

**COMMISSIONERS' COURT
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 12, 2014**

[AGENDA](#)

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Notice is hereby given that the Titus County Commissioners' Court met in a Regular meeting on Monday, May 12, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. in the Titus County Courtroom, with the following members present:

Brian P. Lee	County Judge
Al Riddle	Commissioner Precinct 1
Mike Fields	Commissioner Precinct 2
Phillip Hinton	Commissioner Precinct 3
Thomas Hockaday	Commissioner Precinct 4
Dianne Norris	County Clerk - Absent
Sheryl Preddy	County Treasurer
Carl Johnson	County Auditor
Tim Ingram	County Sheriff

Public Attending Meeting:

Norma Narramore	Chuck Denman	Steve Austin, CVSO/TCHC
David Wall	Troy Sellers	Christie Davis
Joan Newman	Chris Basham	Judy Kent
Paul Lindsay	Sue Evenwell	Krissy Lytle
Keith Kridler	Lou Antonelli	Carolyn Norman
Joyce Simpson		

Invocation: Judge Brian Lee

Pledge of Allegiance: Judge Brian Lee

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 551.042, TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

David Wall gave an update on the Boy Scout Troop 101 test garden.

Keith Kridler voiced his complaints regarding the Elections Department and lack of knowledge on where to go to vote and not keeping the Election website updated. He stated that the \$81,000 county payroll for three full time election employees is not a good investment for the county.

2. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE MINUTES FROM APRIL 28, 2014 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinton and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve minutes from April 28, 2014 special meeting of the Commissioners' Court. Motion passed unanimously.

3. STATUS REPORT ON TITUS COUNTY PASS THROUGH PROJECTS (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

See attached report from Pate Transportation. ([See Attachment #01](#))

A meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, May 14th of this week at 11:00 a.m. with James Construction, PTP Transportation, Judge Lee and Commissioner Fields to discuss the concerns of the time frame of the FM 1000 project and the lack of staff and progress made to the schedule.

4. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE A PROPERTY OWNER REQUEST FOR DAM AND DRIVEWAY RELOCATION ON THE FM 4000 PROJECT AT A COST OF \$75,000 (Listen to audio and/or see video)

Keith Kridler asked the court if anyone from the Commissioners' Court had been to the location to see what the property owner was requesting. He also stated that he had a quote from John Stephenson in the amount of \$31,000 for this project instead of the \$75,000 cost that was quoted on the report from PTP.

Motion was made by Commissioner Riddle to table approving the property owner's request for dam and driveway relocation on the FM 4000 project at a cost of \$75,000. Motion died due to lack of a second. When asked for a comment regarding this decision, Mr. Denman stated that he had no comments and did not want the taxpayers to be held responsible for the cost. ([See Attachment #02](#))

5. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE A RESOLUTION AND ORDER APPROVING THE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FUND GRANT PROGRAM AGREEMENT, DESIGNATING AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE AND MAKING SPECIFIC FINDINGS REQUIRED BY THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (Tabled 4-28-14) (Listen to audio and/or see video)

Motion was made by Commissioner Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Hinton to approve a Resolution and Order Approving the County Transportation Infrastructure Fund Grant Program Agreement, Designating the County Judge as Authorized Representative and Making Specific Findings Required by the Texas Department of Transportation. Motion passed unanimously. ([See Attachment #03](#))

6. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR HONOREES ON THE “IN THE LINE OF DUTY” MEMORIAL AND SET DATE FOR CEREMONY (Steve Austin) (Listen to audio and/or see video)

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Hinton to approve the eligibility requirements for honorees on the “In the Line of Duty” Memorial and set a tentative date of September 11, 2014 for the dedication ceremony. Motion passed unanimously. ([See Attachment #04](#))

7. PRESENTATION BY KENNY ROLLINS, TITUS COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION AGENT (Listen to audio and/or see video)

Kenny Rollins, Titus County Extension Agent, presented “Building a Better Texas Award” to the Commissioners’ Court for their 100 year partnership with the Cooperative Extension Service. Mr. Rollins stated that their cooperation and support has made it possible for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service to reach all Texans with much-needed educational programs that help to make their lives better.

8. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY TAKE ACTION ON THREE SEPARATE OFFERS TO PURCHASE DELINQUENT PROPERTY, PREVIOUSLY REMOVED FROM THE TAX ROLLS, THAT DID NOT SELL AT AUCTION (Listen to audio and/or see video)

- a. A bid was received from Corinthis Moore for the purchase of a mobile home which had been previously struck off at a delinquent tax auction on October 1, 2013 Sheriff Sale in Titus County, Texas. The Judgment amount was \$2591.40 with the taxable value being \$5664.00. Corinthis Moore's bid for this property is \$500.00. ([See Attachment #05](#))

Motion was made by Commissioner Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Fields to table taking action on this bid and see if a higher bid could be obtained from Corinthis Moore. Motion passed unanimously.

- b. Bid was received from Marjorie Burns, East Texas Hope Center-Homeless Ministries in the amount of \$500.00 for Lots 13 & 16-20, Unit 1 of SWANAO Subdivision which had been struck off at a delinquent tax auction on April 2, 2012. The Judgment amount is \$30,663.08 with a taxable value of \$24,471.00. ([See Attachment #06](#))

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Hockaday to decline the \$500.00 bid for this property. Motion passed unanimously.

- c. Bid was received from Abelino Chavez Mata in the amount of \$10,748.66 for .48 acre parcel of land and house located on CR 4950 which had been struck off at a delinquent tax auction on April 1, 2014. The judgment amount is \$9,449.01. ([See Attachment #07](#))

Motion was made by Commissioner Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Hinton to accept the bid from Abelino Chavez Mata in the amount of \$10,748.66 for .48 acre, William White Survey, A-604 located in Titus County, Texas which was struck off at a delinquent tax auction on April 1, 2014. Motion passed unanimously.

9. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY TAKE ACTION ON A PROPOSED MULTIPLE USE AGREEMENT WITH TxDOT REGARDING ADVANCE COUNTY ROAD SIGNS (Listen to audio and/or see video)

Judge Lee explained to the court that the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is not planning on replacing Advance County Road Sign Markers that is at an intersection indicating that county roads are coming up unless the county pays for them. TxDOT expects to save approximately \$18 million dollars by not replacing the signs that are knocked down or destroyed. They propose to add a large sign that more clearly draws attention to the county road on top of the stop sign at the intersection with the highway. He explained that if the county still wanted the Advance County Road Signs that they would have to pay for and maintain them. ([See Attachment #08](#))

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinton and seconded by Commissioner Fields to reject the Proposed Multiple Use Agreement with TxDOT regarding Advance County Road Signs that would require Titus County to be responsible for paying for and maintaining these signs. Motion passed unanimously.

10. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY TAKE ACTION ON STORAGE NEEDS DURING AND AFTER RATLIFF REMODEL (CHRIS BASHAM) (Listen to audio and/or see video)

Chris Basham presented a copy of Caddell Building Renovations for Elections Administration Storage at a cost of \$27,077.00. An update on the Contractors' List was also presented to the court. ([See Attachment #09](#))

Motion was made by Commissioner Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Hinton to approve taking action on storage needs during and after Ratliff Remodel by going out for sufficient quick bids less \$5000 by eliminating restrooms bringing the total cost to \$20,000.00. Motion passed four to one with Commissioner Riddle voting nay.

11. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE RETAINING THE LAW FIRM OF ANDREW KURTH TO REPRESENT THE COUNTY RELATED TO THE EFH ENERGY FUTURE HOLDINGS (LUMINANT) DELAWARE BANKRUPTCY. (Listen to audio and/or see video)

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinton and seconded by Judge Lee to approve retaining the Law Firm of Andrew Kurth to represent the County related to the EFH Energy Future Holdings (Luminant) Delaware Bankruptcy. Motion passed four to one with Commissioner Riddle sustaining from voting.

12. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE TRAVEL AND SEMINARS FOR TITUS COUNTY EMPLOYEES AND ELECTED OFFICIALS (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinton and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve travel and seminars for Titus County employees and elected officials with the County being reimbursed for Electons Seminars. Motion passed unanimously. ([See Attachment #10](#))

13. APPROVE ORAL AND WRITTEN REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinton and seconded by Commissioner Hockaday to approve oral and written reports of County Officials. Motion passed unanimously ([See Attachment #11](#))

14. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinton and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve Treasurer's Report. Motion passed unanimously. ([See Attachment #12](#))

15. APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENTS (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

Motion was made by Commissioner Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Hinton to approve budget amendments #25-28. Motion passed unanimously. ([See Attachment #13](#))

16. SIGN PAY ORDERS AND APPROVE PAYMENTS (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

Motion was made by Commissioner Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Hinton to sign pay orders and approve payments. Motion passed unanimously. ([See Attachment #14](#))

17. CLOSING COMMENTS BY COUNTY JUDGE AND COMMISSIONERS, IF ANY (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

Commissioner Hockaday reported that CR 3140 was open and that the culvert had held during the heavy rains.

ADJOURN

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinton and seconded by Commissioner Hockaday to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.