

[Link to Audio](#)

COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF TITUS COUNTY, TEXAS
SPECIAL MEETING
April 26, 2010

PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND PUBLIC ATTENDING:

Sam W. Russell, County Judge
Mike Fields, Commissioner Precinct 2
Thomas Hockaday, Commissioner Precinct 4
Lydia Gonzales, Deputy Clerk
Captain Brad Fosdick, Sheriff's Office
William White, Business Manager
Katrina Hale
Lou Antonelli
Bobby Joe Spearman
Steve Austin

Don Boggs, Commissioner Pct 1
Phillip Hinton, Commissioner Pct 3
Stefanie Morelan, Chief Deputy Clerk
Carl Johnson, County Auditor
Joyce Simpson, Judge Assistant
Norma Narramore
Brian Whitfield
Brian Lee
Seth Thurman

Judge Sam Russell called the Special Meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. on April 26, 2010 stating that for the record, notices had been posted 72 hours preceding the meeting as requested by the Open Records Act.

Judge Russell led the Commissioners' Court in the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Thomas Hockaday followed with the invocation.

1. Public Comments and/or Requests for Information on Non-agenda Items in accordance with Section 551.042, Texas Open Meetings Act

There were no public comments and/or requests for information on non-agenda items.

2. Presentation by Seth Thurman for New Phone System for Courthouse Complex

Seth Thurman presented the Commissioners' Court with handouts relating to the proposal for a new phone system. Mr. Thurman began with stating that the objective was to replace the current phone system in the Titus County Courthouse, Annex and Voter Registration buildings with a new system that will ensure connectivity, growth and serviceability for years to come.

The proposal Mr. Thurman submitted was the Avaya IP Office 5420 (formerly owned by AT&T) as it would meet the needs of Titus County:

- System with readily available replacement parts and people who know how to replace these parts
- System that would connect multiple offices with fully integrated voicemail
- Audio Attendant in the future with one main number that would transfer calls to all offices
- Provide additional T1/Pri digital trunking as well as the current standard of analog phone lines. You would get a better service, more features and be more cost effective.

The first step would be to replace the current system in courthouse and tie all offices in the courthouse together on one system. The system currently in place is approximately 20 years old and parts and telephones can no longer be found. Voice mail would be tied to this system. Next the Annex would be tied into this system. A separate control unit would be placed in each building so that each office would stand alone. Mr. Thurman has been in contact with Shawn Bryant who assures him that the infrastructure is in place, fiber in each building and connections are in place to support this system. After this is completed, the Elections Office would be tied in. They now have the Centrex trunk that will support the transfer by using the last four numbers of the phone number to transfer calls. The Sheriff's office has recently purchased a new phone system. Therefore, a Centrex trunk would be added to allow 4-digit transfers of calls. The Justice Center will use their current system and use Centrex 4-digit transfer features for connectivity.

Judge Russell asked if this gets us away from using 30 different phone numbers. Mr. Thurman stated that it wasn't figured in this quote but has the ability to go to that. Each office now has 3-4 different numbers. You could transition over to a T1/Pri trunk which would carry all of the numbers. This would cost about \$600 a month allowing the county to see significant savings. Instead of having a phone bill for each number, you would now have 1 bill. There would be a main number to call and select which office they wanted. Carl Johnson asked if this was included in the quote. Mr. Thurman answered that it was not. It would be about \$400 extra for the T1 card, programming time and your cost from AT&T.

The telephones run over copper cabling which will remain up when everything else goes down. It has the object to expand and availability to add the IP telephone on your network or another control unit. An IP would actually plug into your internet, not run over copper cabling.

Commissioner Boggs asked if this could come from the Records Management or Technology Funds. Mr. Johnson stated that he did not think it could be taken from JP Technology Funds and felt it would have to come out of General Accounting. Commissioner Hockaday stated that he thought \$50,000 had been put in the budget this year to replace the telephones.

3. Review minutes for March 22, 2010 Special Meeting and April 12, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Commissioners Court

Commissioner Boggs asked that instead of showing refer to audio on Item 2 of the April 12, 2010 minutes, that the high points of the presentation be added to the minutes.

Motion was made by Commissioner Phillip Hinton and seconded by Commissioner Thomas Hockaday to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Consider and Possibly Approve Acquisition of New Phone System for Courthouse Complex

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner to approve \$18,346.00 for the Courthouse and \$14,196.00 for the acquisition of new phone system but to hold off on the Voter's Office until it is determined what we are going to do with that office. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Consider and Possibly Take Action on approval of a Replat of Part of Lot No. 4 & 5, Block No. 191, City of Mt Pleasant, Titus County, Texas into Lot Nos. 1 thru 4, Shelby Estate Subdivision, City of Mt Pleasant, Titus County, Texas

Motion was made by Commissioner Mike Fields and seconded by Commissioner Don Boggs to approve Replat of Part of Lot No. 4 & 5, Block No. 191, City of Mt Pleasant, Titus County, Texas into Lots Nos. 1 thru 4, Shelby Estate Subdivision, City of Mt Pleasant, Titus County, Texas. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Consider and Possibly Proclamation Declaring May, 2010 as Elder Abuse Prevention Awareness Month

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Mike Fields to approve proclamation declaring May, 2010 as Elder Abuse Prevention Awareness Month. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Consider and Possibly Approve Travel and Seminars for Titus County Employees and Elected Officials

Travel was submitted from the Sheriff's office for the following: Captain Brad Fosdick, Lieutenant Teresa Patterson, Sergeant Michael Garcia and Officer Charles Duke to attend the 24th Annual Spring Conference for TCLEOSE continuing education; Lt. Terry McDowell, Sgt. Marcus Carlock, Sgt. Aaron Baxter, Deputy Craig Brown and Deputy David Robinson to attend an Emergency Response Team Training course on April 26-30 at the Titus County Sheriff's Office/

Motion was made by Commissioner Philip Hinton and seconded by Commissioner Mike Fields to approve travel and seminars for Titus County Employees and Elected Officials. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Consider and Possibly Approve Oral and Written Reports of County Officials

There were no oral reports. Written reports were received from Nortex VFD and the Auditor's office.

Motion was made by Commissioner Don Boggs and seconded by Commissioner Phillip Hinton to approve written reports of County Officials. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Approve Budget Amendments

There were no budget amendments.

10. Sign Pay Orders and Approve Payments

Motion was made by Commissioner Phillip Hinton and seconded by Commissioner Thomas Hockaday to sign pay orders and approve payments. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Closing Comments by County Judge and Commissioners, if any

Commissioner Don Boggs informed the court that he had made all of the amendments as suggested except for Cobra and FMLA and he did not feel qualified to make these changes. He may need to get assistance from Texas Workforce Commission.

Commissioner Mike Fields stated that it had been a rough morning after the storm Saturday. Each precinct had trees down and spent the day cleaning up after the storm.

Commissioner Thomas Hockaday told the court that the FONSI had been received on 2348 and ROW acquisition can now proceed.

Adjourn

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Phillip Hinton to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.