY 22, 2011 WORKSHOP – COUNTY CLERK

Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 14, 2011 regular session and February 22, 2011 Workshop session and Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

AUDIT CLAIMS AGAINST THE COUNTY AND AUTHORIZE THEIR PAYMENT – TREASURER

Commissioner Chitsey made a motion to approve all the claims against the county and Commissioner Young seconded the motion and the motion carried. See Vol. 1P Page _____

FIRST READING REPLAT HICKORY HILLS DEVELOPMENT, LOT 9R, PHASE 1– B F HICKS FOR RILEY SPRAGGINS

Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the first reading of the replat of Hickory Hills development, lot 9R, phase 1 and Commissioner Carr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

FIRST READING REPLAT SOUTH SHORE ADDITION, LOT 1R-2 – GREG SAXON FOR DOROTHY KENNINGTON, AGENT FOR KENNINGTON LAKEHOUSE LTD

Commissioner Chitsey made a motion to approve the first reading of the replat of South Shore addition, lot 1R-2 and Commissioner Young seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SECOND READING REPLAT EAGLE POINT SUBDIVISION, LOT 1R PHASE VII AND 0.894 ACRES B BROOKS SURVEY – PAM SWANNER FOR JERRY HOLLEY-

Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the second reading of the replat of Eagle Point subdivision, lot 1R of phase VII and 0.894 acres in the B. Brooks survey and Commissioner Chitsey seconded the motion. Motion carried.
See Plat Cabinet # 275A

COURTHOUSE RESTORATION- COUNTY JUDGE – Judge Lovier reported there will be a meeting with Susan Gamage to talk about the historical part of the reconstruction. He reported Franklin County is number one on the list as far as any appropriations that may come down pertaining to the Historical Society and the renovation of the courthouses in the state. He reported four courthouses are in the same position as Franklin County. Commissioner Young encouraged everyone to contact their congressman and request their help with the second phase of the courthouse (interior renovation) because the Governor wants to do away with the Historical Society.

RECORD IN THE MINUTES OF THE COURT THE ACTIONS OF THE DISTRICT JUDGES IN APPOINTING THE COUNTY AUDITOR AND DIRECTING THE PAYMENT OF THE AUDITOR'S SALARY AS CERTIFIED BY THE DISTRICT CLERK AND FILED IN THE FRANKLIN COUNTY RECORDS – COUNTY JUDGE

Commissioner Carr made a motion to put the actions of the District Judges in the appointment of the county auditor and to direct the payment of the auditor's salary as certified by the district clerk and Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Volume 1P Page _____

APPROVAL OF BOND FOR COUNTY AUDITOR – COUNTY JUDGE

Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve the bond for the county auditor and Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion. Motion carried.
See Volume 1P page _____

APPROVE INTERFUND TRANSFER OF \$50,000.00 FROM JAIL EXPANSION TO DEBT SERVICE – TREASURER – Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the interfund transfer of \$50,000.00 from jail expansion to debt service and Commissioner Chitsey seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Volume 1P Page _____

APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF DR. JEAN LATORTUE AS FRANKLIN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER – COUNTY JUDGE

– Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the appointment of Doctor Jean Latortue as the Franklin County Public Health Officer and Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Volume 1P Page _____

REVOLVING LOAN FUND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TWO APPLICATIONS – AMY BRISCOE AND GINNY HAMRICK

– Commissioner Young made a motion to approve Amy Briscoe \$35,000 from the revolving loan fund and Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Volume 1P Page _____

Commissioner Young made a motion to approve Ginny Hamrick \$40,000 from the revolving loan fund and Commissioner Carr seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Volume 1P Page _____

DEPUTATION OF BROOK BUSSELL, ELAINE HARMON AND JESSICA WHITELEY AS DEPUTY COUNTY CLERKS – COUNTY CLERK - Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve the deputations of Brook Bussell, Elaine Harmon and Jessica Whiteley as deputy county clerks and Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Volume 1P Page _____

APPROVAL OF RENEWAL OF ELECTION SYSTEMS AND SOFTWARE 3 YEAR ELECTION SERVICES AGREEMENT – COUNTY CLERK – Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the renewal of a 3 year service agreement with Election Systems and Software and Commissioner Chitsey seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Volume 1P Page _____

DISCUSS AND APPROVE PURCHASE OF VIDEO EQUIPMENT FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE – GERRY ALLEN AND SHERIFF – Gerry Allen reported the VHS equipment is worn out and had hoped to get some grant funds to assist in purchasing the equipment. He reported there are no funds in the grant to purchase new video equipment for the Sheriff's office. Sheriff Fletcher reported the racial profiling bill created in about 2000 requires us to have video equipment in the cars. He reported talking with several companies and the biggest problem is you cannot get video tapes anymore and parts will not be available after 2012 to repair the system we have. He reported video cameras are excellent tools to protect the county and is a neutral partner and gives us a complete picture of what happens. He reported receiving a bid last year for about \$4,900 per car but it does not include the equipment to preserve and create CDs. He reported he has requested bids from several vendors and needs time to review them and see what system would be best for the county. Sheriff Fletcher stated he would consider this to be an emergency but hoped what he had would work until it was feasible to do. Commissioner Carr made a motion to table this agenda item until a later date and Commissioner Young seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF TRANSFERRING \$500.35 FROM SCRAP METAL SOLD BY FRANKLIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO DRUG FUND – SHERIFF
Sheriff Fletcher requested transferring \$500.35 to the drug fund. He reported the funds he is requesting to use were from the scrap metal the sheriff's office sold. Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve transferring \$500.35 to the drug fund and Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND APPROVE CONSTRUCTION OF TEMPORARY SIGN FOR SPORTS COMPLEX – GERRY ALLEN – Commissioner Chitsey made a motion to approve Jacque Bateman to construct a temporary sign for the Sports Complex at a cost of \$234.00 and Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND APPROVE WAIVER OF SEPTIC PERMIT FOR SULPHUR RIVER COWBOY CHURCH – PRECINCT 1 - Mr. Ben Lanborn, an elder of the Sulphur River Cowboy Church, requested waiving the septic permit fee for the Sulphur River Cowboy Church. He reported the church is located where a mobile home was originally but the septic system is not sufficient for the church and the church needs a clear water system. He also stated the church is not a wealthy church and they struggle to pay utility bills. Gerry Allen reported the septic permit fee is \$500 and the state gets \$10 of the fee. County Attorney Will Ramsay reported he had not looked at the statute but remembered talking about not doing a blanket waiver but do it on an individual basis. He reported Mr. Lanborn has articulated reasons why it would be appropriate. Gerry Allen reported

the Commissioners' Court has the authority to do this based on need. Will Ramsay felt it would be an appropriate action if the court decides to waive the permit fee based on need. He suggested going ahead and taking action and have Gerry Allen check to verify that this is an appropriate thing to do. If it is not, we can bring it back to Commissioners' Court. Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve waiving the septic permit fee for the Sulphur River Cowboy Church and Commissioner Chitsey seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mr. Lanborn reported the church would pay the \$10 fee that is paid to the state.

CONSIDER AND APPROVE HIRING EXISTING FULL TIME TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE, KEITH MEDDERS FOR FULL-TIME POSITION FOR PRECINCTS 1 – 4

– PRECINCT 2 – Commissioner Surratt reported Keith Medders is a full time temporary employee and a very good employee and would hate to lose him because employees like him are hard to find. He suggested that he could be a floating employee between the other precincts. The Commissioners' discussed ways on paying his salary because no one has it in their budget. Commissioner Young suggested discussing this with the auditor to see if we could make this happen. Commissioner Surratt made a motion to table this item and discuss this during a workshop and Commissioner Young seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF WINNSBORO FOR TAX COLLECTION – TAX ASSESSOR

– Treasurer Harper presented a revised interlocal agreement with the City of Winnsboro for tax collection. The revision was to add 1% collection fee on the Franklin County portion. Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve the revised interlocal agreement with the City of Winnsboro for tax collection and Commissioner Chitsey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

See Volume 1P Page _____

CONSIDER BID FOR RE-SALE OF STRUCK-OFF PROPERTY TO PUT BACK ON TAX ROLLS: 0.413 ACRES IN THE JOSEPH SLOAN SURVEY, ABSTRACT 425 – BID: \$15,000 BY MICHAEL L. EDWARDS – TAB BEALL

– Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the bid from Michael L. Edwards in the amount of \$15,000 for 0.413 acres in the Joseph Sloan Survey, Abstract 425 and Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Volume 1P Page _____

CONSIDER BID FOR RE-SALE OF STRUCK-OFF PROPERTY TO PUT BACK ON TAX ROLLS: LOT 860 PINE VALLEY SUBDIVISION – BID: \$100.00 BY PINE VALLEY POA – TAB BEALL

- Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the bid from Pine Valley Property Owners Association in the amount of \$100.00 for lot 860 in the Pine Valley Subdivision and Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Volume 1P Page _____

CONSIDER BID FOR RE-SALE OF STRUCK-OFF PROPERTY TO PUT BACK ON TAX ROLLS: LOT 693 PINE VALLEY SUBDIVISION – BID: \$100.00 BY PINE VALLEY POA – TAB BEALL

- Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the bid from Pine Valley Property Owners Association in the amount of \$100.00 for lot 693 in the Pine Valley Subdivision and Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Volume 1P Page _____