

TYLER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

Regular Meeting

July 27, 2020 --- 11:00 am

THE STATE OF TEXAS

ON THIS THE 27th day of July, 2020 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:

JACQUES BLANCHETTE	COUNTY JUDGE, PRESIDING
MARTIN NASH	COMMISSIONER, PCT 1, teleconference
STEVAN STURROCK	COMMISSIONER, PCT 2, teleconference
MIKE MARSHALL	COMMISSIONER, PCT 3
BUCK HUDSON	COMMISSIONER, PCT 4
DONECE GREGORY	COUNTY CLERK, Ex-Officio

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

STEPHANIE VOTH	ASST. COUNTY AUDITOR
MAEGAN ODOM	ASST. COUNTY AUDITOR
LEANN MONK	COUNTY TREASURER
MICHAEL GREAFF	DEPUTY SHERIFF, teleconference
JACOB ADAWAY	DEPUTY SHERIFF, teleconference
KEN JOBE	JP #2, Emergency Management Coordinator
JOE BLACKSHEER	REP. NOMINEE for COMM.PCT#1

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 their phone for 20-25 seconds (for those attending by teleconference) or step out into the hall and rejoin once the portion of the agenda begins with public comments." The invocation was delivered by Commissioner Sturrock. He then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas flag.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

A motion was made by Commissioner Hudson and seconded by Commissioner Marshall to receive the minutes of June 13th, 2020. All voted yes and none no.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** to approve the **budget amendment/line item transfer for Road & Bridge, Precinct #4**, as presented by the County Auditor's department. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Hudson**. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** and seconded by **Commissioner Hudson** to approve the **allowances and accounts payable**. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

Commissioner Sturrock motioned to authorize LaBiche Architectural Group, LLC to seek bids for **courthouse remediation** work only, per the Agreement with Tyler County Historical Commission, Article VI, County's Responsibilities, Section 6.03. **Commissioner Marshall** seconded the motion. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

Commissioner Hudson motioned to set up an **online auction** to dispose of county surplus property, such as old equipment, etc. **Commissioner Marshall** seconded the motion. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

The County Treasurer reported that upon review of proposed donations to the county with Jackie Skinner, County Auditor, she recommended to not accept donations from citizens toward gas for trips to appointments for veterans. She stated it would leave the county open to a liability risk; hopeful the veterans service can explore other avenues to assist the veterans to and from their appointments; and, it is against the county policy to give donations to private citizens.

Commissioner Marshall motioned to not accept **donations from citizens to the Veteran's service office** for reimbursement/payment to private citizens who drive veterans back and forth to their appointments using their personal vehicles. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Hudson**. Commissioner Nash added that he hoped we can find a way to help the veterans.

Commissioner Hudson questioned whether citizens could donate directly to the driver without the funds going through the county treasury. Mrs. Monk answered affirmatively that as long as the County wasn't involved with the donations. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** to receive the **Quarterly Investment Report**, as presented by the County Treasurer. **Commissioner Sturrock** seconded the motion. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

County Treasurer presented the recommendation from the Investment Committee on the 2020 Investment Strategy, using the same banks and same brokers: to continue "as is", as safely as possible. A motion was made by **Commissioner Hudson** to approve the recommendations for the **2020 Investment Strategy**. **Commissioner Nash** seconded the motion. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

The County Treasurer reported the health insurance premium will be at a 1% decrease instead of an increase. County "employee only" would be \$ 754.20 compared to the \$ 761.82 present premium. Having 120 employees, the decrease will add up. There are some reassignments from the County Auditor to the County Treasurer. A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** to renew the 2021 Texas Association of Counties (TAC) **Employee Benefit Pool Renewal Plan** with no changes, other than the reassignments. **Commissioner Sturrock** seconded the motion. All voted yes and none no.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** and seconded by **Commissioner Hudson** to renew the health services agreement for **inmate health services** with **Southern Health Partners**. In discussion, Commissioner Marshall inquired if renewal would be at the same rate. Deputy Adaway stated there would be a 2% increase for a annual cost of \$83,945.88. Greater than 30 inmates would be a per diem rate of \$1.38. Commissioner Nash questioned the frequency of the per diem. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

The County Clerk reported the deadline had changed due to CoVid19 for party chairs to present a list of possible election officials for appointment. She requested this item be tabled until after August 7th, the new deadline. **Commissioner Marshall** motioned to table appointment of election judges and alternates until the next meeting. **Commissioner Sturrock** seconded the motion. All voted yes and none no.

JUDGE'S REPORT: Courthouse Remediation Update- Judge Blanchette informed this would be his last update regarding the courthouse project. He received a call from the State Representative who had received a call from the executive director (THC). He stated, "It is possible there may be a personality conflict between him and me." "It may be to the benefit of the county for me to step down as a "face". Judge Blanchette further stated that he would still execute all the documents, as a signatory, on the actual activity, "but will be appropriate for one of the members of the court to take over the lead in this particular activity." That coupled with what he and the emergency management coordinator "have been looking at for the last five months" anticipates this particular event (CoVid19 pandemic) to continue possibly into the next six to nine more months. There has been a significant amount of work taken place on behalf of Judge's and Ken's effort, include his support staff (Kay, Jill and Becky). Since "we're trying to move toward the closure of March 31st"; that supports the addition of the potential personality conflict with Mr. Wolfe. Also, Judge Blanchette stated, this would give him the opportunity to redirect some of his statutory responsibilities as the budget officer for the court, trying to get a better command on that for the court's benefit. Kay Timme has some documents (courthouse remediation/rehabilitation) that she will bind up and have them available for the next member of the Court by August 15th.

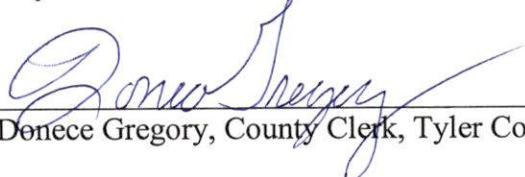
Executive Session was not held.

Motion made by Commissioner Nash that the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Marshall seconded. All voted yes none no.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 11:24 am

I, Donece Gregory, County Clerk and ex officio member of the Tyler County Commissioners' Court, do hereby certify the fact that the above is a true and correct record of the Tyler County Commissioners' Court session held on July 27, 2020.

Witness my hand and seal of office on this 27th day of July, 2020.

Attest: 
Donece Gregory, County Clerk, Tyler County, Texas

