

COMMISSIONERS' COURT

SPECIAL MEETING

08.27.2018

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**COMMISSIONERS' COURT
SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 27, 2018**

The Titus County Commissioners' Court, after notice posted in the manner, form and contents as required by law, met in Special Meeting on Monday, August 27, 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

Krissy Lytle	Larry McRae
Roger Ledbetter	Gerry Evenwel
Steve Austin VSO/TCHC	Tracy Farr
Philip Hoffman	Janice Chism
Raymond Johnson	Bricel Mancera
Toni Melton	Jessica Marvray
Christie Davis	Sharon Reynolds
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 AUGUST 13, 2018 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to approve minutes from August 13, 2018 regular meeting of the Commissioners' Court. Motion passed unanimously.

3. REPORT FROM ROAD ENGINEER (ROGER LEDBETTER)

Roger Ledbetter updated the Court on the following roads:

- CR 3225 – Camp Langston road - completed all Lomax and finish work, primed 2-1/2 mile section roadway to get ready 1st seal coat next week and finish final seal coat within 2 weeks
- CR 4070 – started blading and finish work with 1st seal coat next week and final seal coat within 2 weeks
- CR 2330 – hot mix last week and placed final seal coat on last Thursday
- CR 2470 – last full county road that will be seal coated this year

4. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE SUBMISSION OF THE ANNUAL COUNTY MAINTAINED ROAD MILEAGE CERTIFICATION TO TxDOT (TABLED 8-13-2018)

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve submission of the Annual County Maintained Road Mileage Certification to TxDot for 423.0 miles. Motion passed unanimously. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 01\)](#)

5. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE ESTABLISHMENT OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT (VFD) IN ARGO

Motion was made by Commissioner Applewhite and seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve establishment of Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) in Argo beginning with the same monetary budget as the other Volunteer Fire Departments beginning October 1, 2018. Motion passed unanimously.

6. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A CAB AND CHASSIS FOR THE TALCO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT (VFD) FROM ELLIOTT AUTO GROUP AT A COST OF \$33,015 TO BE PAID OUT OF 2018-19 BUDGET

Motion was made by Commissioner Applewhite and seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve the purchase of a cab and chassis for the Talco Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) from Elliott Auto Group at a Cost of \$33,015 to be paid out of the 2018-2019 budget. Motion passed unanimously.

7. APPROVE ORDER OF GENERAL ELECTION, NOVEMBER 6, 2018 (KRISSEY LYTLE)

Motion was made by Commissioner Applewhite and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve order of General Election, November 6, 2018. Motion passed unanimously. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 02\)](#)

Early voting will be October 22 – November 2, 2018. Election judges and alternate judges are to be approved at next Commissioners' Court.

8. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE HIRING THE SERVICES OF A COMPANY TO PROVIDE DRUG TESTING SERVICES FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES ALONG WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A DRUG TESTING POLICY

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to adopt the drug testing policy from TAC to be effective once the changes reflecting this document has been personalized to fit Titus County and make Carolyn Norman as Designated Representative. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Judge Lee to table approving hiring the services of a company to provide drug testing services for county employees. Motion passed unanimously.

9. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY PROPOSE A 2018 TAX RATE OF .5085 WHICH IS THE EFFECTIVE RATE

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to propose a 2018 tax rate of .5085 which is the effective rate. Motion passed three to two with Commissioner Riddle and Commissioner Parker voting nay.

10. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY AUTHORIZE LIMITED COUNTY RESIDENT USAGE OF THE PUBLIC LANDFILL

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Fields to discontinue the county's annual cleanup week and allow county residents the option to obtain two free vouchers annually to be used at the city landfill. Motion passed unanimously. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 03\)](#)

11. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE PAYMENT OF A PAUPER'S FUNERAL FOR KEVIN W. CLARK

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to approve payment of a pauper's funeral for Kevin W. Clark to Curry-Welborn Funeral Home in the amount of \$921.00. Motion failed three to two with Judge Lee, Commissioner Riddle and Commissioner Parker voting nay. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 04\)](#)

12. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE CHANGES TO COUNTY HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN (SEE ATTACHMENT 05)

- a) **REQUIRE ON SITE BIOMETRIC SCREENING BY ALL EMPLOYEES AND SPOUSES TO ACHIEVE LOWEST EMPLOYEE RATE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Applewhite and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve the requirement of onsite biometric screening to be held in March, 2019 at the Extension Office. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite that employees will be required to get a biometric screening or have physician form completed by 11-01-2019 or a premium differential of \$100.00 per month will be applied to employee rates. Motion passed unanimously

b) OUT OF NETWORK COINSURANCE CHANGE FROM 40% TO 50% EMPLOYEE COST

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve out of network coinsurance change from 40% to 50% employee cost. Motion passed unanimously.

c) PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENT FOR OUTPATIENT SURGERY NOT PERFORMED IN DOCTOR'S OFFICE, AIR AMBULANCE AND ADVANCED IMAGING PROCEDURES

Motion was made by Commissioner Riddle and seconded by Commissioner Fields to require prior authorization for outpatient surgery not performed in doctor's office, air ambulance and advanced imaging procedures. Motion passed unanimously.

d) EXCLUDE BENEFITS FOR OUT OF NETWORK OUTPATIENT FACILITIES, CARDIAC CATH LABS AND PAIN MANAGEMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Riddle and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to exclude benefits for out of network outpatient facilities, Cardiac Cath labs and pain management. Motion passed unanimously.

e) MASA AMBULANCE PLAN AS AN OPTIONAL EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PAID BY EMPLOYEE

Motion was made by Commissioner Applewhite and seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve MASA Ambulance Plan as an optional employee benefit to be paid by employee. Motion passed unanimously.

f) CHANGE DENTAL BENEFITS RATE TIERS TO MATCH MEDICAL TIERS

Motion was made by Commissioner Applewhite and seconded by Commissioner Parker to change dental benefits rate tiers to match medical tiers. Motion passed unanimously.

g) ELIMINATION OF PREMIUM OR BUY-UP OPTIONAL PLAN

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Riddle to eliminate the premium or buy-up option. Motion passed unanimously.

h) RATE INCREASES FOR DEPENDENT COVERAGE

Motion was made by Commissioner Riddle and seconded by Judge Lee to approve the following rate increases for dependent coverage:

- Employee + Children – Increase from \$300.00 to \$350.00 per month
- Employee + Spouse – Increase from \$375.00 to \$425.00 per month
- Employee + Family – Increase from \$525.00 to \$600.00 per month

Motion passed three to two with Commissioner Fields and Commissioner Applewhite voting nay.

i) **DISCUSS EMPLOYEE PREMIUM CONTRIBUTION FOR EMPLOYEE ONLY COVERAGE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Applewhite and seconded by Commissioner Fields to leave employee premium contribution for Employee Only coverage at \$0.00. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Applewhite and seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve separate Cobra rates for dental insurance. Motion passed unanimously.

13. APPROVE ORAL AND WRITTEN REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

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

14. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT

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

15. APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to table approving budget amendments. Motion passed unanimously.

16. SIGN PAY ORDERS AND APPROVE PAYMENTS

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

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

Judge Lee informed the Court that the easement that the Court had approved for the City Animal Shelter that was to be inside of the fence will be moved just outside of the fence moving slightly to the west.

Training will be held on 9/26/18 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. by Diana Cecil on Discrimination for department heads.

Commissioner Fields would like to see a Burn Ban in Titus County if the county continues with no rainfall. He is to talk with Chief McRae.

Court recessed at 11:04 a.m. and reconvened at 11:17 a.m. to go into Budget Workshop.

18. BUDGET WORKSHOP

The following items were discussed:

- Part time position to be shared between County Attorney and County Clerk offices
- Bringing new hires in road department to peer level
- Step raises for Sheriff Department
- Purchase of building to be used for CID and Environmental Department employees
- Request for increase pay for mental plus mileage by Constable Ray Barrett

ADJOURN:

Motion was made at 12:29 p.m. to adjourn by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Fields. Motion passed unanimously.