



**CARRIE GREGOR**  
AUSTIN COUNTY CLERK

## **COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES**

On **August 22, 2011** Austin County Commissioners Court met in the Basement Meeting Room at the Austin County Courthouse with the following present:

David Ottmer, Commissioner, Precinct 1- Sr. Commissioner Presiding  
Robert "Bobby" Rinn, Commissioner, Precinct 2  
Randy Reichardt, Commissioner, Precinct 3  
Douglas King, Commissioner, Precinct 4  
Deborah Stewart, Deputy County Clerk

### **Opening – 8:30 a.m.**

**Call to Order**  
**Invocation**  
**Pledges of Allegiance**  
**Certification of Quorum**

### **Consideration/Adoption of Agenda**

*Motion to Adopt: Commissioner Rinn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner King, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #11-307**

### **Action Agenda – 8:35 a.m.**

#### **1. Presentation regarding Regional Public Defender for Capital Cases, and action as appropriate**

Jack Stoffregen, Chief of the Regional Public Defender for Capital Cases, gave a brief history of the program and reviewed costs/services provided if Interlocal Agreement is accepted.

*Motion to Accept: Commissioner Reichardt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #11-308**

#### **2. Update regarding lighting of Courthouse for Christmas Holiday season, and action as appropriate to enter into agreement with Extreme LightScapes**

Pat Burns explained the lighting project contract and anticipated costs, for which \$1,500.00 had previously been authorized by the Court (Order #11-272). Costs for first

year \$2,060.00. A check for the remaining balance of \$560.00 was presented to the Court from pledges paid by local merchants Chuck and Rita Scianna. Commissioner King questioned future plans and costs.

*Motion to Approve Contract: Commissioner Reichardt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*

**Order #11-309**

**3. Discussion regarding hot mix/asphalt bids for precincts 1 & 2 pricing due to fuel adjustments, and action as appropriate**

Low bidder could not fulfill contract at original bid price. Century Asphalt Materials quoted better price.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Rinn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Reichardt, passed (4-0).*

**Order #11-310**

**4. Consideration and possible action to authorize sale of five (5) surplus salvage law enforcement vehicles**

Ways to sell salvage vehicles were discussed by the Court and Richard Holloman. Commissioner King suggested the Court obtain price quotes from LKQ of Houston.

*Motion to Obtain Quotes: Commissioner King, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*

**Order #11-311**

**5. Consideration and possible action to authorize interlocal agreement between Texas Department of Transportation and Austin County for access to the Crash Reporting and Analysis for Safer Highways (CRASH) System**

Commissioner Ottmer briefly explained purpose of contract agreement.

*Motion to Authorize: Commissioner Reichardt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*

**Order #11-312**

**6. Consideration and possible action to approve Right-of-Way installation by Austin County Water Supply Corporation on Mustang Lane in Hickory Creek, Precinct 1**

James Villa and Richard Frey representing Austin County Water Supply Corporation addressed the Court regarding requests for water services in Hickory Creek and Piney Creek. Commissioner Ottmer noted that the Court could only act on Mustang Lane in Hickory Creek, at this meeting, as stated in Agenda.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reichardt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*

**Order #11-313**

**7. Consideration and possible action to set fees for Sheriff and Constables to be effective January 1, 2012**

Per Chief Holloman current fees will remain the same.

*Motion to Set Fees: Commissioner Reichardt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #11-314**

**8. Consideration and possible action to authorize air conditioner replacement at Precinct 3 building**

Commissioner Reichardt received bids from 3 dealers in Austin County. Bids will be compared. Ceiling of \$30,000.00.

*Motion to Authorize with Ceiling of \$30,000.00: Commissioner Reichardt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #11-315**

**9. Consideration and possible action to approve application for required schooling reimbursement for James Clark, Constable, Precinct 4 for mandated Texas State & Federal Law Update #3181 to be taken prior to August 31, 2011**

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reichardt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #11-316**

**10. Discussion creating a Central Counting Station for elections, and action as appropriate**

Janice Kokemor explained benefits of creating a Central Counting Station.

*Motion to Authorize: Commissioner Reichardt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #11-317**

**11. Consideration and possible action to authorize proposals for bridge construction for Travis Road at Draw, and New Wehdem Road at Rocky Creek in Precinct 2**

*Motion to Authorize: Commissioner Rinn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Reichardt, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #11-318**

**12. Consideration and possible action to authorize capital expenditure for shelving at Tax Office for County Historical Commission use**

Per Janice Kokemor, County Historical Commission will be utilizing one of the small offices in Tax Office building and additional shelving is needed for their purposes. Some of the shelving could also be used by Veterans Service Office.

*Motion to Authorize: Commissioner Reichardt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #11-319**

### **13. Petitions or Requests from the Public**

Jana Tomlinson, Candi Havemann and Wendy Lee Sulak, voiced their concerns regarding privatizing EMS and addressed their support of the Austin County EMS with life saving instances in their lives.

Jim Turnbull presented the Court 9 letters and over 660 signatures of County residents supporting Austin County EMS. He also presented information regarding entities that elected to use private EMS services, all with devastating results.

Charlie Tallerine, Mayor Pro Tem for City of Industry, also voiced support for Austin County EMS and addressed the need for additional man hours in their community. He explained possible venture between City of Industry and Austin County EMS, with Industry providing some funding for additional hours. He noted the City Council had voted to include a line item in the budget for these purposes.

Dan Anderson recommended scheduling evening meetings. He noted this was the fourth time he had mentioned this and asked if it could be placed on the agenda for discussion. He also mentioned his EMS service experiences.

Eric Zapalac voiced support for Austin County EMS and explained decisions/advisements made by EMS personnel to transport patients to appropriate facilities that can best treat their condition.

Jill Wolfskill complemented Austin County EMS and services provided. She suggested a committee is appointed to research pros and cons and options regarding EMS services.

After voicing support for Austin County EMS, Lynne Anderson wanted to correct an implication made at the last Commissioners Court meeting, regarding the public hearing on 9-27-2010. Ms. Anderson noted remarks made at 8-22-2011 meeting implied the reason the public was not informed they could attend after recess, was due to rowdiness of audience. After research she found nothing indicating this. She complemented the Commissioners on their jobs and feels we should be able to question and disagree without anybody imputing anybody else's motives or behaviors.

Odis Haynes questioned EMS overtime/comp time.

Gary Scarborough asked to correct a previous comment regarding Austin County EMS budget by explaining their budget process.

**14. Budget Workshop with action as appropriate**

**a. County Department Requests**

Ron Dille expressed appreciation for comments and concerns regarding the EMS budget and noted research is being done to make the department become more efficient and more effective. EMS department is losing quality employees due to low salaries.

**b. Review revenue and expenditures and action as appropriate**

None

**15. Budgetary and financial claims – action as appropriate**

**a. Request for financial reports to include record of all checks written, and all withdrawals for county bank accounts for past fiscal year**

Skipped.

**b. Payment of Claims**

*Motion to Authorize: Commissioner Reichardt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).  
Order #11-320*

**c. Budget Amendments**

*Motion to Authorize: Commissioner Reichardt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).  
Order #11-321*

**d. County Auditor's review of finances**

**e. County Treasurer review of finances**

**i. Treasurer Quarterly report from April 2011 to June 2011**

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reichardt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).  
Order #11-322*

**16. Written end-of-month reports submitted by County Offices**

- a. On-Site Sewage Facility – July 2011**
- b. Monthly Fees and Commissions by Tax Assessor-Collector – June 2011**
- c. Austin County Library System – July 2011**
- d. Constable, Precincts 1, 2, 3, & 4**
- e. Austin County Jail Population – July 2011**
- f. Certified Floodplain Manager for Alfonso Acosta**

Per Commissioner Ottmer, he had received signatures supporting Austin County Library System.

Court adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

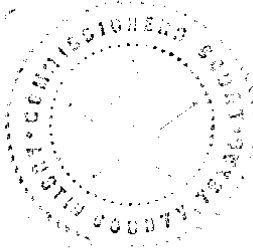
**ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ON FILE WITH COUNTY CLERK AS PROVIDED BY COMMISSIONERS COURT**

I, Carrie Gregor, Austin County Clerk, attest to the accuracy of the record of the Commissioners Court proceedings for August 22, 2011.

Date: Sept 13, 2011

Carrie Gregor

Carrie Gregor, Austin County Clerk  
Clerk of Commissioners Court  
Austin County, Texas  
By: Deborah Stewart, Deputy



FILED

11 SEP 13 PM 3: 18

*Carrie Gregor*

COUNTY CLERK  
AUSTIN COUNTY, TEXAS