

ORIGINAL

MINUTES OF THE
COMMISSIONERS' COURT

REGULAR MEETING - AUGUST 11, 2014

On the 11th day of August, 2014, there was a Regular Meeting of the Commissioner' Court in the Courthouse, Rockport, Aransas County, Texas, with the following members present: C. H. "Burt" Mills, Jr., County Judge; Jack Chaney, Commissioner, Precinct 1; Leslie "Bubba" Casterline, Commissioner, Precinct 2; Charles Smith, Commissioner, Precinct 3; Betty Stiles, Commissioner, Precinct 4; and Joy M. Dias, Chief Deputy, County Clerk.

Other County Officers present were Richard Bianchi, County Attorney; Kristen Blanford, Assistant County Attorney; Lezlie Kirk, County Auditor; Alma Cartwright, County Treasurer; David Reid, Drainage Engineer; Pat Rousseau, Human Resources Director; and John Strothman, Project Manager.

The Meeting was convened at 9:00 a.m. at which time a quorum was declared by County Judge Mills, WHEREUPON, the following proceedings were had and done to wit:

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were none.

PRESENTATIONS

There were none.

ITEMS FOR DELIBERATION AND/OR ACTION

MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 28, 2014.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING - AGRILIFE EXTENSION

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve and authorize County Judge to sign a memorandum of understanding for Information Technology Services between Texas A&M Agrilife Extension and Aransas County. Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Memo inserted)

PAYMENT PROCESSING - DISTRICT CLERK'S OFFICE

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve and authorize County Judge to sign an agreement with JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., Paymentech, LLC, for

payment processing services for Aransas County District Clerk's Office.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Agreement inserted)

SALARY GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE - PUBLIC MEMBERS

Judge Mills drew public members for Salary Grievance Committee in accordance with Section 152.015 of the Local Government Code.

(Frank Martinez, Jr., Penny Clarke, and Laurene Loveland)

CEDAR BAYOU/VINSON SLOUGH RESTORATION PROJECT - INVOICE

Judge Mills stated this project is 80% complete and this is for a monthly draw.

Motion was made by Judge Mills and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to authorize payment of invoice of RLB Contracting, Inc. for the Cedar Bayou/Vinson Slough Restoration Project in the amount of \$1,109,444.20.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

STOP SIGNS

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve installation of stop signs at Second and South Verne Streets.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

CONSOLIDATION OF VOTING PRECINCTS

Michele Bennett, Elections/Voting Assistant, told the Court it is difficult to find a Presiding Judge in Precinct 1A. Commissioner Chaney indicated the building is in bad shape and, although he has looked, he has not found a better site. The question was asked what the maximum distance a voter can travel to vote; answer was twenty-five (25) miles. Using the Precinct 1 voting site (G.I. Forum) meets that standard.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve consolidation of Voting Precincts 1 and 1A for all future elections.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR

Commissioner Stiles asked if creation of an Elections Administrator would allow the County to contract with other local entities. Ms. Bennett said it would. Human Resources Director Rousseau wanted to confirm the Court was creating the position and completing the job

description at a later date. Judge Mills replied "yes."
Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Smith to Order #0-20-2014 creating the position of County Elections Administrator effective January 1, 2015.
Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

(Order inserted)

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES/ENGINEERING - TULE

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve and authorize County Judge to sign the Berg-Oliver Associates, Inc. Contract for environmental services/engineering and restoration of the berm at Tule Marsh East.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

(Contract inserted)

GRANT SUBMISSION - FULTON BEACH ROAD

Greg Harlan told the Court this was to be from Traylor to the Lighthouse Inn. Court's discussion concluded engineering needs to be done first to give a better scope of the cost of the total project.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to table approval of submission of a grant application to the Texas General Land Office's Coastal Management Program requesting funding for construction of a trail along Fulton Beach Road and authorize County Judge to act on behalf of Aransas County in all matters related to the application and grant contract.
Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

CONSULTANT CONTRACT - FULTON BEACH ROAD

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to table approval of project consultant contract with The Grant Connection for preparation of an application to the Texas General Land Office requesting funds for construction of a trail along Fulton Beach Road and to administer the grant if it is selected for funding.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve and authorize County Judge to sign the

employee health insurance renewal confirmation of the Adoption Agreement and Certificate of Resolution #R11-2014 for the Section 125 premium only plan with an effective date of October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Resolution inserted)

DENTAL INSURANCE PLAN

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve replacement of current Ameritas Dental Insurance Plan with an improved Ameritas Dental Plan to provide better benefits at the same monthly rates (this supplemental coverage is 100% employee paid).

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Plan inserted)

PUBLIC OFFICIAL BOND

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve public official bonds on Paula Evans, Deputy Tax Assessor-Collector and Crisly Ann Staley, Deputy County Treasurer.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Bonds inserted)

CERTIFICATES OF EDUCATION

Judge Mills presented for recording in Commissioners' Court Minutes certificates of completion from V. G. Young Institute of County Government/Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service for Leslie E. Casterline, County Commissioner, Precinct 2, and Betty G. Stiles, County Commissioner, Precinct 4, to the 80th Annual South Texas County Judges' and Commissioners' Association Conference held June 10-12, 2014, at South Padre Island, Texas.

(Certificates inserted)

COUNTY TREASURER'S REPORT - JULY 2014

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve County Treasurer's report for July 2014.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Report inserted)

INDIGENT HEALTH CARE REPORT - JULY 2014

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve indigent health care report for July 2014. Question. Motion carried unanimously. It is so ordered.

(Report inserted)

BUDGET LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve budget line item transfers presented by County Auditor Kirk. Question. Motion carried unanimously. It is so ordered.

(Transfers inserted)

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve the accounts payable presented by County Auditor. Question. Motion carried unanimously. It is so ordered.

ELECTED OFFICIALS SALARIES

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve elected officials salaries for 2015 budget year taking Sheriff's Education/Certification request of \$8,400.00 out. Question. Motion carried unanimously. It is so ordered.

(Salaries inserted)

PROPOSED 2015 BUDGET

Discussions were continued on the proposed 2015 budget. The Animal Control situation has not been resolved and the jail contract with the City of Rockport has not been finished yet.

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2015 BUDGET

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to set public hearings on 2015 budget for August 18, 2014 at 8:45 a.m. and August 25, 2014 at 8:45 a.m.

This motion was rescinded because it did not allow enough time for publication.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to set public hearings on 2015 budget for August 25, 2014 at 8:45 a.m. and September 3, 2014 at 8:45 a.m.

Question. Motion carried unanimously. It is so ordered.

2014 TAX RATE

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to set the 2014 tax rate at \$0.384669 per \$100.00 valuation. Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Rates inserted)

VOTE ON 2014 TAX RATE

The proposed 2014 tax rate was approved unanimously and motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to set public hearing on the tax rate on August 25, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. and another public hearing on the tax rate on September 3, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

SET TIME FOR ADOPTION OF 2015 BUDGET AND 2014 TAX RATE

The 2015 budget and approval of 2014 tax rate will be on September 8, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS WHEREIN NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN

Judge Mills flew over Cedar Bayou with Representative Blake Farenthold.

Commissioner Chaney complimented the Transfer Station.

REPORTS ABOUT ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

There were none.

There was no closed session.

PRESS QUESTIONS

Norma Martinez, The Rockport Pilot, asked where the stop sign would be. Commissioner Casterline said it will be on Verne Street.

No further business presenting, the Court adjourned on a motion made by Commissioner Smith duly seconded by Commissioner Casterline.

C. H. "Burt" Mills, Jr. COUNTY JUDGE

PEGGY L. FRIEBELE, COUNTY CLERK &
EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE
COMMISSIONERS' COURT