

TYLER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

Regular Meeting

August 10, 2020 --- 11:00 am

THE STATE OF TEXAS ON THIS THE 10th day of August, 2020 the Commissioners' Court in and for Tyler County, Texas convened in a Regular Meeting at the District 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:

JACKIE SKINNER	COUNTY AUDITOR
LEANN MONK	COUNTY TREASURER
BRYAN WEATHERFORD	SHERIFF
JO BLACKSHEAR	REP Nominee for Commissioner, 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 Jordan Wilson, pastor of The Country Church. Judge Blanchette led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

A motion was made by Commissioner Hudson and seconded by Commissioner Marshall to receive the minutes of July 27, 2020. All voted yes and none no.

Commissioner Marshall made a motion to receive the monthly reports from the **Adult & Juvenile Probation Departments, County Clerk, County Treasurer, County Auditor, County Extension and Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1**. The District Clerk's report was not available. **Commissioner Sturrock** seconded the motion. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Nash** and seconded by **Commissioner Marshall** to adopt the Resolution 2020-008 acknowledging action of the court on August 3, 2020 to participate in **CARES Act funding** on behalf of the county and to designate the County Judge as the authorized person to sign the official documents. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** and seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock** to adopt the Resolution 2020-009 authorizing the submission of an application for the 2020 Help America Vote (HAVA) CARES Act subgrant. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

Budget amendments /line item transfers were not presented.

Mary Nell Rainey commended Bob Morris for all the detailed reports that helped them receive this award two years in a row. Only 79 counties out of 254 received this award. **Commissioner Marshall** motioned to recognize the **Tyler County Historical Commission** for receiving the 2019 Distinguished Service Award presented by the Texas Historical Commission. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock**. All yes and none no.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** and seconded by **Commissioner Hudson** to authorize the LaBiche Architectural Group, Inc. to seek bids for construction and **remediation and rehabilitation** activities as recommended by the Courthouse Remediation Steering Committee. All voted yes with exception of Commissioner Sturrock voting no.

Judge Blanchette conversed with Kay Timme, then taking the chairmen seat again, stated he had originally felt he should withdraw from the steering committee because of his disappointment feeling the court was not going toward what he felt the best interest of the County. He checked with Kay Timme and she is willing to continue with him. Therefore, he stated he will not submit his resignation. Judge Blanchette passed on item "D": resignation of County Judge from the **Courthouse Remediation Steering Committee** and the lead contact of the Commissioners' Court for the **Courthouse Remediation/Rehabilitation** activities. No action was taken

Judge Blanchette complimented James White for taking the lead to initiate a discussion in anticipation of an extension of the deadline for remediation. He motioned to accept the offer from the Texas Historical Commission (THC) extending the deadline for completion of the **Courthouse remediation requirements** to December 1, 2021. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Nash**. Commissioner Sturrock asked if the county would be signing a contract for the extension. Judge replied, Mr. Wolfe will engage the Attorney General to draft a contract extending the deadline. All voted yes and none no.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Sturrock** and seconded by **Commissioner Marshall** to approve the renewal of the Tyler Technologies financial software for the **County Treasurer** and **County Auditor**. All voted yes and none no.

Commissioner Sturrock stated the Judge in a previous meeting expressed he would be resigning as the point of contact due to personality conflicts with Mark Wolfe, Texas Historical Commission. A motion was made by **Commissioner Sturrock** to accept the resignation of Judge Blanchette as the point of contact and signer of documents for the Texas Historical Commission. Judge Blanchette clarified that he found that James White had initiated; he had originally thought Mark Wolfe had initiated a call to James White, State Representative. But he did not. Therefore, he was not submitting his resignation as in Item D. The motion died for a lack of a second.

No action was taken on Item H: appointing a member of Commissioners' Court as the new point of contact and signer for the Texas Historical Commission.

No action was taken on Item I: transferring funds from monies budgeted for Department of Public Safety(DPS) driver's license clerk from the County Judge's budget and/or other funds to cover the expense for a special project coordinator to whichever member of the court becomes the new point of contact for the Texas Historical Commission Courthouse Remediation.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Sturrock** and seconded by **Commissioner Hudson** to move forward with filling the position of Family and Community Health Agent by authorizing A&M Agrilife Extension to initiate the hiring process. Judge Blanchette expressed that he and Commissioner Nash have overseen that department for 13 plus years. This has been a cost of over \$100,000 to the county. Upon the retirement of Kelly Jobe, they began to look into this to determine the needs of the county. The current agent suggested a 4H program. Judge Blanchette found the cost to the County for underwriting a supplement income of the position to be \$20,000 plus office expense. The County also pays a full-time position to support the two agents. It would be better to support the 4H program with a full-time employee, the present agent assisting. Judge Blanchette stated he was not comfortable with moving forward at this time. It helps to support A&M to get grants. Commissioner Nash added he had talked with the previous person that had this position. He expressed he was not for filling the position at this time. Filling the position helps A&M, not Tyler County. The programs the County participated in had very little participation. Judge Sturrock stated he has learned that it supports the socially economic disadvantaged youth of the county, not just A&M. Judge Blanchette says A&M now charges for participation for example Tyler County Hospital now offers the diabetes program at no cost. All voted yes with exception of Judge Blanchette and Commissioner Nash voting no.

Commissioner Nash motioned to award the construction contact for the **City of Ivanhoe** portion of the (GLO)General Land Office **Hurricane Harvey Infrastructure Grant 20-065-087-C248** to Gulf Coast, as recommended by the City of Ivanhoe. **Commissioner Marshall** seconded the motion. All voted yes and none no.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** to ratify the **election contracts** with other political subdivisions, including but not limited to cities and schools. **Commissioner Hudson** seconded the motion. All voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT: Annex renovation project- Commissioner Hudson reported the contractors have completed most of electrical, plumbing is almost finished, and ADA parking spaces are done. The project is now down to painting, ceiling tiles and flooring. He expects the project will be finished within the next several weeks-by the end of the month.

Executive Session was not held.

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

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 11:41 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 August 10, 2020.

Witness my hand and seal of office on this 7th day of September, 2020.

Attest:


Donece Gregory, County Clerk, Tyler County, Texas