

Franklin County Commissioners' Court
Commissioner Court Minutes
Regular Session
August 8, 2011

The Franklin County Commissioners' Court met in Regular Session August 8, 2011 at 9:00 AM in the District Courtroom at the Franklin County Courthouse Annex located at 208 Highway 37

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: Sue Ann Harper, Willie Bane, Clint Hopkins, Randy Green, Margaret Sears, Steve Slaton, Sandra Dunn, Chris Mars, Everett Walter, D. K. Michaelson, Ellen Jagers, V. J. Rhoades, Bryan Giguere, Peggy Jones, Jerry Cooper, Jim Alford, Gerry Allen, Paul Fletcher, and Lillie Bush-Reves

Judge Lovier called the meeting to order and offered prayer.

AUDIT CLAIMS AGAINST THE COUNTY AND AUTHORIZE THEIR PAYMENT – TREASURER - Commissioner Young made a motion to approve all the claims against the county and Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion and the motion carried. See Vol. 1Q Page _____

MONTHLY REPORTS County Treasurer Betty Sue Allen presented the July, 2011 monthly reports. Commissioner Chitsey made a motion to approve the monthly reports and Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Volume 1Q Page _____

DISCUSS AND APPROVE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FRANKLIN COUNTY TO ENTER INTO INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON- COUNTY JUDGE - Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve the Resolution authorizing Franklin County to enter into Inter-local agreement with the City of Mount Vernon and Commissioner Young seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Volume 1Q Page _____

DISCUSS AND APPROVE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON REGARDING ROADWAYS LOCATED IN THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON – COUNTY JUDGE – Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the Inter-local Agreement with the City of Mount Vernon regarding the roadways located in the City of Mount Vernon and Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion. Commissioner Young suggested if we do another Inter-local agreement we need to consider getting the City's help with the library because the City is putting the very minimal in this agreement assisting with animal control. Commissioner Carr asked the County Attorney if while working on the City roads if they happen to have extra material or the City has extra

funds to do the work, would it be alright to go ahead and do some work on other roads in the area. The County Attorney advised it is always best to have it in writing because it could cause problems later on. The Commissioners requested amending the Inter-local agreement to include "other improvements agreed to by Commissioners' and the City if materials are available". Commissioner Young withdrew his first motion and Commissioner Surratt made a new motion to amend the inter-local agreement by adding to the agreement the verbiage "other improvements agreed to by Commissioners and the City if materials are available" and Commissioner Young seconded the motion. Motion carried. Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the Inter-local Agreement with the amendment and Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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COURTHOUSE RESTORATION- COUNTY JUDGE – Judge Lovier reported the courthouse restoration is still on schedule. He reported they now think the dome is not red but it was possibly covered in copper. There will be another owners meeting at the end of the month.

PRESENT JUSTICE COURT CERTIFICATIONS FOR JIM ALFORD, JANET MIDDLETON AND MISTY MARTIN – JUSTICE OF THE PEACE – Judge Alford presented Justice Court Certifications for Jim Alford, Janet Middleton and Misty Martin to put on record in the Minutes.

DISCUSS AND APPROVE REQUEST FOR TAX ID NUMBER FOR THE FRANKLIN COUNTY SPORTS COMPLEX COMMITTEE – STEVE SLATON – Mr. Slaton reported he needs a tax ID number to pursue any kind of funding for the Sports Complex. Commissioner Young suggested he should apply to be a 501 (c) 3 organization. Auditor Mike Michaelson reported he thought he could get a Letter of Determination from the IRS on the tax exemption that the county offers as being a local government. He suggested to Mr. Slaton to discuss this with the IRS to get a Letter of Determination. It was decided that the auditor and Mr. Slaton get together to see what can be done. Commissioner Young made a motion to table this item until the next regular meeting and Commissioner Carr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REVIEW OF REDISTRICTING MAPS AND SET DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS – PRECINCT 4 – Commissioner Young explained the two redistricting maps will be on display for public viewing at both courthouse annexes as well as be in the newspaper. He pointed out the changes made to the voting precincts and commissioner precincts. Commissioner Young made a motion to choose the precinct lines and the voting precinct lines for review to the public and will adopt it after the two public hearings. Commissioner Carr seconded the motion and the motion carried. The public hearing dates will be on August 22nd and August 29th.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES' FY 12 NON-FINANCIAL CHILD WELFARE SERVICES CONTRACT AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY DESIGNATION FORMS 2031 AND PCS-301 – COUNTY JUDGE
Judge Lovier explained this is a non-financial child welfare services contract and a Board needs to be appointed. He suggested tabling this item until the next meeting to get more clarification. Commissioner Carr made a motion to table this item and Commissioner Young seconded the motion. Motion carried.

See Volume 1Q Page _____

DISCUSS AND APPROVE TRANSFER OF REVOLVING LOAN FROM STACY WARDRUP OF STELLAR T-SHIRTS TO MICHAEL BARRON – TREASURER

Treasurer Allen asked the Court to discuss and approve the transfer of the revolving loan from Stacy Wardup of Stellar T-Shirts to Michael Barron subject to the Revolving Loan Committee's recommendation. She suggested getting this expedited as quickly as possible since interest was accruing on the loan. Commissioner Chitsey stated since Stacy Wardup was obligated to the loan he questioned if they should transfer it to Michael Barron even though they have not even seen him. He thought Stacy should pay the loan and have Michael Barron go through the revolving loan process.

Commissioner Carr made a motion to transfer the revolving loan from Stacy Wardup of Stellar T-Shirts to Michael Barron subject to the approval of the Revolving Loan Committee and Commissioner Young seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 1 vote. Commissioner Chitsey voted Nay.

DISCUSS AND APPROVE RESOLUTION FOR THE REQUEST OF WAIVER OF LOCAL MATCH FUND PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT ON FEDERAL OFF-SYSTEM BRIDGE PROGRAM – PRECINCT 3

– Commissioner Carr made a motion to approve the Resolution for the request of the waiver of local match fund participation requirement on federal off-system bridge program and Commissioner Young seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Volume 1Q Page _____

DISCUSS AND APPROVE BUDGET ITEMS RELATED TO WILDFIRE IN NORTHEAST FRANKLIN COUNTY ON AUGUST 4, 2011 – FIRE MARSHALL

– Fire Marshall Gerry Allen reported there were some expenses from the fire in the northeast part of the county including meals, drinks, and fuel. He requested to pay this out of the Fire Protection Fund. Commissioner Young made a motion to approve up to \$1000 for expenses such as meals, drinks and fuel to be paid out of the Fire Protection Fund for the items related to the wildfire in northeast Franklin County on August 4, 2011 and Commissioner Surratt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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DISCUSS AND APPROVE REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF LOCAL MATCH FUND PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT ON FEDERAL OFF-SYSTEM BRIDGE PROGRAM

– **PRECINCT 3** – County Clerk Betty Crane asked if item 12 on the agenda needed a motion for approval and Judge Lovier indicated this item had already been approved. She stated she had gotten the motion on the Resolution on agenda item 11 but did not get a motion on the request for waiver of local match fund participation requirement on the Federal Off-System Bridge Program.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: Commissioner Chitsey reported taking care of the tree issue at the airport on the west side. He also reported a cinder block needs to be removed at the concession stand to get air circulating so the ice machine will work correctly. He also reported using 46,000 gallons of water at the Sports Complex and stated there is really no reason to be watering the fields right now. They also discussed some ideas on stocking and running the concession stand.

Gerry Allen had questions about the department heads being asked to reduce their 2012 proposed budgets by 5%. He reported he had not increased his 2012 budget and was worried he was expected to still reduce his budget by 5%. He suggested the Court to go over the budgets of department heads that had not requested any increase in their

2012 budgets line item by line item to determine if further cuts are warranted.

He was assured he was not asked to cut his budget 5% if he had not increased his budget from the year before. Commissioner Chitsey suggested the Commissioners be the ones to cut each department budget because it is their job to work on the budget. Commissioner Carr said you could save a lot of money by cutting 5% of the first expenditure sheet from all the departments such as fire protection, hospital, Arts Alliance, and Historical. Commissioner Young stated he thought the service agencies should go first because he thought his employees are more important to him than the service agencies. The service organizations are good but only when he does not have to cut his employees. He reminded every one this is just a discussion and not written in stone so don't think we are going to do this now. We are just talking about this to get some different ideas. Commissioner Carr stated the fire departments are in really good shape as far as trucks. He suggested skipping a year on giving them \$50,000. Judge Lovier questioned if they were cutting 5% off the wish list (if requesting 5% more than the year before) and not the raise list and Commissioner Young and Carr was in agreement. Everyone was asked to cut as much as they could from their budgets and tighten their budgets and get it to the Auditor by Wednesday.

Commissioner Young 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 August 8, 2011.

Witnessed and recorded this 8th day of August, 2011.

Betty Crane, County Clerk