

COMMISSIONERS' COURT
10/27/2014

[AUDIO](#)

[AGENDA](#)

[ATTESTATION](#)

SCROLL DOWN FOR MINUTES AND ATTACHMENTS

**COMMISSIONERS' COURT
SPECIAL MEETING
OCTOBER 27, 2014**

Notice is hereby given that the Titus County Commissioners' Court met in a Special Meeting on Monday, October 27, 2014 at 6:00 p.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
Sheryl Preddy	County Treasurer
Carl Johnson	County Auditor

Public Attending Meeting:

David Horton	Beverly Logan, NETO	Judy Kent
Tony Gesino	Steve Austin, CVSO/TCHC	John Livingston
Troy Sellers	Sue Evenwell	Joan Newman
Denise Reichert	Chris Basham	Emily Aikman
Christie Davis	Karen Gatherer	John Gatherer
Lou Antonelli	Carolyn Norman	Joyce Simpson

Invocation: Commissioner Mike Fields

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 Horton expressed his concerns regarding the abandoned cemeteries in the county and how they can be maintained. This will be added as an agenda item and addressed at that time. Steve Austin from the Titus County Historical Committee stated that they would like to participate in this project.

2. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 14, 2014 REGULAR 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 October 14, 2014 regular meeting of the Commissioners' Court. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Judge Lee read the Titus County Pass-Through Program Status Report from Mark Heidaker with PTP Transportation. ([SEE ATTACHMENT #1](#))

4. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE CHANGE ORDER #7 ON THE FM 4000 SEGMENT OF THE LOOP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,297.04 (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

This Change Order is required to allow for larger timber blocks and hardware necessary to accommodate the transition between MBGF and Type T223 rail.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Hockaday to approve Change Order #7 on the FM 4000 Segment of the Loop in the amount of \$2,297.04 Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT #2](#))

5. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY TO MAKE A GRANT TO NETO – MEALS ON WHEELS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,372.75 TO BE USED BETWEEN FEBRUARY 1, 2015 AND JANUARY 31, 2016 (BEVERLY LOGAN) (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

Beverly Logan, Executive Director from NETO, explained that this grant, Texans Feeding Texans, has been made available by the Department of Agriculture since 2007 to all counties that have home-delivered meal providers. The grant is based on the 2010 Census. These meals are cooked in Mount Vernon and delivered to homebound elderly or disabled individuals. Titus County averages 71 meals per day and with 250 serving days in a year, it is expected that 17,750 meals will be served. Without this resolution, Titus County would be looking at a reduced number of meals. Ms. Logan went on to explain the different programs and the meals that are served at the Senior Meal Center on North Edwards.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Judge Lee to approve a Resolution authorizing the county to make a Grant to NETO – Meals on Wheels in the amount of \$1,372.75 to be used between February 1, 2015 and January 31, 2016. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT #3](#))

6. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY AWARD BID FOR EXPANSION OF THE COMPUTER ROOM, CHRIS BASHAM (TABLED 10-14-14) (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

Chris Basham is still trying to get more bids and stated that he would personally go out and meet with contractors in order to get another local bid. He will not come back until he can get three or four bids.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinton and seconded by Commissioner Hockaday to table awarding bid for expansion of the computer room. Motion passed unanimously.

7. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY AWARD BIDS FOR REMODEL OF RATLIFF BUILDING (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

Only two bids were received on the remodel of the Ratliff Building. ([SEE ATTACHMENT #4](#)) Chris Basham is putting a design packet together and is going to get separate bids for each phase of work.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinton and seconded by Commissioner Fields to table awarding bids for remodel of Ratliff Building until more information could be obtained on the telephone and computer systems. Motion passed unanimously.

8. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF SECURITY CAMERAS IN THE NEW ADULT PROBATION OFFICES AT A COST OF \$9,420.00 TO BE PAID OUT OF THE SECURITY FUND (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

County Clerk, Dianne Norris, told the court that she felt it would be a conflict of interest for the security cameras to be purchased and installed by Newman Electronics since his wife is going to be the new County Clerk. Judge Lee thought it was a valid point but did not know of anyone else who installed the security cameras.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinton and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve purchase and installation of security cameras in the new Adult Probation offices at a cost of \$9,420.00 to be paid out of the Security Fund. Motion passed four to one with Commissioner Riddle voting nay. ([SEE ATTACHMENT #5](#))

9. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY TAKE ACTION ON RELOCATION OF CERTAIN COUNTY OFFICES AFTER ADULT PROBATION MOVES INTO THEIR NEW LOCATION (Listen to audio track and/or see video)

Discussion centered around requests from the County Attorney, Auditor, Veterans Officer, Elections Office, County Clerk and Juvenile Probation offices to relocate their offices and/or utilize office space for training and storage once the Adult Probation office moves into their new location. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT #6\)](#)

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Hockaday to proceed with moving the County Attorney's offices to the NE corner of the first floor and temporarily moving the Elections Office to the current County Attorney's office and discuss future moves later. Motion passed unanimously.

10. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS STATING THE COUNTY'S INTENTION TO COMPLY WITH PROVISIONS OF THE TEXAS ENGINEERING PRACTICE ACT AS IT RELATES TO CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

Mr. Rick Valdes from the Texas Board of Professional Engineers has requested that Titus County submit a letter stating their intention to comply with provisions of the Texas Engineering Practices Act as it relates to County construction projects. This is the result of a recent investigation of the Adult Probation Office remodel at the Annex. Commissioner Riddle expressed his concerns as to whether Titus County is in compliance with the Texas Government Code on construction of public buildings. Judge Lee has had conversations with Mr. Valdes, and feels that the Adult Probation Office project is in compliance. Chris Basham rebutted in that he is a registered architect and can sign off on any plans as the architect. He also stated that since no structural work was done on the Probation Office, no structural engineering work was needed, and that the proposed Ratliff building project includes structural and mechanical engineering. Judge Lee will provide the Commissioners with the contact information for Mr. Valdes so that they can speak to him directly. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT #7\)](#)

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinton and seconded by Commissioner Hockaday to table submitting a letter to the Texas Board of Professional Engineers stating the county's intention to comply with provisions of the Texas Engineering Practice Act as it relates to construction projects in order to give the Commissioners time to talk to Mr. Valdes. Motion passed four to one with Commissioner Riddle voting nay.

11. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE THE EXTENSION OF COUNTY ROAD 3207 THAT HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO COUNTY SPECS, TO BE MAINTAINED BY LANDOWNER FOR ONE YEAR, THEN POSSIBLE ACCEPTANCE BY COUNTY (PHILLIP HINTON) (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

Commissioner Hinton explained that this is a .15 mile section that has been brought to county specs and that the landowners have agreed to maintain it for one year.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinton and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve the extension of County Road 3207 that has been brought to County specs, to be maintained by landowner for one year, then possible acceptance by County. Motion passed unanimously.

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. Motion passed unanimously. ([ATTACHMENT #8](#))

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Hinton to approve oral and written reports of county officials. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT #9](#))

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Hinton to approve Treasurer's Report. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT #10](#))

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

There were no budget amendments.

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinton and seconded by Commissioner Hockaday to sign pay orders and approve payments. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT #11](#))

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

Judge Lee commented on the swearing in of Ray Barrett as Precinct 2 Constable and recognition of Cleve Johnson by Justice of the Peace, Paula Dyke.

Commissioner Fields said that the city was going to have a one (1) day fall cleanup from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the landfill and they wanted to know if the county wanted to place dumpsters there. He is to get the cost and more information.

He also informed the Court that the American Endurance Race would be held at the Priefert Farm on Saturday, October 30, 2014.

Commissioner Hockaday explained that CR 4015 off of the new loop 2348 had been closed to prevent dumping of trash. Steve Bragg had put up barricades and has maintained this area. Mark McKellar is buying the property and would like to open the road back up since it wasn't officially closed. Mr. McKellar is okay with leaving the barricades and moving them when he needs to.

ADJOURN (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

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