

TYLER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
REGULAR MEETING
April 12, 2021 ---- 11:00 a.m.

THE STATE OF TEXAS ON THIS THE 12th day of April, 2021 the
Commissioners' Court in and for Tyler County, Texas convened in a Regular Meeting at the
Commissioners' Courtroom in Woodville, Texas, the following members of the Court present, to
wit:

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| JACQUES L. BLANCHETTE | COUNTY JUDGE, presiding |
| JOE BLACKSHER | COMMISSIONER, PCT. #1 |
| STEVAN STURROCK | COMMISSIONER, PCT. #2 |
| MIKE MARSHALL | COMMISSIONER, PCT. #3, via phone |
| BUCK HUDSON | COMMISSIONER, PCT. #4 |
| DEAN RIVERS | CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK, Ex-Officio |

The following were absent: none thereby constituting a quorum. In addition to the above were:

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|----------------|----------------------------|
| JACKIE SKINNER | COUNTY AUDITOR, via phone |
| LEANN MONK | COUNTY TREASURER |
| TERRY ALLEN | JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER |

After calling the meeting to order, Judge Blanchette stated "it is the practice of the court to exercise an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Anyone who may not be comfortable with the practice may wish to mute line or step out into the hall and rejoin once the portion of the agenda begins with public comments." Commissioner Blacksher delivered the invocation and then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

Commissioner Sturrock motioned to receive the minutes of March 30th. Commissioner Blacksher seconded the motion. All voted yes and none no.

Commissioner Blacksher made a motion to approve the **monthly reports** from the Juvenile Probation Department and Adult Probation Department, District Clerk, County Clerk, County Auditor, County Extension and Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1. **Commissioner Sturrock** seconded the motion. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Sturrock** and seconded by **Commissioner Marshall** to proclaim April as **Child Abuse Prevention Month in Tyler County** as presented by Terry Allen. Other members of the Child Welfare Board were also present: Tina Self, Kathy Harris, Tonya Sheffield and Mike McCulley. Three persons were also present representing CPS. Mrs. Allen reported 31 children, presently, in foster care in Tyler County and have had up to 60. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED PROCLAMATION

Leslie Waxman explained the resolution in item III.B is also covered in item III.C. The resolutions are also attached to IV.O intergovernmental agreement with **Tyler County Special Utility District**. **Commissioner Marshall** motioned to adopt the resolutions authorizing the submission of an application to the **Texas Department of Agriculture** for the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program; and, authorizing the County Judge to act as the County's Executive Officer to sign the application and other documents associated with it. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock**. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

Judge Blanchette motioned to proclaim April as **Fair Housing Month**. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock**. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED PROCLAMATION

A motion was made by **Commissioner Blacksher** and seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock** to adopt the resolution declaring that Tyler County supports the **Second Amendment [of the US Constitution]**, as collaborated with the Criminal District Attorney and Sheriff. Other officials voiced their support. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION

Budget Amendments/Line Item Transfers were not submitted.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Hudson** and seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock** to approve payment of **accounts payable/county bills**, as submitted. The County Auditor stated the Harvey Round I entry on page 38 will be reimbursed by a grant; and, \$636,886.06 has been spent toward courthouse remediation. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Blacksher** to lease/purchase a **2022 Mack Truck** with a dump bed from Bruckner's through state pre-approved bid through First National Bank Leasing, Wichita Falls, TX for **Precinct #1**. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock**. Commissioner Blacksher added that \$4000 had been spent in hauling and with this truck they could do the hauling without paying to have it done. All voted yes and none no.

Commissioner Hudson reported that credenzas had been received instead of desks; and the desks were in bad shape. He motioned to order two desks, to match the pieces received from Texas Department of Criminal Justice for the **driver's license office**. **Commissioner Sturrock** seconded the motion. Judge Blanchette stated the furniture now in that office belongs to the state agency; that department is funded by the state; the county provides office space for convenience of the citizens; and would object to additional cost so that "we don't pay local tax dollars" for a state agency. The County Auditor stated the county had agreed to provide the DPS trooper office furniture, to have a presence in the county, but was not positive about the driver's license office. Commissioner Sturrock agreed that he would not want to make the purchase if the county had not purchased them in the past. Commissioner Marshall stated that since it was a county building, he did not have a problem with putting furniture owned by county in the room. Judge Blanchette objected that because it was a conflict of a state agency having their own equipment. **Commissioner Hudson** motioned to table this item for further study. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Marshall**. All voted yes and none no.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Sturrock** and seconded by **Commissioner Blacksher** to update the **employee handbook** adding "duly elected officials" to the index. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Judge Blanchette** and seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock** to adopt an Order authorizing the **sale of fireworks** during the Memorial Day period (May 26 through midnight May 31). All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED.

Commissioner Sturrock made a motion to apply for the **Indigent Defense Improvement Grant Program**. **Commissioner Blacksher** seconded the motion. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED.

Commissioner Hudson motioned to seek bids for **emergency standby services**. **Commissioner Sturrock** seconded the motion. Mrs. Skinner reported that the current vendor is NAPCO which gave the county an extension. Commissioner Sturrock suggested awarding on a two-year basis for future contracts. All voted yes and none no

A motion was made by **Commissioner Sturrock** and seconded by **Commissioner Hudson** to renew the annual **property and auto insurance for 2021-2022**. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** and seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock** to adopt the **2021 Investment Policy**. The County Treasurer clarified a change of a broker dealer and Section D spoke to the education of the investment officer as a Level II officer. She reported the Local Government Code did not state Level II investment officer: therefore, after consultation with TAC and PFIA she inserted a paragraph stating the education requirements in accordance with the Local Government Code. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** and seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock** to adopt the **2021 Investment Plan**. Leann Monk reported the plan recommendations of the Investment Committee: based on the current economic situation the committee recommends to pull investment funds from TexClass, TexPool, and Wichita Falls on CDs to be deposited in the Treasurer's account in First National Bank, until there is an economic upturn. Mrs. Monk answered questions from Commissioner Sturrock that First National Bank was paying more interest and can pull funds without penalty at any time. All voted yes and none no.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Hudson** and seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock** to receive the annual 2020 financial report for **Tyler County Emergency Service District #2**. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

Commissioner Hudson motioned to open discussion for the placement of a sign from Woodville Florist Shop at the West end of the entrance to the Tyler County Annex/tax office. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Marshall**. Judge Blanchette stated it would be setting a precedent of for-profit businesses to advertise on county property. Other commissioners expressed the same concern. All voted in opposition. Motion died for lack of support.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Hudson** and seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock** to approve the **bond** for the **tax assessor/collector**. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** to approve an **interlocal agreement** with **Tyler County Special Utility District** for an application for a grant project on their behalf and spelling out that the utility district will be paying the matching funds. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock**. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

Commissioner Blacksher made a motion to renew the contract on the Sharp Mx-M6071 digital copier as requested by the **District Clerk**. **Commissioner Sturrock** seconded the motion. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

Eleanor Holderman, member of the Tyler County Historical Commission, presented the background of the **courthouse bell and clock**. The decades of compilation of the Tyler County history had been done by Barry Coffman and Jack Whitmeyer. Research revealed the cost of the bell in 1892 was \$18 plus \$50 in delivery fee by way of ship, in care of the captain, to New York City then to Tyler County. TCHC requests safe storage and maintenance of the bell and clock under the supervision of the commissioners' court until they can be returned to a reconstructed bell tower or other significant position associated with the Tyler County courthouse.

Executive Session was not held.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hudson and seconded by Commissioner Sturrock that the meeting adjourn. All voted yes.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING ADJOURNED: 11:49 a.m.

I, Donece Gregory, County Clerk and ex officio member of the Tyler County Commissioners Court, do hereby certify to the fact that the above is a true and correct record of the Tyler County Commissioners Court session held on April 12, 2021.

Witness my hand and seal of office on this the 30th day of April, 2021.

Attest: _____
Donece Gregory, County Clerk