

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Regular Session

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

9:00 A.M.



Hamilton County Commissioners met in a Regular Session on Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at 9:00 A.M. with the following members present: County Judge Mark Tynes, Commissioner's Johnny Wagner, Keith Allen Curry, Lloyd Huggins and Dickie Clary.

The meeting was called to order and a quorum was established.

Clary led the invocation and Tynes followed with the pledge.

There were no public comments.

With no objection from the court Tynes moved to agenda item #12 regarding the wind farm tax abatement.

Keith Sledge, Executive Director for the Heart of Texas Defense Alliance introduced himself stating that he was an advocate for Fort Hood. He gave the court 3 handouts. The first was information on the impact of proposed Hamilton County wind turbines and the second and third were maps of the Fort Hood aviation routes/radar & proposed/current wind farms. He wanted the court to know that it is Fort Hood's recommendation that Hamilton County does not approve the tax abatement request. He encouraged anybody on the court that had any questions to contact Fort Hood themselves. He thanked the court for the opportunity to speak and said that he would appreciate the courts support of the military. *(Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 58 Page 444)*

Gary Kafer from Texas State Representative District 59 J.D. Sheffield's office said that Dr. Sheffield won't support the tax abatement because of the negative impact on our Fort Hood.

Tynes thanked the gentlemen for coming to the court and speaking to the court on this topic. He wanted to remind everyone that the court still has not received a final acceptable application back from Vista Mountain Wind Farm, LLC. He stated that we have received the initial application that was sent back for corrections and have not heard anything in nearly a month.

The court moved back to the top of the agenda.

There were no budget amendments submitted.

A motion was made by Huggins and seconded by Clary to approve all line item transfers. The motion carried unanimously. *(Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 58 Page 447)*

A motion was made by Huggins and seconded by Clary to approve the following consent agenda:

- A. Minutes of the 9-15-2017, 9-19-2017 and 9-26-2017 Commissioner's Court meetings
- B. Approve departmental reports
- C. Approved bills submitted for payment in the amount of \$41,630.99 *(Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 58 Page 448)*
- D. Approve monthly Treasurer's Report – not submitted

The motion carried unanimously.

The court passed on the memorandum of understanding between the Attorney General and Hamilton County in regards to installing a router to be installed because the Attorney General's was not ready to move forward as of yet. *(Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 58 Page 458)*

A motion was made by Huggins and seconded by Clary to approve the Interlocal Agreement for funding of Department of Family and Protective Services. The motion carried unanimously. *(Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 58 Page 533)*

The court saw no need to go into closed session on agenda item #11 Precinct 3 facilities acquisition. A motion was made by Huggins and seconded by Tynes to adopt the outline of the contact as presented by Huggins and to approve the \$500.00 earnest money for the property located at 18440 Hwy 281, Hico, Texas 76457. The motion carried unanimously. *(Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 58 Page 463)*

The court also did not go into closed session on agenda item #12 wind farm tax abatement.

Huggins presented the court some documents to explain why he is against the tax abatement for Vista Mountain Wind Farm, LLC. *(Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 58 Page 469)*

Tynes also presented a handout as to why he was against this abatement. *(Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 58 Page 520)*

Clary stated that he was going to do his due diligence in getting all the facts before making his decision. He is currently waiting on response from chief tax appraisers in regards to the effect of land values due to the wind turbines. He stated that when he gets all of his research put together that he would present it to the court. That he was going to continue to do some behind the scenes work until a corrected application is presented.

Tynes adjourned the court at 10:03 A.M.

W. Mark Tynes
County Judge

Kiesha F. Bagwell
County Clerk