

COMMISSIONERS' COURT
11.24.2014

[AGENDA](#)

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**COMMISSIONERS' COURT
SPECIAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 24, 2014**

Notice is hereby given that the Titus County Commissioners' Court met in a Special Meeting on Monday, November 24, 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
Tim Ingram	County Sheriff

Public Attending Meeting:

David Wall	Joan Newman	Jimmy Parker
David Horton	Judy Kent	Tony Gesino
Troy Sellers	Dorthey West	Jim Dyal
Paula Dyal	Fred Harkrider	Lou Antonelli
Boy Scouts Troop 101	Christie Davis	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 came again regarding the cemeteries in Titus County and once again requested that it be placed on the agendas. Judge Lee stated that he had not placed it on the agenda as he wanted to speak to the Commissioners first but that it would be on the next agenda.

David Wall briefed the Commissioners' Court on the Troop 101 Model Garden and thanked them for their support. He informed the Court that as of today, Guaranty Bank & Trust had committed to becoming a Partnership Supporter of the 2015 Model Garden. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 1](#))

2. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 10, 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 Judge Lee to approve minutes from November 10, 2014 regular meeting of the Commissioners' Court. Motion passed unanimously.

3. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 14, 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 November 14, 2014 special meeting of the Commissioners' Court. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Robert Ratcliff from the Texas Department of Transportation sent a "Letter of Approval to Open Highway" for the US 271 highway improvement as Titus County has addressed all items to the satisfaction of the Department. The Department acknowledges that the State assumes responsibility for maintenance of the roadway. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 2](#))

James Construction Group has a new superintendent on the job. The final asphalt and striping is to be completed next week at the intersections of FM 2348 and FM 1735. They are to continue working through the end of the year and return in May, 2015 to finish with the seal coat.

5. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE THE ACCEPTANCE OF A PRIVATE DONATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2730.00 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PURCHASING POLICE BODY CAMERAS FOR THE CONSTABLES AND THEIR DEPUTIES (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

A check from a private donor was received for the purpose of purchasing seven (7) 32GB Police Body Cameras from Safety Vision in the amount of \$2730.00. This came as a result of the recent appointment of Ray Barrett as Precinct 2 Constable. The anonymous donor felt that

constables should have the same protection as the Police Department. The County Attorney has investigated the legalities of accepting this gift and found that this could be donated to the Commissioners' Court and they could then vote to purchase the cameras. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 3](#))

Constable Ray Barrett demonstrated how the camera worked, stating that the camera will record at night as well as during the day. The recordings can be downloaded to a computer and be used for evidence. The cameras are \$450.00 each but if you purchase five (5), you get one (1) free. Constable Barrett would like to purchase six which would give them seven, thus allowing a spare in case it is needed later.

Commissioner Hockaday would like for the Sheriff's Department to check into getting these cameras. Sheriff Ingram stated that he is checking into this and trying to determine which ones would be best for his department.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve the acceptance of a private donation in the amount of \$2730.00 for the purpose of purchasing Police Body Cameras for the Constables and their Deputies. Motion passed unanimously.

6. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF SIX BODY CAMERAS FOR THE TWO CONSTABLES AND THEIR FOUR DEPUTIES AT A COST OF \$2730.00 (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

Motion was made by Commissioner Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve the purchase of six body cameras for the two Constables and their four Deputies at a cost of \$2730.00. Motion passed unanimously.

7. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE A RESOLUTION TO ADD WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

Titus County's Workers' Compensation Coverage through Texas Association of Counties offers optional coverage for Elected Officials, Law Enforcement Volunteers, Election Workers and Jurors. The question arose as to whether to add covering Election Workers.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hockaday to approve a Resolution to add Workers' Compensation Coverage for Elected Officials, Law Enforcement Volunteers, Jurors and Election Workers. Motion died due to lack of a second.

Motion was made by Judge Lee and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve a Resolution to add optional Workers Compensation for Elected Officials, Law Enforcement Volunteers and Jurors. Motion passed four to one with Commissioner Riddle voting nay. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 4](#))

8. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY TAKE ACTION ON CURRENT AND FUTURE HEALTH INSURANCE CLAIMS THAT HAVE BEEN DENIED OR ARE OUT OF NETWORK (Listen to audio track 1 and/or see video)

The first claim was a \$500.00 claim filed in May, 2013 by an employee from the Sheriff's office. UMR had sent three (3) letters asking for additional information with no response received. The claim is no longer open as the 12 month period has expired.

The second discussion centered on covering employees for out of network expenses incurred while having mammogram screening performed by the mobile ETMC that came to Titus County. This was once covered but when the county changed health care providers, ETMC became an out of network provider. Judge Lee did not know who had contacted the mobile unit to come but it was decided that employees need to check before getting services done and make sure whether the provider is in network or out of network. Capps reported to Judge Lee that there was a \$147 additional cost to the county for the out of network claims.

Motion was made by Judge Lee and seconded by Commissioner Hockaday that the claim for the employee that did not respond to the letters requesting additional information will not be paid by the plan because the twelve month statute has passed. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Judge Lee and seconded by Commissioner Riddle that for those employees who incurred out of network expenses due to having a mammogram screening performed at the mobile mammogram will be responsible for their out of network expenses. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Judge Lee and seconded by Commissioner Riddle that it is the intention that Titus County will stick to the terms of the plan and those employees will be responsible for minimizing their expenses by abiding by the terms of the plan. Motion passed unanimously.

9. 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 Riddle and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve travel and seminars for Titus County employees and elected officials. Motion passed unanimously. ([ATTACHMENT 5](#))

10. 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 Fields to approve oral and written reports of county officials. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 6](#))

11. 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 7](#))

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinton and seconded by Commissioner Hockaday to approve budget amendments #67-71 for fiscal year ending 2014 and budget amendments #1 & #2 for fiscal year 2015. Motion passed unanimously. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 8\)](#)

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Hockaday and seconded by Commissioner Hinton to sign pay orders and approve payments. Motion passed unanimously. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 9\)](#)

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

Judge Lee commented that he would be going to Austin to expedite the county's TxDOT reimbursement money since we have received the approval letter for US 271 project.

Commissioner Fields clarified that he is willing to help with the cemeteries if there is no family available to help. He is limited as to man hours and what they can do but that the Sheriff's department might be a possibility. Some cemeteries own their property. Commissioner Riddle commented that he wanted this added to the next agenda.

Commissioner Fields said that he had some people comment that when viewing the Commissioners' Court, they cannot hear the people and need to remember to get them to come to the podium to speak

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

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