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AUSTIN COUNTY CLERK

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COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES

March 25, 2024 Austin County Commissioners Court met in the 2nd floor Courtroom at the Austin County Courthouse with the following present:

Tim Lapham, County Judge
Mark Lamp, Commissioner, Precinct 1
Robert "Bobby" Rinn, Commissioner, Precinct 2
Leroy Cerny, Commissioner, Precinct 3
Chip Reed, Commissioner, Precinct 4
Kimberly Benjamin, Deputy Clerk

OPENING
CALL TO ORDER
INVOCATION
PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE
ROLL CALL AND CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM

Per Judge Lapham, remove item number 10c.i. from Consent Agenda.

Approve Amended Agenda.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Rinn, 2nd Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0).
Order #24-075

- 1. Proclamations and Special Recognitions**
 - a. Child Abuse Prevention Month**

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).
Order #24-076

- 2. Petitions or Requests from the Public.**

Judge Lapham read Roy Mercer's (Emergency Management Coordinator) Letter of Gratitude with regard to recent hail storm.

3. Consideration and action to accept resignation from Wilfred W Krause, Justice of the Peace 2 effective 04.04.2024

Judge Lapham, read Judge Wilfred W. Krause's (Justice of the Peace, Pct. 2), resignation letter. Will post public notice of vacancy in 30 days. Submit all applications and interests in position to Judge Lapham. Will hold an Executive Session to discuss applications.

Motion to Accept: Commissioner Rinn, 2nd Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0).
Order #24-077

4. Presentation by Sheriff Brandes

Sergeant Donald Darracq (Sheriff's Office), shared results from the Austin County Sheriff's Department participation in the TXDOT 2nd Enforcement Period, with the purpose of reducing traffic accidents and enhancing road safety. During March 7th – March 24th, the Sheriff's Department made 59 Probable Cause Contacts, issued 47 written warnings and 11 citations. Expressed appreciation to Commissioners Court for grant approval and to the local media for helping to inform the community.

5. Discussion and action to adopt 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan and approve Resolution.

Motion to Adopt: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).
Order #24-078

- 6. Discussion and action regarding County Line Acres Subdivision, located in Ft. Bend County, drainage outfalls into Austin County jurisdiction:**
- a. Authorize County Engineer to approve and sign plan set.**
 - b. Authorize County Engineer to issue drainage outfall permit**

Per Jonathan Hopko (County Engineer), Fort Bend County requests his signature on the plan set as acknowledgement he reviewed plat, and issuance of drainage outfall permit.

Motion to Authorize: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).
Order #24-079

7. Discussion and action to enter an interlocal cooperation contract between the Texas Department of Public Safety and Austin County to continue FTA program.

Motion to Enter: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).
Order #24-080

8. Discussion and action to approve purchase of 2 Ford F-150 trucks for EMS to replace aging supervisor units.

Chief Walter Morrow (EMS Director), requests approval to purchase/replace aging fleet. Will possibly lose 2 vehicles due to recent hail damage. Purchase of a Tahoe would be more suitable. Lead time for manufacturing a patrol package Tahoe is a year. Smaller vehicles such as an Explorer or F-150 is useful for purposes of getting into pastures and towing trailer with the ATV after a rescue. Delivery time is 180 days for the new vehicles if purchased.

Per Commissioner Lamp, suggests converting one of the vehicles to an F-250 until Tahoe becomes available.

Per Commissioner Cerny, EMS can utilize precinct truck if needed.

Per Billy Doherty (County Auditor), EMS has \$129,315.76 available to make purchase.

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

Order #24-081

9. Consideration and action to approve plans and specs for the Austin County GLO Mitigation Competition Program #22-085-007-D235 for the Sector 1 Sealy Area and approval to begin bid process for construction services for this work.

Pre-bid conference for Allen Creek Grant on April 17, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. for anyone interested in bidding. Public bidding will open May 8, 2024.

Per Johnathan Hopko (County Engineer) and Shannon Hannath (Road and Bridge Administrative Assistant), have reviewed plans and accept.

Approve pre-bid conference on April 17, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in the courthouse conference room located on the 1st floor. Deadline for bids is 3:00 p.m. on May 8, 2024 in Road and Bridge Office courthouse. Bids read at 9:00 a.m. on May 13, 2024 during Commissioner's Court.

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

Order #24-082

10. 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. **Consideration and action to approve required schooling application(s) for Bryan Haevischer, Treasurer, to be held June 10-12, 2024 in Irving, Texas**
- b. **Consideration and action to approve required schooling application(s) for Kim Rinn, Tax Assessor Collector, to be held June 2-5, 2024 in Dallas, Texas**

- c. Consideration and action to accept Bond 107993693 replacing Bond SUR0042308, in the amount of \$150,000 to cover repair on Post Oak Point Rd, and Wilde Rd., Pct. 2
 - i. Stacia Sorensen, Authorized Rep for Sorensen Sandy Creek Farm and Ranch, LLC on or near New Bremen Rd, Pct 2.
- d. Consideration and action to authorize a one-time variance from Subdivision Regulations to divide a 2-acre tract from a 12.71-acre parent tract on Waak Rd, Pct. 1
- e. Consideration and action to authorize a one-time variance from Subdivision Regulations to divide a 5.26-acre tract from a 16.15-acre parent tract on Stokes Rd, Pct. 1, contingent on receipt of donation deed.
- f. Consideration and action to authorize a one-time variance from Subdivision Regulations to divide a +/- 1.2-acre tract from a 10.8-acre parent tract on Johnston Rd, Pct. 4
- g. Consideration and action to authorize a one-time variance from Subdivision Regulations to divide a 1-acre tract from a 5-acre parent tract on FM 109, Pct. 2
- h. Consideration and action to approve Election Services Contract between The Town of San Felipe and Austin County Elections Official, Kim Rinn.
- i. Consideration and action to approve 02.26.24 Commissioner's Court Minutes.

Approve a.-h.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).
Order #24-083

i.

Per Commissioner Rinn, Item 7n. under Consent Agenda should be (3-1) passed. Commissioner Rinn opposed.

Approve item number 10i. with correction.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Rinn, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).
Order #24-084

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

Total = \$981,456.34.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Rinn, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).
Order #24-085

b. Fund Transfers

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

Order #24-086

- c. **Budget Amendments**
- d. **County Auditor's Review of finances**
- e. **County Treasurer**
 - i. **Payroll and Escrow Report - 03.22.24**

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

Order #24-087

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

- a. **155th District Court, Criminal and Civil - February 2024**
- b. **County Court, Family - February 2024**
- c. **Justice of the Peace, Pct. 2 - February 2024**
- d. **Constable, Pct. 2 - February**
- e. **EMS - February 2024**
- f. **Agrilife - February 2024**

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

Order #24-088

Court recessed at 9:44 a.m.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

In accordance with Texas Local Government Code §551.071, §551.125 and §551.129, a closed meeting will be held concerning the following items:

- a. **Economic Development**
- b. **Personnel Matter**
- c. **Personnel Matter**

Court reconvened at 11:58 a.m.

14. Action as appropriate on Executive Session.

No action on a. and b.

c. Amend compensation order to change County Engineer Administrative Assistant position to full time (40 hours per week).

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

Order #24-089

15. Commissioners Court Inquiry.

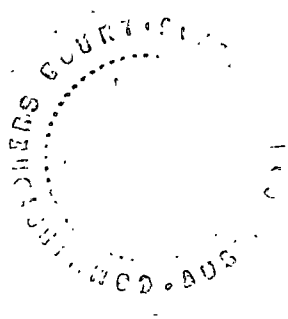
Motion to Adjourn: Commissioner Lamp, 2nd Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0).
Order #24-090

Court adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

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

I, Andrea Cardenas, Austin County Clerk, attest to the minutes of the Commissioners Court proceedings for March 25, 2024.

Date: April 4, 2024
Andrea Cardenas, Austin County Clerk
Clerk of Commissioners Court
Austin County, Texas
By: Kimberly Benjamin
Kimberly Benjamin, Deputy Clerk



FILED

2024 APR -4 PM 4: 26

6 Andrea Cardenas
COUNTY CLERK
AUSTIN COUNTY, CLERK