

**COMMISSIONERS' COURT**  
**04.10.2017**

**[AGENDA](#)**

**[AUDIO](#)**

**[ATTESTATION](#)**

**SCROLL DOWN FOR MINUTES AND/OR ATTACHMENTS**

**COMMISSIONERS' COURT  
REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 10, 2017**

**The Titus County Commissioners' Court, after notice posted in the manner, form and contents as required by law, met in Regular Meeting on Monday, April 10, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Titus County Courtroom, Room 205, located at 100 West 1<sup>st</sup> 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 - Absent
Carl Johnson	-	County Auditor

**PUBLIC ATTENDING**

Charles Smith - MPEDC	Judy Kent
Michelle Cobern	Shilah Whitvall
Sue Evenwell	Janice R. Chism
Mike Ahrens	Clint Bain
Emily Aikman	Justin Hargrove
Patti Lamb	Carolyn Norman
Christie Davis	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**

There were none.

**2. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE MINUTES FROM MARCH 27, 2017 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve minutes from March 27, 2017 special meeting of the Commissioners' Court. Motion passed unanimously.

**3. UPDATE ON CASA PRESENTED BY MICHELLE COBERN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

An update on CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) was presented by Michelle Cobern, Executive Director of CASA of Titus, Camp and Morris Counties. They are now in their 4<sup>th</sup> year and presently have 167 children in the child welfare system in Titus, Camp and Morris Counties of which 91 of those are in Titus County. Nineteen children have been adopted. They are the first CASA to receive a courtroom facility dog, Enya, who is certified, licensed and trained to be a service dog. The cost of the dog is \$45,000.00 but was received at no cost by Ms. Cobern living on campus at Baylor University while she received training.

Ms. Cobern explained the need for the CWOP (Children WithOut Placement) room which would allow CASA a place to bring children on a temporary basis until a permanent solution can be found. They are in a new facility at the Tennison Methodist Church Learning Center but are currently working on getting a house. They are also working on getting a satellite office in Camp County. Ms. Cobern expressed CASA's appreciation for all that Titus County and the Commissioners' Court does for them and invited the Court to visit their new facilities at the TLC Learning Center.

**4. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE A PROPOSED MODIFICATION TO TAX ABATEMENT FOR ROAD CLIPPER ENTERPRISE, DBA DIAMOND C (CHARLIE SMITH)**

Due to weather conditions holding up completion of this project until 2016, the City and County wish to change the term of the agreement by changing the years of abatement to tax years 2017, 2018 and 2019. All other obligations, terms and conditions remain the same.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Riddle to approve modification to the Tax Abatement Agreement dated November 17, 2015 between the City of Mount Pleasant, Titus County and Road Clipper Enterprises (DBA Diamond C Trailers) by changing the years of abatement to tax years 2017 – 90%; 2018 – 75% and 2019 – 45%. Motion passed unanimously. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 01\)](#)

**5. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE A PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT FOR ROADCLIPPER ENTERPRISES, D.B.A. DIAMOND C (CHARLIE SMITH)**

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Riddle to approve a property Tax Abatement Agreement for RoadClipper Enterprises, d.b.a. Diamond C Trailers. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 02](#))

**6. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR A FEASIBILITY STUDY REGARDING A LOOP AROUND THE CITY OF GILMER AS A NETRMA GRANT PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to approve a Letter of Support for a feasibility study regarding a loop around the City of Gilmer as a NETRMA Grant Project. Motion passed unanimously.

**7. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS OFFICE ITEMS IN OLD TAX COLLECTION OFFICE INCLUDING CRT MONITORS, TYPEWRITERS, PRINTERS AND 10 KEY CALCULATORS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Applewhite and seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve disposal of surplus office items in the old Tax Collection office including CRT monitors, typewriters, printers and 10 key calculators. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 03](#))

**8. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE MODIFICATIONS TO COURTHOUSE ANNEX INCLUDING RELOCATION OF POSTAGE MACHINE AND CONSTRUCTION OF A DOOR BETWEEN JUDGES' LIBRARY AND CONFERENCE OFFICE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Riddle and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve modifications to Courthouse Annex including relocation of postage machine and construction of a door between Judges' library and conference office. Motion passed unanimously.

**9. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE IMPROVEMENTS TO 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR OFFICE DESIGNATED FOR JUVENILE PROBATION INCLUDING PAINT, CARPET, CEILING TILES, INTERNET AND TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to approve improvements to 3<sup>rd</sup> floor office designated for Juvenile Probation including paint, carpet, ceiling tiles, internet and telephone connections. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 04](#))

**10. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF FINAL APPROVAL FROM TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (TCEQ) OF TITUS COUNTY ON-SITE SEWAGE FACILITY REGULATIONS**

Acknowledgement of receipt of the final approval from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) of Titus County On-Site Sewage Facility Regulations was noted and will be implemented and placed on Titus County's website. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 05](#))

**11. UPDATE ON COUNTY PARK**

Brad Watson from Luminant has been unable to locate a governmental entity to take the County Park and is now working towards finding a responsible private party to take over the everyday operation of the park. Luminant may request an extension from the Court to extend the deadline notice.

**12. DISCUSS FIRE PROTECTION**

Judge Lee is to post a workshop for all Volunteer Fire Departments to meet with the Commissioners' Court to discuss possible solutions to the fire protection issue.

**13. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE REPAIRS TO RIDDLE STREET BUILDING**

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve repairs to the Riddle Street building to Kridler Construction in the amount of \$742.00. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 06](#))

**14. DISCUSS AND POSSIBLY APPROVE THE STATE'S (TXDOT) CONVEYANCE OF SURPLUS RIGHT OF WAY TO FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, MT. PLEASANT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to approve the state's (TxDOT) conveyance of surplus right of way to the First Baptist Church, Mount Pleasant, Texas. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 07](#))

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve travel and seminars for Titus County employees and elected officials. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 08](#))

**16. 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 09](#))

**17. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Riddle and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve treasurer's report. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 10](#))

**18. APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

There were no budget amendments.

**19. 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 11](#))

**20. CLOSING COMMENTS BY COUNTY JUDGE AND COMMISSIONERS, IF ANY**

Judge Lee reported that the elevator is close to being operational. There is to be a meeting tomorrow for all parties to sign off on final inspection.

The road engineer began last Monday. His office is located on Industrial Road in Commissioner Riddle's old office. All commissioners have met and had a productive meeting with him.

**ADJOURN:**

Motion was made at 10:15 a.m. to adjourn by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite. Motion passed unanimously.