

## Taylor County Commissioners' Court

July 30, 2013

The Commissioners' Court of Taylor County met in Regular Session on July 30, 2013, with the following members present:

1. Judge Downing A. Bolls Jr., County Judge
2. Randy Williams, Commissioner, Precinct 1
3. Kyle Kendrick, Commissioner, Precinct 2
4. Stan Egger, Commissioner, Precinct 3
5. Chuck Statler, Commissioner, Precinct 4

When the following motions were heard:

1. Judge Bolls convened the Court in open session at 10:00 a.m.

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2. Commissioner Statler gave the invocation and Commissioner Egger led the Court in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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3. Commissioner Statler made a motion to approve the minutes of the meetings held on July 16 and July 23, 2013 and to adopt the agenda for the meeting of July 30, 2013 as printed and posted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams and carried unanimously.

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4. Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the budget transfer for insurance premium as recommended by the Auditor. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kendrick and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

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5. Commissioner Kendrick made a motion to approve bills from the following funds and to order them paid according to minutes of the accounts. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. General Fund                | 8. Local TYC             |
| 2. County Clerk's Microfilm    | 9. Jail Commissary       |
| 3. Commissioners' Special      | 10. Road and Bridge      |
| 4. VIT Escrow Interest         | 11. Capital Construction |
| 5. D. A. Special               | 12. Employee Benefit     |
| 6. D. A. Seizure               | 13. Payroll Clearing     |
| 7. Juvenile Education Services |                          |

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6. Commissioner Egger made a motion to remove from the table "Consider the renewal of Secondary Emergency 911 or Secondary Emergency Transfer Service with North Runnels Hospital EMS." The motion was seconded by Commissioner Statler and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Egger stated that this agreement has been in place for several years because South Taylor County EMS (STEMS) and the North Runnels Hospital EMS had shared emergency response areas in extreme south Taylor County. Due to STEMS' growth the agreement was no longer necessary. Additionally, if the agreement is not in place, STEMS is eligible to apply for increased funding in grant sources. Commissioner Egger made a motion not to renew the Secondary Emergency 911 or Secondary Emergency Transfer Service with North Runnels Hospital EMS. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Statler and carried unanimously. [No Exhibit Provided]

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7. Bettye Gindratt, Director of Social Services presented the annual renewal between Taylor County and Indigent Healthcare Solutions. This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) provides Bettye's office with technology solutions to help her manage information efficiently in the areas of public assistance with indigent health care, needs assessment, approved pricing and other investigative tools. She is not recommending any changes. Judge Bolls asked if the software could be used to help determine eligibility for court appointed attorneys. Bettye responded positively. Commissioner Williams made a motion to renew the MOU with Indigent Healthcare Solutions. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Egger and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

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8. Richard Greenawalt, County Purchasing Agent presented the bids received on I. T. B. 2013-106 Rock Road Materials from Vulcan Construction and RE Janes Gravel. The bid results were as he expected and he recommended award to both vendors based upon total price including transportation costs to job sites. Commissioner Statler made a motion to approve the bids as recommended for I. T. B. 2013-106 Rock Road Materials. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kendrick and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

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9. Richard Greenawalt, County Purchasing Agent presented the bids received on I. T. B. 2013-107 Asphalt Road Materials. He received bids from the two current vendors. The bid from Heartland included an increase in pricing for some products. Richard recommended award to both vendors based upon total price including transportation costs to the job site. Commissioner Kendrick made a motion to approve the bids as recommended for I. T. B. 2013-107 Asphalt Road Materials. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

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10. Kelly Stephens, Director of Human Resources and Risk Management reported to the Court that the Insurance Committee had concluded their work and recommended that employee health care rates the same for FY2014. The Committee recommended increasing retiree costs due to increasing expenses for retiree claims. The Committee stopped short of recommending an amount that would trigger additional taxes and/or penalties under the Affordable Care Act. For those over 65 years of age, the increase is \$45.00 per month. Even though the Court did not change employee coverage or the cost to employees, the amount the County is paying for employee coverage has increased 5% this year. Commissioner Kendrick made a motion to approve the renewal of the TAC Health Employment Benefits Pool Contract for Fiscal Year 2014 as recommended by the Committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Egger and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

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11. Commissioner Egger reported that the recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2014 for the Abilene-Taylor County Events Venue District did not include a change in the allocation percentage in favor of the Expo Center. However, increases in hotel occupancy had increased overall revenue for the District at about \$800,000.00 which increases the money the Expo and Frontier Texas would receive. Commissioner Egger made a motion to approve the budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams and carried unanimously. [No Exhibit Provided]

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12. Judge Bolls provided the Court with a schedule for continued budget discussions and the proposed dates for public hearings/meetings. He then opened the floor to discussion on the budget for fiscal year 2014. The Court recognized Sheriff Bishop who presented a proposal for a across the board salary increase of 3% for law enforcement officers in addition to what was recommended by the Personnel Committee. He cited parts of several salary studies comparing his employees to other counties. Commissioner Egger asked if figures included fringe benefits, it did not. Commissioner Egger stated that with Taylor County's fringe, the salary studies were probably much closer. Commissioner Williams noted that virtually all Taylor County salaries were low compared to similar counties. He stated that the Committee had developed a plan to increase all salaries. Commissioner Egger noted that to the overall average salary Taylor County was not that low for law enforcement positions. The Court wants to look at starting salaries for all county departments and to support the committee's plan for incremental increases. Judge Bolls noted that the committee had recommended both a COLA and a merit increase to the Court as well as the plan to increase all those employees making more than 15% lower than the average wage.

The Court discussed several other items needed decisions on funding. The list included:

- A/C replacement in the Display Building – removed from proposed budget
- A/C for Juvenile Post Facility – removed from proposed budget
- Paving and Storage at Expo center - removed from proposed budget
- STEMS funding – funding to be established at \$500,000.00
- Purchase of CAD system for EOC - removed from proposed budget
- Upgrades to Finance Plus software - removed from proposed budget
- Reduce vehicle purchase for Constable Precinct 1 from 2 to 1 vehicle
- SO personnel request: One position each for extradition, patrol and warrants divisions
- Jail personnel request: additional 2 jailers, removing additional LVN request
- MHMR reduce budget to \$100,000.00 revenue offset from 1115 Waiver program
- Reduction of CPS positions by one position
- Fund Meals on Wheels Plus at \$5,500.00 so they can access state funding, noting that the City of Abilene does not fund MOW Plus at any level for services primarily inside Abilene city limits.
- Reduction of volunteer fire department request to \$200,000.00, final decision on funding to be made later
- Merit pay increase to Director of Environmental Department
- Fund full time Court Reporter for County Courts at Law
- Discussed moving responsibility for records management to Purchasing Director and possible increase in salary for Purchasing Director
- Recommended using \$1,300,000.00 from fund balance to balance budget

Decision made to meet again for discussion and possible action for Tuesday, August 13, 2013.

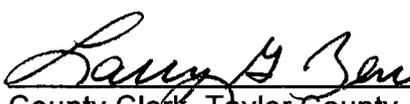
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17. Commissioner Kendrick made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

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The foregoing Minutes have been examined, read and approved this

13 day of August, 2013.

  
County Clerk, Taylor County, Texas

  
County Judge, Taylor County, Texas

