

COMMISSIONERS' COURT MEETING

June 22, 2020

BE IT REMEMBERED That the Commissioners' Court of Comanche County, Texas met in a Regular Meeting on the 22nd day of June, 2020 with the following members present: Judge Stephanie L. Davis, Presiding; Russell Gillette, Commissioner Precinct #2; Sherman Sides, Commissioner Precinct #3 and Jimmy Dale Johnson, Commissioner Precinct #4. Gary "Corky" Underwood, Commissioner Precinct #1 was not present.

Judge Stephanie L. Davis opened the meeting at 9:06 a.m.

Commissioner Johnson gave the invocation.

Commissioner Gillette made the motion to approve the Minutes of the June 8, 2020 Commissioners' Court Meeting as presented. Commissioner Johnson seconds the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

No public comments.

The Texas County and District Retirement Plan for year beginning January 2021 was discussed.

Commissioners Gillette and Johnson made the motion and second to grant a 2% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for active plus retirees and approve the total contribution rate of 11.03% plus 0.59% group term life rate which made a total of 11.62% total contribution rate. All approved. Motion carried.

No action was taken on voter approval for tax rate to be calculated at 8% in the manner provided for a special taxing unit pursuant to Senate Bill 2.

Commissioner Sides and Gillette made the motion and second to approve the purchase of a 2004 truck for Precinct #4. All approved. Motion carried.

Commissioners Sides and Gillette made the motion and second to amend the motion to purchase a 2004 truck for Precinct #4 to include the purchase shall not exceed \$50,000 with funds from current budgeted. All approved. Motion carried.

Commissioner Gillette and Sides made the motion and second to approve the Commissioner Johnson's request for Precinct #4 to construct an equipment shed out of current budget funds not to exceed \$50,000. All approved. Motion carried.

Commissioner Johnson and Gillette made the motion and second to approve a Joint Election Agreement between Comanche County and the Hamilton Independent School District for the conduct of the November 3, 2020 General Election. All approved. Motion carried.

No action was taken on the approval of a FEMA Grant Application on behalf of Comanche County Medical Center to fund 75% of the cost of the Emergency Management Operation Center. Tricia Grimshaw stated the project may be eligible to receive 100% funding from the Cares Act Grant.

Bids for the purchase of patrol vehicles for the Sheriff's Office was opened at 10:00 a.m. Bayer Ford-Mercury, Inc made the only bid for two 2019 Ford F150 super cab 4X4 trucks with brush guards for the sale price of \$30,224.00 each plus tax and title fees of \$387.00 making a total bid of \$30,611 per each.

Commissioners Sides and Gillette made the motion and second to approve the purchase of two 2019 Ford F150 pickups from Bayer Ford-Mercury Inc. for the purchase price of \$30,611 per each pickup with financing with Spirit of Texas Bank for a term of three years. All approved. Motion carried.

Commissioners Sides and Johnson made the motion and second to approve the County Road Report for Precinct #1 as presented by Commissioner Underwood. All approved. Motion carried.

Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act to provide resources to help local governments, businesses and individuals respond to the current pandemic. Texas received \$11.24 billion from the CARES Act. Approximately 5.06 billion will go to local governments. Just over 3.2 billion has been sent to counties with a population greater than 500,000. The remaining \$1.85 billion will be made available to the rest of the state. The Texas Department of Emergency Management will administer these funds. Funds subject to reimbursement must have occurred between March 1, 2020 and December 30, 2020 and are the result of the public health emergency with respect to the COVID-19. Comanche County has received 20% of funds designated to Comanche County.

Judge Davis is encouraging everyone to complete their 2020 Census. It is important to count everyone. This information determines what benefits Comanche County may be eligible for. Some rural areas may not have received the census form. The delay in mailing the forms has been due to COVID-19 and employees not being able to work. The census can be completed on line or by phone. The telephone number to complete the census by phone is 844-330-2020. The website to complete the form online is "my2020census.gov".

No changes have been made to the Administrative COVID-19 leave policy. Each elected official may grant employee leave due to COVID-19 without Commissioner Court Approval.

County budget worksheets for the upcoming fiscal year have been distributed to each county office and have been returned to the County Judge.

Judge Davis stated a representative fro the Texas State Historical Commission and representative from the Komatsu Firm will make a walk thru of the Courthouse on June 26, 2020. Judge Davis requested one commissioner also be present.

The Tax Office will close from 12:30 to 1:30 each day until further notice. Entrance to the Courthouse is permitted at the north side of the building or the Grand Street entrance. Entrance to County Offices is restricted to numbers permitted in each office. Social distancing and face coverings are encouraged. Judge Davis expressed her appreciation for the public understanding and compliance with Courthouse procedures.

County Annex at 215 N. Houston Street and 211 S. Austin was not discussed.

Emergency Management continues to monitor COVID-19 in the county. All entities in the county are in regular meetings to receive updates on COVID-19. County nursing homes and the jail are clear of the Coronavirus at this date. There are no active cases in the hospital as of this date.

Commissioners Sides and Johnson made the motion and second to enter an order to enact a Burn Ban to be effective until the next Commissioner Court meeting on July 13, 2020. All approved. Motion carried.

Sheriff Pounds reported inmates scheduled to be transferred to state facilities may begin July 1, 2020. Sheriff Pounds is holding 20 inmates awaiting transfer to state facilities. Reimbursement of the \$45 a day inmate housing fee

is expected from the state from the date inmates is paper ready. Application for a grant to upgrade cameras at the jail has been made.

Commissioners Sides and Johnson made the motion to approve the Officers Reports. All approved. Motion carried.

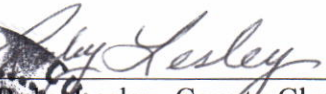
Commissioners Gillette and Johnson made the motion and second to approve the Amendments to the Budget. All approved. Motion carried.

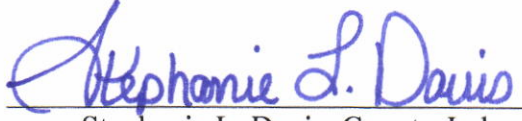
Commissioners Johnson and Sides made the motion and second to approve the Emergency Amendments to the budget. All approved. Motion carried.

Commissioner Gillette and Johnson made the motion and second to audit accounts due and owing and approve payment thereof in the amount of \$200,705.45. All approved. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Court, Court was adjourned this the 22nd day of June, 2020 with a motion and second by Commissioner Sides and Johnson. All approved. Motion carried.

The foregoing minutes approved by the Comanche County Commissioners' Court on the 6th day of July, 2020.

Attest: 
Ruby Lesley, County Clerk


Stephanie L. Davis, County Judge

