

## **Hancock County Board of Commissioners' Minutes**

**October 2, 2012**

Commissioners met in regular session. Those present were Commissioner Tom Stevens, President, Commissioner Brad Armstrong, Vice President and Commissioner Derek Towle.

Auditor Robin D. Lowder was also present.

Attorney Ray Richardson arrived at 8:31a.m.

Hancock County Board of Commissioners' meeting began at 8:01a.m.

### **In The Matter of Hancock County Highway**

Engineer Joe Copeland appeared before the Hancock County Board of Commissioners to discuss the following:

**Highway Equipment Committee** – The following people were presented as possible members of the Highway Equipment Committee. Marc Huber, Jerry Leonard, Armin Apple, Jeary Smith and Bill Ettinger. Marc Huber is owner of a business with a fleet of trucks, Jerry Smith worked at John Deere for years as a truck and heavy equipment Mechanic, Armin Apple is a farmer and former Commissioner and Bill Ettinger is a heavy equipment sales representative for Westside Tractor Sales. The Commissioners felt this was a good beginning for the committee.

**Federal Aid Projects** – a spreadsheet of total expenses for Local Road and Street with TIF funds, listed separate and combined, was presented to the Commissioners.

**Bridge# 23** – Since it was requested to hold off on Bridge# 76, permission is being requested to bid Bridge #23 located on 900 N. just west of 1000 E. over Sugar Creek. Commissioner Towle moved approval to proceed with the bid for Bridge# 23. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. Discussion: Question about how long it will take to complete Bridge# 76 with the delay. Engineer Joe Copeland stated with Shelby County's cooperation it would be 2013 and without it will be 2014. The motion carried 3/0.

**Truck Bid** – Henry County has requested to participate in the bid for trucks with the Highway Department. They would need two or three Tandem Trucks. The Commissioners felt this would not be a problem. However, it has not been determined the method in which the trucks will be purchased yet.

**Culvert** – Update on the culvert located on McKenzie Road west of Broadway Street. The right-of-way has not been purchased yet, there is a gas line that needs to be moved but can't be moved in cold weather. The DNR permits have been obtained.

### **The Matter of Hancock County Commissioners' Action Items**

**Claims and Payroll** - Commissioner Towle moved to approve the claims and payroll as presented. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

**Repair** - The bearings on the motor for the pump are failing and PDF Mechanical, LLC provided two estimates. One for the condenser Loop Glycol in the amount of \$500.00 and one for the cooling tower spray pump in the amount of \$1,520.00. Commissioner Armstrong moved to allow PDF Mechanical, LLC to proceed with two separate repairs 1. replace the motor and shaft seal for cooling tower spray pump for a price not to exceed \$1,520.00 and 2. provide labor and material to add customer supplied glycol solution into the chiller condenser loop for a price not to exceed \$500.00. Commissioner Towle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

**Prosecutor's Office** - Baxter Pest Professionals presented a quote for work, excluding bats at the Prosecutor's Office, in the amount of \$825.00. Commissioner Armstrong was given the authority at a prior meeting to choose the company with the lowest bid. Commissioner Armstrong made the decision to hire Baxter Pest Professionals with a not to exceed of \$825.

### **The Matter of Hancock County Commissioners' Action Items**

**August 28, September 18 & 25, 2012 Minutes**- Commissioner Towle moved to approve the minutes for August 28, 2012, September 18, 2012 and September 25, 2012 as submitted. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

### **In The Matter of the Hancock County Surveyor**

**Annual Report** - Phase 2 of the Annual Report was presented to the Commissioners by Surveyor Susan Bodkin. Commissioner Armstrong moved to accept Phase 2 Annual Report as presented and recommend it be filed. Commissioner Towle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

### **In The Matter of the Sheriff's Department**

**Trade in** - The bill for the total amount of the vehicles purchased was paid without taking into account the trade-in. The dealer sent a check for the trade in value of \$7000.00 and it was deposited into the general fund, per the state board of accounts. The Sheriff's Department is requesting the funds be appropriated into the line item for Motor Vehicles, where they purchase their vehicles from. Commissioner Towle moved the Sheriff's Department has permission to request the County Council to have the \$7000.00 appropriated into the Motor Vehicles line item with Commissioners recommendation. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

**Fire Suppression System** - A quote from Condon Fire & Safety was presented to the Commissioners with the recommendation to go with option number two. Commissioner Armstrong moved to allow Condon Fire & Safety to proceed with option number two on the proposal with the amount not to exceed \$3,469.92. Commissioner Towle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

**Vehicle Lease Agreement** – the Sheriff’s Reserve Vehicle Lease Program was presented to the Commissioners. This will be the fourth vehicle in the program. Commissioner Armstrong moved to enter into the vehicle lease agreement with 1279 Tactical Supply LLC for a reserve sheriff vehicle, a 2012 Dodge Charger with VIN#2C3CDXAT0CH280185. Commissioner Towle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

#### **In The Matter of Hancock County IT Department**

**Backup System** – replicated off site at the Emergency Operations Center is finished and functioning well.

**Backup Server** – is being serviced so there will only be a few hours of down time. All of the components are in house so there are a small amount of funds being spent on this.

**Wireless** – is ready at the Annex but the Courthouse needs additional wiring. Bernie Harris had a quote of \$2,000.00 for Steve Millis to run three lines at the courthouse. The funds for this will be expended out of computer maintenance. Approval is requested to run the three lines at the courthouse. Commissioner Towle moved to approve installation of three lines in the courthouse for an amount not to exceed \$2,000.00. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

**Storage** – currently we have six terabytes of online storage and it is quickly being used. Bernard Harris would like to increase the storage by three terabytes now and upgrade in the next year or so. Commissioner Towle moved to authorize Bernard Harris to proceed with getting quotes for the server and SAN update to increase the storage for the county, the motion does not approve the cost only to receive quotes. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

#### **In The Matter of Recessing the Hancock County Board of Commissioners**

President of the Board of Commissioners Tom Stevens recessed the meeting at 8:48a.m. for the Hancock County Regional Water and Sewer District Meeting.

The Hancock County Board of Commissioners meeting was called back to order at 9:03a.m. by President Tom Stevens.

#### **In The Matter of the Planning Department**

**Lewis Re-Zoning** – Mike Dale requested a determination from the Commissioners as to who would pay the cost for the filing, public notice in news papers and notice sent to neighbors for the re-zoning on the Lewis property located in Willow Branch. Commissioner Armstrong moved to proceed to initiate the re-zoning with the County absorbing the filing fees. The published legal notice and mailings to adjoining land owners are to be paid by the land owner. Commissioner Towle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0

**Agri-Business Ordinance** – Mr. George Langston requested time to discuss the BZA meeting with the Commissioners. He requested the Commissioners take a better look at the Agri-Business Ordinance. He feels the interpretation of the Ordinance is too strict and limits property owner’s ability to make an income using their land as they see fit. He felt the Board of Zoning Appeals did not take into consideration an individual’s ability to make income off of their property. The activity in question would bring the public out to give access to future customers. Mr. Langston feels the Commissioners need to take another look at the Ordinance to free it up or rescind it as the Ordinance puts the burden on the property owner to defend himself against complaints.

Commissioner Stevens stated he is aware there is a serious problem. The Ordinance was passed by the board and it is being used to prohibit activity. He is very concerned about how the Ordinance is being interpreted and very much in favor of getting this resolved.

Commissioner Armstrong stated when the Ordinance was passed it was intended to promote family farm activity in Hancock County.

John Priore appeared before the Commissioners to suggest the BZA be asked why they denied the request to find out if they are misinterpreting and then suspend the ordinance until the wording is changed.

Earl Smith appeared before the Commissioners and stated a lot of what he wanted to say has already been said. He is concerned about an event held on his property for the past two years, it was referred to in the previous meeting, Mike Dale stated he will not approve it for next year.

Earl Smith also requested the road where he lives be reviewed and if possible more signs added due to accidents at the curve. The Commissioners referred Mr. Smith to County Engineer Joe Copeland at the Highway Department.

The meeting adjourned at 9:46a.m.

Hancock County Commissioners

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Commissioner Tom Stevens, President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Robin D. Lowder  
Hancock County Auditor

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Commissioner Brad Armstrong, Vice President

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Commissioner Derek Towle