

**COMMISSIONERS' COURT
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 10, 2001**

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT THE TITUS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT met in *Regular Session* on Monday, September 10, 2001, in the Titus County Courtroom with the following members present:

DANNY P. CROOKS.....COUNTY JUDGE
BOB FITCH.....COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 1
MIKE FIELDS.....COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 2
BILLY J. THOMPSON.....COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 3
THOMAS E. HOCKADAY...COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 4
JEAN CROVER.....DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK

ABSENT: NONE

CARL JOHNSON, COUNTY AUDITOR
JUDY COOK, TAX ASSESSOR - COLLECTOR
M. J. LARSEN, DEPUTY SHERIFF

STEVE CAPPS
JOHN PAYNE

GERALD SCHROEDER
JAMIE GIDDINS

Mike Fields gave the invocation.

IN THE MATTER OF
CONSIDERING BIDS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT,
PUBLIC OFFICIALS, AUTO COLLISION AND THEFT,
BUILDINGS AND CONTENTS, COMMERCIAL GENERAL
LIABILITY, SURETY BONDS AND
WORKERS COMPENSATION

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas E. Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Bob Fitch to approve the bid from Capps Insurance Company for insurance to cover Law Enforcement, Public Officials, Auto Collision and Theft, Buildings and Contents, Commercial General Liability, and Surety Bonds for a total of \$99,515.00 with St. Paul's. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas E. Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Bob Fitch to approve the bid from Texas Association of Counties for the Workers Compensation for \$64,026.00. Motion carried unanimously. *SEE ATTACHMENT "A"*

IN THE MATTER OF
APPROVING TONY REX BYNUM AS
LIEUTENANT DEPUTY SHERIFF

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas E. Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Bob Fitch to approve the deputation of Tony Rex Bynum as Lieutenant Deputy Sheriff. Motion carried unanimously.

IN THE MATTER OF
CONSIDER AND POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF
ANY CHANGES TO THE COUNTY RETIREMENT PLAN
FOR YEAR 2002

County Auditor Carl Johnson recommended to the Court that no changes should be made in the County Retirement Plan at this time.

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas E. Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Billy J. Thompson to approve keeping the current retirement plan for the year 2002. Motion carried unanimously.

IN THE MATTER OF
CONSIDERING A PROPOSAL TO INCREASE TOTAL
TAX REVENUES FROM PROPERTIES OF THE
TAX ROLL IN THE PRECEDING YEAR

County Judge, Danny P. Crooks said, "The Court is proposing a \$.02195 rate which is down from last year's \$.023000 rate."

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas E. Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Billy J. Thompson to approve the increase total tax revenues from properties of the Tax Rolls in the preceding year from \$.023000 to \$.02195 per \$100 property value. Motion carried unanimously.

IN THE MATTER OF
OPENING AND CONSIDERING BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE
OF THREE (3) NEW VEHICLES FOR THE TITUS COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas E. Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Billy J. Thompson to approve the bid from Philpot Motors for 3 standard patrol cars at \$23,998.00 each and 1 unmarked patrol car at \$21,610.00. Motion carried unanimously. *SEE ATTACHMENT "B"*

IN THE MATTER OF
APPROVING BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Bob Fitch and seconded by Commissioner Billy J. Thompson to approve budget amendment number 83 to 86. The amendments can be seen in the County Auditor's Office. Motion carried unanimously.

IN THE MATTER OF
SIGNING PAY ORDERS AND PAYING BILLS

Motion was made by Commissioner Billy J. Thompson and seconded by Commissioner Thomas E. Hockaday to approve signing pay orders and paying bills. Motion carried unanimously.

IN THE MATTER OF
APPROVING COUNTY OFFICIAL REPORTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Bob Fitch and seconded by Commissioner Thomas E. Hockaday to approve reports from County Auditor, County Tax Assessor-Collector, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1 and County Extension Office. Motion carried unanimously.

IN THE MATTER OF
DISCUSS AND POSSIBLY APPROVAL
OF TWO INDIVIDUALS TO SERVE ON
THE TITUS COUNTY CHILD PROTECTIVE
SERVICES BOARD

Motion was made by Commissioner Billy J. Thompson and seconded by Commissioner Thomas E. Hockaday to approve Michael L. Kirkwood and Jo Etta Richardson as members of Titus County Child Protective Services Board. Motion carried unanimously. *SEE ATTACHMENT "C"*

IN THE MATTER OF
ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas E. Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Billy J. Thompson to adjourn.

Capps
*ST PAUL***Reinsurance Account Pricing**

The following is the price breakdown for this quote. The price quoted does not include taxes and fees. These will be added based upon your locality.

<u>General Liability</u>	
Option 1	\$ 8,234
<u>Public Entity Management Liability</u>	
Option 1	\$ 7,503
<u>Law Enforcement Liability</u>	
Option 1	\$ 50,990
<u>Automobile Liability</u>	
Option 1	\$ 15,238
<u>Automobile Physical Damage</u>	
Option 1	\$ 6,918
<u>Property</u>	
Option 1	\$ 9,996
<u>Crime</u>	636
St. Paul Fire & Marine Gross Annual Reinsurance Premium	99,515

Capps

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Judyhenry

From: Carol.Amalio@stpaul.com
Sent: Friday, September 07, 2001 1:54 PM
To: judyhenry@cappsinsurance.com
Cc: Bill.Blakey@stpaul.com
Subject: Re: Titus County-Retro Dates

For the term 10/01/2001-10/01/2002 we are agreeable to amend the retro date as follows:
E&O (Pemi) retro date 10-01-1999 per your request.

**Law- Prior occurrence date to be amended to: 12-08-97
per your request**

Please be advised that both coverages will contain an endorsement which specifically states:

Coverage will not apply to any known or reported claim prior to 09/07/2001.

Hope this addresses your concern. A revised quotation will follow shortly under separate cover.

*** Please note, we will not amend our policy term of 10/01/2000-10/01/2001 under any circumstances to reflect the above.

Regards

CAPPS

TRIDENT

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Pricing

The following is the price breakdown for this quotation:

<u>COVERAGE</u>	<u>PREMIUM</u>
General Liability	\$9,558
Public Officials' Liability	\$7,889
Law Enforcement Liability	\$42,500
Commercial Automobile Liability	\$19,200
Commercial Automobile Physical Damage	\$6,215
Commercial Property	\$12,578
Commercial Crime	\$1,590
TOTAL	\$99,530

8/24/2001

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Redfearn

PREMIUM SUMMARY

PROPERTY:	\$13,150.00
GENERAL LIABILITY:	\$12,236.00
COMMERCIAL AUTO:	\$47,859.00
LAW ENFORCEMENT LIABILITY:	\$79,000.00
PUBLIC OFFICIALS LIABILITY:	\$50,500.00
BOILER & MACHINERY:	\$ 1,500.00
CRIME:	\$ 614.00
WORKERS' COMPENSATION:	\$79,510.00

20/8-59

210

ALL COVERAGES ARE QUOTED THROUGH THE "TEXAS POLITICAL
SUBDIVISIONS FUND", WHICH IS REINSURED BY TRAVELERS.

WE CAN PLACE MOST OF THE ABOVE COVERAGES INDEPENDENT OF
EACH OTHER, IF WE ARE MORE COMPETITIVE IN CERTAIN LINES.

Joe Zupard
Joe Z. Redfearn

Amanda Hawkins

*Anna Robinson**Danny Robinson*

7AC

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TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

TITUS COUNTY

August 25, 2001

PRICING SUMMARY

Coverage	Limits	Deductible	Contribution
Automobile Liability	100/300/100	None	\$20,574
Automobile Physical Damage	Per Scheduled Values	\$500 Comp \$500 Coll	\$11,782
General Liability	100/300/100	None	\$13,848
Public Officials Liability	\$2,000,000	\$10,000	\$11,495
Law Enforcement Liability	\$2,000,000	\$10,000	\$48,390
Property	Per Scheduled Values / Replacement Cost Coverage B&M Valuable Papers Media / Software	\$1,000	\$17,116 Included Included Included
Crime	Per Scheduled	\$1,000	\$3,433
Workers' Compensation* (1/1/01-12/31/01)	Statutory	None	\$64,026 ✓ 126
Total			\$190,664

Workers' Compensation Property / Liability Package Discounts

\$12,805

Total with WC Package Discount

\$177,859 113

*Note: Workers' Compensation cost for period 1/1/02-12/31/02 is quoted @ \$72,942. ~~92,942~~

Note: This is a summary sheet only and does not take the place of the proposal forms enclosed. Please refer to proposal forms for details on coverages and optional deductibles offered.



Philpott Motors, Inc.
2727 Nall (Hwy 365)
P.O. Box 876
Port Neches, Texas 77651
(409) 727-1451

FLEET PROPOSAL

PREPARED FOR: TITUS COUNTY PREPARED BY: Ken Durbin
100 WEST 2ST. Government/Fleet Sales
MT. PLEASANT, TX. (888)973-5338 ext.171
903-577-6769 75455

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	EXTENDED
3	2001 FORD CROWN-VIC. POLICE PKG	23,998.00	71,994.00
	AS PER COPY OF YOUR SPEC'S.		
	MARKED UNIT (WHITE)		
	UNIT'S ARE IN STOCK & CAN		
	BE DELIVERED IN 10 TO 14		
	DAYS OF P.O..		
1	2001 FORD CROWN-VIC. POLICE PKG	21,610.00	21,610.00
	AS PER COPY OF YOUR SPEC'S.		
	UNMARKED UNIT (ARIZONA B.)		
	UNIT IN STOCK & CAN BE		
	DELIVERED IN 10 TO 14 DAYS		
	OF P.O.		

TOTAL: 93,604.00

THANKS-A-LOT
Ken Durbin
"A Tradition Since 1950"

ATTACHMENT "C"

VOL 30 PAGE 183

September 4, 2001

RECEIVED

SEP 04 2001

TITUS COUNTY JUDGE

Honorable Danny Crooks
County Judge
Titus County Court House
Mt Pleasant, Tx 75455

Dear Judge Crooks:

I am submitting two (2) individuals for your consideration to serve on the Titus County
Child Protective Services Board. They are:

Michael L. Kirkwood
Rt 8, Box 465
Mt Pleasant, TX 75455
Employer - Mt Pleasant Police Department

Jo Etta Richardson
P O Box 1322
Mt Pleasant, TX 75455
Employer - Mt Pleasant ISD

Sincerely,



OraLee Harcrow
President, Titus County CPS Board

**COMMISSIONER'S COURT
PUBLIC HEARING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2001**

**BE IT REMEMBERED THAT THE TITUS COUNTY
COMMISSIONER'S COURT met for a Public Hearing on Wednesday,
September 19, 2001, in the Titus County Courtroom with the following
members present:**

**DANNY P. CROOKS.....COUNTY JUDGE
BOB FITCH.....COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 1
MIKE FIELDS.....COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 2
BILLY J. THOMPSON.....COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 3
THOMAS E. HOCKADAY.....COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 4
JEAN CROVER.....DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK**

ABSENT: NONE

**CARL JOHNSON, COUNTY AUDITOR
JUDY COOK, COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR - COLLECTOR
TIM TAYLOR, COUNTY ATTORNEY
SHERRY MARS, COUNTY CLERK
LEO SCHAKEL, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 1
REX MARS, CHIEF JAILER
JOAN DUNCAN, DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK
LA DONNA HOLT, DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK
THELMA SCULLIN, DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK**

JOAN HOWELL

MARY DUNN

**IN THE MATTER OF
BUDGET 2001 - 2002**

County Clerk Sherry Mars stated, "I have never asked the Court for anything. My office is in desperate need of extra help. The caseload for criminal cases has tripled. We are too under staffed to keep up. I also know that the County Attorney's Office has the same problem. Tim and I have talked and we are willing to share a full time employee between us. My part time girl is already trained and could be beneficial for both offices. It would take at least two years to train someone who would be of any help in this department. I have been collecting Bond Forfeitures Fees Reinstatement Fees for the sum of \$20,100.00. I would invite the

Commissioner's to come and sit in my office the day before Criminal Court, Court Day and the day after just to see what I am talking about. You have no idea what we do in our office and how much work is to handle."

County Judge Crooks said, "I have seen how much work the girls in the back have and I know they do need some help."

County Attorney Tim Taylor said, "I agree with Sherry. Our caseloads have tripled and we are still working with the same staff that we had four years ago. I have agreed with Sherry that we could share the full time employee between the two offices."

County Auditor asked, "How will you share this full time person?"

Miss Mars said, "La Donna would work for our office maybe a half a day then go work with Tina half a day. Sometimes she might have to work all day for my office and the next day work all day for Tim's Office."

Commissioner Billy J. Thompson said, "The reason I, did not approve a full time employee was because of the projection of a half a million shortfall for this years budget."

Tim Taylor and Sherry Mars both pointed out that it was a projected shortfall. It could be that the County was not that short after all the figures were in.

Commissioner Billy J. Thompson said, "I have no problem with allowing the County Clerk and County Attorney sharing a full time employee."

Commissioner Mike Fields stated. "I would like to see the figures before making any kind of decision."

Judge Crooks asked for any more comments on this matter.

Judge Crooks took a few more comments then stated no action could be taken at the Public Hearing. *SEE ATTACHMENT "A"*

IN THE MATTER OF
INCREASE TOTAL TAX REVENUES

County Judge Crooks, explained the rate proposed rate would be \$.02195 down from \$.023000 per \$100 property value. That is a decrease from last year. However, property value increases will make it break about even.

Tax Assessor – Collector Judy Cook, stated she would be able to further comment on this after she gets her figures from the other taxing agents.

No further comments were made and no action was taken.

IN THE MATTER OF
ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mike Fields and seconded by Commissioner Billy J. Thompson to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING ON
PROPOSED 2001-2002
BUDGET**

Titus County will hold a public hearing on the proposed 2001-2002 Budget on
Wednesday 19, 2001 at 9:00 AM at Titus County Court House, County Courtroom Suite
205, 100 W 1st Street Mt Pleasant, Texas.

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The Titus County will hold a public hearing on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 9.61 percent. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The public hearing will be held on September 19, 2001 at 9:00 AM at 100 W 1st St. Titus County Courthouse, Commissioners Court Rm #205 Mt Pleasant, TX 75455.

FOR the proposal: Danny Pat Crooks Bob Fitch
Thomas Hockaday Billy Thompson
Mike Fields

AGAINST the proposal: none

PRESENT and not voting: none

ABSENT: none

The following table compares taxes on an average home in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average home this year. Again, your individual taxes may be higher or lower, depending on the taxable value of your property.

	Last Year	This Year
Average residence homestead value	\$50,624	\$53,478
General exemptions available	\$10,125	\$10,696
<small>(amount available on the average homestead, not including senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)</small>		
Average taxable value	\$40,499	\$42,782
Tax rate (per \$100)	0.230700	0.219520
Tax	\$93.43	\$93.92

Under this proposal, taxes on the average homestead would increase by \$0.49 or 0.52 percent compared with last year's taxes. Comparing tax rates without adjusting for changes in property value, the tax rate would decrease by \$0.01118 per \$100 of taxable value or 4.85 percent compared to last year's tax rate. These tax rate figures are not adjusted for changes in the taxable value of property.

**2001 Property Tax Rates
in Titus County**

This notice concerns 2001 property tax rates for Titus County. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:

Last year's operating taxes	\$3,078,674
Last year's debt taxes	\$589,026
Last year's total taxes	\$3,667,700
Last year's tax base	\$1,589,813,611
Last year's total tax rate	0.230700 /\$100

This year's effective tax rate:

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$3,653,187
/ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$1,824,141,673
= This year's effective tax rate	0.200268 /\$100
x 1.03 = maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearing	0.206276 /\$100

This year's rollback tax rate:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$4,350,577
/ This year's adjusted tax base	\$1,824,141,673
= This year's effective operating rate	0.238500 /\$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	0.257580 /\$100
+ This year's debt rate	0.031580 /\$100
= This year's rollback rate	0.289160 /\$100
- Sales tax adjustment rate	0.069603 /\$100
= Rollback tax rate	0.219557 /\$100

Wednesday, August 29, 2001

Mount Pleasant Daily Tribune, Mount Pleasant Texas

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If Titus County adopts a 2001 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.200268 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2000 taxes by \$27,002.

Schedule A

Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
General Operating Fund	\$1,100,000
Special Revenue Fund	\$625,000
I & S Fund	\$642,400

Schedule B

2001 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
1977 Bond	\$50,000	\$9,000	\$0	\$59,000
1993 Bond	\$375,000	\$148,623	\$0	\$523,623
Total required for 2001 debt service				\$582,623
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A				\$0
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources				\$0
- Excess collections last year				\$0
= Total to be paid from taxes in 2001				\$582,623
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100.00% of its taxes in 2001				\$0
= Total debt levy				\$582,623

Schedule C: Expected Revenue from Additional Sales Tax

In calculating its effective and rollback tax rates, the unit estimated that it will receive \$1,284,086 in additional sales and use tax revenues. The county has excluded any amount that is or will be distributed for economic development grants from this amount of expected sales tax revenue.

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at 105 W 1ST ST STE 101 MT PLEASANT TEXAS 75455.

Name of person preparing this notice: JUDY COOK

Title: TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR

Date prepared: August 27, 2001

Wednesday, August 29, 2001

Mount Pleasant Daily Tribune, Mount Pleasant