

COMMISSIONERS' COURT

SPECIAL MEETING

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**COMMISSIONERS' COURT
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 13, 2018**

The Titus County Commissioners' Court, after notice posted in the manner, form and contents as required by law, met in Regular Meeting on Monday, August 13, 2018 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

Jerry Ward	Hoyt Scogin
Jerry Clark	Mike Logan
Roger Ledbetter	Philip Hoffman
Steve Austin	Tracy Farr
Tracy Craig	Raymond Johnson
Steve Capps	Toni Melton
Chris Caplinger	Jessica Marvray
Sharon Reynolds	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

There were none.

2. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE MINUTES FROM JULY 12, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT

Motion was made by Commissioner Applewhite and seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve minutes from July 12, 2018 special meeting of the Commissioners' Court. Motion passed unanimously.

3. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE MINUTES FROM JULY 23, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve minutes from July 23, 2018 special meeting of the Commissioners' Court. Motion passed unanimously.

4. REPORT FROM ROAD ENGINEER (ROGER LEDBETTER)

- Final seal coat on CR 1200, CR 3210, CR 4660 on north side and to CR 4640 on south side
- CR 3225 – prep work with seal coat next week
- CR 2470 – base work started
- CR 2330 – fixed base failures
- CR 2325 – will check on complaint received regarding potholes

5. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE SUBMISSION OF THE ANNUAL COUNTY MAINTAINED ROAD MILEAGE CERTIFICATION TO TxDOT

Motion was made by Commissioner Applewhite and seconded by Commissioner Parker to table approving submission of the Annual County Maintained Road Mileage Certification to TxDOT until the next Commissioners' Court meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

6. PRESENTATION BY MIKE LOGAN REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT (VFD) IN ARGO

Mike Logan came before the Court asking for approval and support regarding the establishment of a Volunteer Fire Department in Argo with the same commitment given to the other Volunteer Fire Departments. They already have a truck, equipment and building to get started. This item will be placed on the next agenda for consideration.

7. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE CLOSURE OF THE WINFIELD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT (VFD) AND ALLOW WINFIELD TO BE INCLUDED IN THE MT. PLEASANT FIRE DISTRICT

The Winfield Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) is now a substation served out of the Tri-Lakes VFD. Jerry Ward, Chief of the Tri-Lakes VFD, told the Court that they could not get to a call from Winfield as fast as the Mount Pleasant Fire Department. He stated that

shutting down the substation in Winfield and letting Mount Pleasant take the calls would not negatively affect fire protection for the Winfield residents because they were already responding quicker than the Tri-Lakes VFD. The biggest concern in shutting down the Winfield substation VFD is the change in property insurance ratings. Chief Ward directed the Court's attention to a letter from the Texas Department of Insurance, State Fire Marshal's office. Since there will not be a fire station within five (5) miles, all class-rated properties will go to a Class 10. Winfield City Mayor, Hoyt Scogin, addressed the Court about the closing of the Winfield VFD. He told the Court that they hated to lose their rating and that this would be a big deal to Winfield residents since their taxes were down and they were trying to keep the water running but they would cooperate whichever way the Court decided to go. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 01\)](#)

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Riddle to approving closure of the Winfield Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) and allowing Winfield to be included in the Mt. Pleasant Fire District. Motion passed unanimously.

8. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE A PLAN FOR COUNTY RESIDENT USAGE OF THE PUBLIC LANDFILL

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to table approving a plan for county resident usage of the public landfill until clarification is received on requirements and procedures. Motion passed unanimously.

9. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY ACCEPT CANCELLATION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH RED RIVER COUNTY RELATED TO THE VETERANS' SERVICE OFFICER

Steve Austin told the Court that since they had approved the MOU, a Red River resident had offered to volunteer his services at this time.

Motion was made by Commissioner Applewhite and seconded by Commissioner Parker to accept cancellation of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Red River County related to the Veterans' Service Officer. Motion passed unanimously. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 02\)](#)

10. DISCUSS AND POSSIBLY TAKE ACTION ON REPAIRS TO DAMAGE CAUSED BY HAIL STORM

Commissioner Riddle informed the Court that he had five (5) roofing companies look at the roofs for hail damage with determination made that repairs were not needed. However, there did appear to be hail damage to the A/C units. Roberts A/C is to check for damage.

Motion was made by Commissioner Riddle and seconded by Commissioner Fields to not make any repairs at this time based on findings of roof inspector and that after examination of air conditioner units by Robert Air Conditioning that we deal with those

repairs separately and file for additional benefits if applicable. Motion passed unanimously.

11. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE ANY CHANGES TO SHERIFF'S AND CONSTABLE'S FEES

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to approve no changes to Sheriff's and Constable's fees for 2019. Motion passed unanimously. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 03\)](#)

12. PUBLIC HEARING FOR TITUS COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE RECORDS ARCHIVAL PLAN FOR FY 2019

Public hearing began at 9:33 a.m. for Titus County Clerk's Office Records Archival Plan for FY 2019. County Clerk, Joan Newman, explained the statue, purpose, revenue and restoration and preservation projects for the FY 2019 as per attached. The cost to digitally restore and electronically index old Titus County Deed Records Volumes 1-27 and preserve old deed records volumes 41-44 will be approximately \$28,000.00 which comes under the \$47,000.00 budgeted. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 04\)](#)

Public Hearing ended at 9:40 a.m. and Commissioners' Court resumed its meeting.

13. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE ORDER TO ADOPT TITUS COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE RECORDS ARCHIVAL PLAN

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to approve Order To Adopt Records Archival Plan. Motion passed unanimously. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 05\)](#)

14. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE GIVING THE CITY A WATER LINE EASEMENT TO SERVICE THE NEW ANIMAL SHELTER

Motion was made by Commissioner Riddle and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve giving the city a water line easement to service the new animal shelter. Motion passed unanimously. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 06\)](#)

15. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE PURCHASE OF CHAIRS FOR COMMISSIONERS' COURT AND COURTROOM

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to approve purchase and expenditure of 14 chairs for Commissioners' Court and Courtroom up to \$185.00 per chair. Motion passed unanimously.

16. APPROVE ORAL AND WRITTEN REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to approve oral and written reports of county officials. Motion passed unanimously. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 07\)](#)

17. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Applewhite and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve treasurer's report. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 08](#))

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 09](#))

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

Judge Lee reminded the Court that after a brief recess, they will come back and discuss budget questions and that the insurance workshop would be at 1:00 p.m. today.

Commissioner Applewhite received bids on the 2019 F350 cab and chassis to be used for the fire truck for the Talco VFD. Bid from Buyback Board's designated vendor was \$35,217.00 and Elliott Motors was \$33,015.00. This will meet our obligation to provide a new fire truck each year to a VFD. Expenditure will be placed on the next agenda for approval.

Court recessed at 11:02 a.m.

21. BUDGET WORKSHOP TO INCLUDE HEALTH INSURANCE DISCUSSION WITH HIGGINBOTHAM AND UMR

Court resumed at 11:20 a.m. to discuss 2018-19 budget considerations per attached. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 10](#))

Court recessed at 12:23 p.m. and resumed at 1:08 p.m. to discuss health insurance with Higginbotham and UMR per attached. ([SEE ATTACHMENTS 11](#))

Court recessed at 3:05 p.m. and resumed at 3:22 p.m. to continue with discussion on budget and health care and insurance.

ADJOURN:

Motion was made at 4:20 p.m. to adjourn by Commissioner Applewhite and seconded by Commissioner Parker. Motion passed unanimously.