

TITUS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT

Public Participation Form

Instructions: Fill out all appropriate blanks. Please print or write legibly.

NAME: Barbara Bruehner

ADDRESS: 343 CR 4218 Mt Pleasant

Do you represent any particular group or organization? _____

If you do represent a group or organization, please state the name of such group or organization?

Which agenda item (or items) do you wish to address? _____

Do you wish to make an inquiry under Section 551.042 of the Open Meetings Act?

Signature: Barbara Bruehner Date: 3-25-13

Note: This Public Participation Form must be presented to the County Clerk prior to the time that the agenda item (or items) you wish to address are discussed before the Court.

Titus County Commissioners meeting

March 25, 2013

We wish that Commissioner Hockaday had put as much effort into explaining over 5,000 gallons of gas that is unaccounted for in Precinct 4 as he did in explaining the time line on evicting the elderly dog from the courthouse in a recent advertisement. We are in agreement with his statement that "county business is everyone's business", so today we are again asking for the truth about the disposition of almost \$20,000 of gas that remains unaccounted for.

Fuel logs and gas purchase invoices obtained through a Freedom of Information Request, show that from 2006-2011 approximately 20,300 gallons of gas was purchased by Commissioner Hockaday. The meter shows that approximately 19,300 gallons was consumed, yet the log reflects only about 14,000 gallons. There was approximately 88 gallons of gas unaccounted for 59 out of 60 months in Precinct 4. The fuel logs and the yearly totals for the 5 year period are posted on our website mptxteapatriots.com and a copy has been submitted to the County Clerk today also.

Commissioner Hockaday stated in his ad that some rushed to judgement without having all the facts on the issue of dogs in the courthouse. We have waited quite awhile to get the facts or any explanation for that matter on what happened to over 5,000 gallons of gas unaccounted for on his watch. What happened to 7 months of fuel logs that are missing for fiscal 2011-2012 and why did the meter match the logs in May 2012 after we spoke with the county and a month before the meter was even replaced.

The fuel log issue has been ignored and swept under the rug for almost a year now. It's time for a detailed explanation from Commissioner Hockaday about what happened to almost \$20,000 of gas that remains totally unaccounted for and to answer the other questions surrounding this issue. The ad recently published offering his explanations about the elderly dog issue was titled "The Rest Of The Story". Commissioner Hockaday, we would like to hear the rest of the story about missing gasoline at your precinct barn.

Barbara Bruechner

Commissioner Hockaday
Precinct 4 Gas Fuel Log

Fiscal year 2006-07

	<u>meter</u>	<u>Log</u>	<u>Unaccounted</u>
Oct 06	316.2	246.5	69.7
Nov	336.8	247.8	89.0
Dec	284.3	187.9	96.4
Jan 07	366.4	227.0	139.4
Feb	277.0	189.2	87.8
March	434.8	284.2	150.6
April	323.7	236.1	87.6
May	444.3	252.0	192.3
June	437.4	318.1	119.3
July	483.9	375.3	108.6
Aug	352.6	247.2	105.4
Sept	<u>345.0</u>	<u>245.5</u>	<u>99.5</u>
	<u>4,402.4</u>	<u>3,056.8</u>	<u>1,345.6</u> gallon

Commissioner Hockaday
Precinct 4 Gas Fuel Log

Fiscal year 2007-08

	<u>meter</u>	<u>Log</u>	<u>Unaccounted</u>
Oct 07	439.0	302.8	136.2
Nov	286.0	195.9	90.1
Dec	237.5	147.3	90.2
Jan 08	313.5	218.0	95.5
Feb	346.0	258.0	88.0
March	383.0	266.7	116.3
April	362.8	230.6	132.2
May	366.4	233.0	133.4
June	224.3	158.1	66.2
July	402.8	280.4	122.4
Aug	275.4	242.5	32.9
Sept	305.4	233.3	72.1
	<u>3,942.1</u>	<u>2,766.6</u>	<u>1,175.5</u> gallons

Commissioner Hockaday
Precinct 4 Gas Fuel Log

Fiscal year 2008-09

	<u>meter</u>	<u>Log</u>	<u>Unaccounted</u>
Oct 08	225.2	168.6	56.8
Nov	225.3	162.4	62.9
Dec	256.1	174.0	82.1
Jan 09	282.2	222.0	60.2
Feb	252.8	202.7	50.1
March	182.0	118.0	64.0
April	318.0	226.4	91.6
May	479.5	352.4	127.1
June	300.1	279.1	21.0
July	226.0	227.3	0
Aug	255.2	173.7	81.5
Sept	223.6	162.1	63.5
	<u>3,226.0</u>	<u>2,466.7</u>	<u>759.3 gallons</u>

Commissioner Hockaday
Precinct 4 Gas Fuel Log

Fiscal year 2009-10

	<u>meter</u>	<u>Log</u>	<u>Unaccounted</u>
Oct 09	317.1	235.2	81.9
Nov	274.4	216.4	58.0
Dec	201.2	126.5	74.7
Jan 10	268.9	173.0	95.9
Feb	328.0	251.8	76.2
March	310.1	241.2	68.9
April	295.9	231.3	64.6
May	276.7	201.1	74.6
June	315.5	230.5	85.0
July	286.2	211.8	74.4
Aug	257.8	209.9	47.9
Sept	331.5	256.5	75.0
	<u>3,463.3</u>	<u>2,585.2</u>	<u>878.1 gallons</u>

Commissioner Hockaday
Precinct 4 Gas Fuel Log

Fiscal year 2010-11

	<u>meter</u>	<u>Log</u>	<u>Unaccounted</u>
Oct 10	191.0	123.0	68.0
Nov	313.0	243.0	70.0
Dec	293.0	210.0	83.0
Jan 11	313.0	267.0	46.0
Feb	424.0	360.0	64.0
March	341.0	245.0	96.0
April	337.0	275.0	62.0
May	300.0	218.0	82.0
June	522.0	394.0	128.0
July	351.0	239.0	112.0
Aug	419.0	323.0	96.0
Sept	491.0	356.0	135.0
	<u>4,295.0</u>	<u>3,253.0</u>	<u>1,042.0</u> gallons

Dogs and Logs

To the Editor:

Instead of wasting time policing other elected officials and evicting elderly dogs from the courthouse, Commissioner Hockaday could better serve the taxpayers scrutinizing his own precinct business. Fuel logs obtained through freedom of information requests reveal that from 2006-2011, Precinct 4 had approximately 5,200 gallons of gasoline unaccounted for. Fuel records that my husband and I reviewed last spring showed that during the 5 year period, an average of 88 gallons was unaccounted for 59 of 60 months.

Although county officials were notified of our findings, plausible explanations haven't been forthcoming. Theories offered included employees not keeping good records, a malfunctioning fuel meter, etc. The perplexing part is that gas purchases matched the fuel meter but not the logs. Approximately 20,300 gallons of gas was purchased and the meter shows approximately 19,300 gallons consumed, yet logs reflect only about 14,000 gallons.

There are more unanswered and troubling questions for Precinct 4. Did this Commissioner not review fuel logs before monthly submission? He's responsible for a half million dollar budget yearly, yet thousands of gallons of gas are unaccounted for at his precinct barn. Is he aware that the majority of purchases are for super unleaded grade gas? Why were 7 months of fuel logs missing for fiscal year 2011-2012 when we requested them? Why did logs suddenly match the meter following our meeting with county officials in May 2012 when the meter wasn't replaced until June 2012.

Precinct 4 has close to \$20,000 of gasoline unaccounted for on Commissioner Hockaday's watch in logs looked at thus far. Frankly, I believe all of us would prefer his energy be directed at personal accountability, cutting spending and other worthwhile ventures. Unfortunately, petty politics seems to be thriving at the courthouse, supporting my theory that some of our Commissioners continue to be underworked and overpaid.

Barbara Bruechner
Mt. Pleasant, Tx.