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COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES

August 24, 2020, Austin County Commissioners Court met in the Basement Meeting Room at the Austin County Courthouse with the following present:

Tim Lapham, County Judge
Mark Lamp, Commissioner, Precinct 1
Robert "Bobby" Rinn, Commissioner, Precinct 2
Randy Reichardt, Commissioner, Precinct 3
Chip Reed, Commissioner, Precinct 4
Andrea Cardenas, Deputy County Clerk

9:00 A.M. OPENING

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION

PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL AND CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM

CONSIDERATION/ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Remove #22iv. (Library System – June 2020) and 22v. (OSSF – June 2020)

Motion to Adopt: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).
Order #20-284

Public hearing began 9:07 a.m.

1. PUBLIC HEARING ON 2020-2021 FY BUDGET

Billy Doherty (County Auditor), requested that instead of upgrading financial server move to Cloud. The transition could possibly cost up to \$75,000. Currently pay \$25,000 per month for Financial software. Rate will go up to \$40,000 per month. Currently this is paid from 127 fund.

Pay out of current budget.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner Lamp.

Judge Lapham requested Commissioners withdraw their Motion and Second.

There is a change in Department 102 District Judge. Sal/Crt Adm Salary was changed to \$25,599, FICA \$6,708 and Retirement \$8,390 for a total of \$103,248.

Public hearing closed 9:21 a.m.

2. Petitions or Requests from the Public.

3. Discussion regarding F.Y. 2020-2021 Compensation Order and action as appropriate.

Changes to Compensation Order are Entry Level positions were increased to \$13.13 (no experience) and \$13.65 (experience). County Auditor salary does not reflect a 3% percent increase. The County Auditor's salary cannot be more than the County Judge's salary. Cannot increase Auditor salary a full 3%. Human Resource Admin position increased to \$16 per hour. New position for County Clerk at \$15 per hour. New position for Tax Assessor at \$15.50 per hour. Agri-Life secretary increased to \$13.65. Paid from 51109. Sheriff's Office positions do not all reflect 3% salary increases. Deputies line items in District Clerks office increased to \$11.33 and \$7.17(RMF). County Judge's office deleted Admin position for 24 hours a week. Currently has two positions open. An Administrative Assistant at \$14 per hour and Development Coordinator at \$25 per hour. Road and Bridge #3 needs another position.

Judge Lapham will include all changes to the Compensation Order and will present at next Court meeting.

No action.

4. Consideration and action to set salaries and allowances for county officials.

Approve as presented.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Lamp, 2nd Commissioner Reichardt, passed (3-1)

Commissioner Rinn opposed.

Order #20-285

5. Consideration and action to adopt F.Y. 2020-2021 Budget.

Changes to the Budget are increase in District Judge's (page 1) budget to \$103,248, Agri-Life (page 2) budget to \$215,347, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1 (page 10) budget to \$105,705 and add \$15,000 to Financial Systems.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Lamp, 2nd Commissioner Reichardt, passed (3-1).

Commissioner Rinn opposed. Commissioner Lamp – for, Commissioner Rinn – against, Commissioner Reichardt – for, Commissioner Reed – for.

Order #20-286

Per Commissioner Rinn, not in favor of Budget because of division of Road and Bridge funds, opposed to 3% increase for elected officials and leased vehicles.

Court recessed at 10:28 a.m.

Court reconvened at 10:35 a.m.

6. Consideration and action to set a proposed tax rate and schedule public hearings as necessary.

Budget is \$239,237 over anticipated revenue. County is safe at that number. Per Judge Lapham, County can use reserves and still be okay.

Proposed Tax Rate .36673 General, .06455 Road and Bridge, .07832 F/M and Lateral, .5096 Total Operating, .06004 Debt, for a total Tax Rate .56964.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (3-1).
Commissioner Rinn opposed.*

Order #20-287

One Public Hearing is required.

Public Hearing set for Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. and Monday, September 14, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Motion to Set: Commissioner Rinn, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).

Order #20-288

7. Request from Sheriff's Office: (Sheriff Brandes)

- a. **Discussion and action regarding Certificate Pay**
- b. **Discussion and action regarding Clothing Allowance**
- c. **Discussion and action regarding Meal Allowance for inmate transport**

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Lamp, 2nd Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0).

Order #20-289

8. Discussion and action as appropriate regarding building projects and financing.

EMS building coming along good. Sheriff's Office coming along as well. Construction is ahead of schedule.

Fans are not working at Wendt Street building.

9. Discussion regarding Texas Department of Motor Vehicles Imposition of Optional Fees for Calendar Year 2021 and action as appropriate

Continue to collect \$10.00.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).
Order #20-290

10. Discussion regarding purchase of computers for E.M.S. (out of 101-54895-128) and action as appropriate.

Laptops are not Win 10 compliant.

Purchase 12 Tab Surface Go-To Tablets, 4-year protection plan and accessories from 101-54895-128 (Tobacco Funds) not to exceed \$12,000.

Motion to Purchase: Commissioner Lamp, 2nd Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0).
Order #20-291

11. Discussion and action regarding the adoption of Texas Department of Agriculture Home-Delivered Meal Grant Program Resolution 2021.

Motion to Adopt: Commissioner Rinn, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).
Order #20-292

12. Consideration and action to authorize a one-time variance from Subdivision Regulations of a 1 acre tract from a 13 acre tract on Leach Lane, Precinct 2.

Motion to Authorize: Commissioner Rinn, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).
Order #20-293

13. Open bid proposals and action as appropriate for the following:

- a. Road Materials/Gravel
- b. Hauling (Road Materials)
- c. Asphalts, Liquid Asphalts, Emulsions & Dust Control
- d. Corrugated Culverts
- e. HDPE Culvert Pipe
- f. Concrete/Cement
- g. Fuel (Gasoline & Diesel)
- h. Surface Treatments, Asphalt Laydown and Asphalt Milling

Shannon Hannath (Road and Bridge Admin Assistant) will open bids. Court will come back.

14. Discussion and action to approve purchase of water truck, Precinct 3

Purchase used 2009 International 4300 water truck for \$38,057.46.

Motion to Purchase: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).

Order #20-294

15. Discussion and action to accept Annual Road and Bridge Report, Precinct 3

Motion to Accept: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).

Order #20-295

16. Discussion and action to approve equipment lease-purchase agreement between Welch State Bank and Austin County, Precinct 3

Approve equipment lease-purchase for Ford F350 and F450 trucks for 3 annual payments of \$30,548.49 at 3.24%.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0).

Order #20-296

17. Consideration and action to approve authorizing submission of the CDBG-MIT application to the General Land Office.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Rinn, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).

Order #20-297

18. Consideration and action to accept ACESD #1 Board nomination.

Accept Christine (Chris) Y. Broxson to ACESD #1 Board.

Motion to Accept: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).

Order #20-298

19. Discussion regarding Burn Ban and action as appropriate.

Burn Ban effective at noon today.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).

Order #20-299

#2 continued.

Debbie Reichardt spoke with regard to the Development Coordinator position in Judge Lapham's office.

20. **CONSENT AGENDA – Items listed are of routine nature and may be acted on in a single motion unless requested otherwise by member of Commissioners Court.**
- a. **Approval of Minutes**
 - i. **July 27, 2020**
 - b. **Consideration and action to approve Required Schooling Application for Travis J. Koehn, District Attorney, to be held September 16, 2020 – September 18, 2020, Virtual Conference.**
 - c. **Consideration and action to approve Required Schooling Application for Brandy Robinson, Assistant District Attorney, to be held September 16, 2020 – September 18, 2020, Virtual Conference.**
 - d. **Consideration and action to approve Required Schooling Application for Jesse Skinner, Assistant District Attorney, to be held September 16, 2020 – September 18, 2020, Virtual Conference.**
 - e. **Consideration and action to approve Required Schooling Application for Benjamin Nystrom, Assistant District Attorney, to be held September 16, 2020 – September 18, 2020, Virtual Conference.**

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0).
Order #20-300

#13 continued.

Martin Marietta, Sherwood Greene, Sealy Paving, Wilson Culverts, Bernardo Trucking, Colorado Materials, Cornerstone Paving, Huebner Concrete, Waller County Asphalt, Zbranek Gravel, Key Performance, Colorado County Oil, Statewide Materials Transport, Rock Crushers, Inc., Koy Concrete, Prihoda Gravel, JDN Trucking, LLC, Century Asphalt, Martin Asphalt, P2 Emulsion, Fort I Line Water Works, Vulcan Materials, Braun Tex Materials, Texas Materials, Sustainable Pavement Technologies, Preferred Pipe Materials, Quality Hot Mix, K-2C Lease Service, Inc., Matagorda Construction Materials, Texas Materials, ACT Pipe and Supply, and Ergon Asphalt and Emulsion.

Motion to Accept: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0).
Order #20-301

21. **Budgetary and Financial Claims – action as appropriate.**
- a. **Payment of Claims**

Per Billy Doherty (County Auditor), holding AT&T bill. Bill is in dispute. On page 22, City of Bellville should be Fund 301.

Grand total = \$1,538,944.94

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).
Order #20-302

b. Budget Amendments

#52 – #73 (See supporting documents).

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reichardt, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, failed (0-4).

#52 – #72 (See supporting documents).

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).
Order #20-303

c. County Auditor's Review of finances

Per Billy Doherty (County Auditor), 26.81% of budget remains.

d. County Treasurer

i. Payroll and Escrow Report Payroll & Escrow Report

1. 08.14.2020

ii. Monthly Treasurer Report

1. July 2020

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).
Order #20-304

22. Written end-of-the month reports submitted by County Offices.

i. County Court – July 2020

ii. District Court – July 2020

iii. Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2 – July 2020

iv. Library System – June 2020

v. OSSF – June 2020

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Rinn, 2nd Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0).
Order #20-305

Court recessed at 11:55 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A closed meeting will be held concerning the following items:

1 Personnel Matters

Court reconvened at 12:40 p.m.

23. Action as appropriate on Executive Session.

No action.

24. Commissioners Court Inquiry.

*Motion to Adjourn: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).
Order #20-306*

Court adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

**ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ON FILE WITH COUNTY CLERK AS
PROVIDED BY COMMISSIONERS COURT
I, Carrie Gregor, Austin County Clerk, attest to the minutes of the Commissioners
Court proceedings for August 24, 2020.**



Date: August 28, 2020
Carrie Gregor
Carrie Gregor, Austin County Clerk
Clerk of Commissioners Court
Austin County, Texas
By: Andrea Cardenas, Deputy

FILED

2020 AUG 28 PM 2: 25

Carrie Gregor
COUNTY CLERK
AUSTIN COUNTY, TEXAS