

COMMISSIONERS' COURT

SPECIAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 27, 2017

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**COMMISSIONERS' COURT
SPECIAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 27, 2017**

The Titus County Commissioners' Court, after notice posted in the manner, form and contents as required by law, met in Special Meeting on Monday, February 27, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Titus County Courtroom, Room 205, located at 100 West 1st Street with the following members present:

Brian P. Lee	-	County Judge
Al Riddle	-	Commissioner Precinct 1
Mike Fields	-	Commissioner Precinct 2
Dana Applewhite	-	Commissioner Precinct 3
Jimmy Parker	-	Commissioner Precinct 4
Joan Newman	-	County Clerk
Sheryl Preddy	-	County Treasurer
Tim Ingram	-	County Sheriff
Carl Johnson	-	County Auditor

PUBLIC ATTENDING

Janice R. Chism	Al Burkhalter
George Sanford	Jerry Clark
Judy Kent	Larry Lawrence
James Maxton	Clint Bain
Steve Austin/TCHC/CVSO	Sue Evenwell
Lanny Shultice	Lanny Walker
Richard Grandy	Robert Case Jr.
Christie Davis	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

Chief Jerry Clark from the Sugarhill VFD came to the podium as representative of all of the VFDs asking the county to meet with the city regarding their proposal for city and county fire protection as this relates to the city's response to the VFDs. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 01](#))

Al Burkhalter and James Maxton addressed the Court regarding the Unit System.

2. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 13, 2017 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve minutes from February 13, 2017 regular meeting of the Commissioners' Court. Motion passed unanimously.

3. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 22, 2017 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve minutes from February 22, 2017 Special Meeting of the Commissioners' Court. Motion passed unanimously.

4. PRESENTATION BY LANNY WALKER WITH AWA RELATED TO TITUS COUNTY AUDIT FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016 WITH POSSIBLE ACTION TO FOLLOW

Lanny Walker from Arnold, Walker and Arnold presented the findings on the Titus County Audit for the year ended September 30, 2016. Mr. Walker directed the Court's attention to pages 15, 18 and 23. Mr. Walker ended by stating that the county was strong financially and that it had been a good year. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 02](#))

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Riddle to accept the Titus County Audit for the year ended September 30, 2016 as presented by Lanny Walker with AWA. Motion passed unanimously.

5. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE DESIGNATING MARCH 14 ANNUALLY AS TITUS COUNTY FLAG DAY (STEVE AUSTIN)

Motion was made by Judge Lee and seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve designating March 14th annually as Titus County Flag Day. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 03](#))

6. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY TAKE ACTION ON THE CASE MOBILE HOME PARK (CLINT BAIN)

Comments were heard from Registered Engineer, George Sanford; Sgt. Clint Bain, Environmental Investigator; owner, Robert Case, Jr. and Judy Kent. ([SEE ATTACHMENTS 04](#))

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Parker to allow Mr. Case to complete his project with a single septic system serving each pair of mobile homes and build private roads per his standards due to lack of clarity in the Platting and Subdivision rules. This is a 10 acre, 9 home manufactured home rental community. Motion passed four to one with Commissioner Riddle voting nay.

7. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE SUBDIVISION PLAN FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE SANDLIN RANCH SUBDIVISION (MIKE FIELDS)

Richard Grandy informed the Court that the original plat had been approved on 10/24/2011 and he needed approval for expansion to add 14-16 lots. Sgt. Clint Bain reported that he had not yet received the plat in order to check the on-site sewage facility. Mr. Grandy will take the plats to his office for review and approval.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to approve the subdivision plat for the expansion of the Sandlin Ranch Subdivision contingent with the final inspection and approval of the on-site septic system. Motion passed unanimously.

8. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE RELOCATION OF SHELVING FROM THIRD FLOOR TO SECOND FLOOR (JOAN NEWMAN)

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to approve authorization for Joan Newman to get someone to look at the cost of cutting and moving shelves versus the price of new shelves and report back to the Court. Motion passed unanimously.

9. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE TRAVEL AND SEMINARS FOR TITUS COUNTY EMPLOYEES AND ELECTED OFFICIALS

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve travel and seminars for Titus County employees and elected officials. Motion passed unanimously. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 05\)](#)

10. APPROVE ORAL AND WRITTEN REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to approve oral and written reports of county officials. Motion passed unanimously. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 06\)](#)

11. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve treasurer's report. Motion passed unanimously. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 07\)](#)

12. APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENTS

There were no budget amendments.

13. SIGN PAY ORDERS AND APPROVE PAYMENTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to sign pay orders and approve payments. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 08](#))

14. COUNTY JUDGE REQUESTS AN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.074 TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS

Prior to going into Executive session, Janice Chism approached the Court with questions regarding the hiring of a road engineer.

Judge Lee called a recess at 11:15 a.m. and reconvened to go into Executive session at 11:30 a.m. until 12:36 p.m.; reconvened at 10:20 a.m. on 2/28/2017 until 1:55 p.m.; reconvened at 10:00 a.m. on 3/1/2017 until 11:28 a.m. Commissioners' Court went back into open session at 11:29 a.m. on Wednesday, 3/1/2017 to continue with the special meeting that began on Monday, 2/27/2017 in order to take action on the hiring of a road engineer for Titus County.

15. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY TAKE ACTION ON THE HIRING OF A ROAD ENGINEER

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to hire Roger Ledbetter as the County Road Engineer. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Riddle and seconded by Judge Lee to approve the following compensation package for Mr. Ledbetter:

- Salary will be \$80,000.00 per year and he will be considered as a regular employee.
- Vacation will be three (3) weeks per year.
- Maximum reimbursement for use of cell phone.
- Travel allowance for use of personal vehicle at the same mileage rate as other elected officials.
- Employment will begin 4/03/2017.
- No insurance to be taken by Mr. Ledbetter.
- Mr. Ledbetter will be part of the retirement plan.
- Bond will be required.

Motion passed four to one with Commissioner Parker voting nay.

Mr. Ledbetter's office will be at the county barn on Industrial Road.

16. CLOSING COMMENTS BY COUNTY JUDGE AND COMMISSIONERS, IF ANY

Judge Lee:

- The Chamber of Commerce has contacted him regarding the Farmer's Market beginning in March.

Commissioner Fields:

- The driveways have been completed at the funeral home.
- Tri Lakes VFD held their chili supper and raised approximately \$10,000.00. They have achieved a 4 I.S.O. rating.
- He thanked Commissioner Parker for a job well done at the Riddle Street building.

Commissioner Parker:

- His crew along with Pct 3 worked two (2) full days at the Riddle Street building cleaning up the vegetation and cutting up trees. They still need to pick up trash and finish cleanup.

ADJOURN:

Motion was made at 11:36 a.m. on March 1, 2017 to adjourn by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Parker. Motion passed unanimously.