

COMMISSIONERS' COURT MEETING

July 27, 2020

BE IT REMEMBERED That the Commissioners' Court of Comanche County, Texas met in a Regular Meeting on the 27th day of July, 2020 with the following members present: Judge Stephanie L. Davis, Presiding; Gary "Corky" Underwood, Commissioner Precinct #1, Russell Gillette, Commissioner Precinct #2; Sherman Sides, Commissioner Precinct #3 and Jimmy Dale Johnson, Commissioner Precinct #4.

Judge Stephanie L. Davis opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner Gillette gave the invocation.

Commissioner Sides made the motion to approve the Minutes of the July 20, 2020 Commissioners' Court Meeting as presented. Commissioner Underwood seconds the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

No public comments.

Commissioners Underwood and Sides made the motion and second to acknowledge the Annual Financial Report for year ending December 31, 2019 for the Comanche Central Appraisal District. All approved. Motion carried.

Most counties will adopt a budget that can be funded within the new S.B. 2 tax rate cap of either 3.5% or the \$500,000 "de minimis" rate. However, because Governor Abbott has declared a disaster in the whole state, counties may utilize the special taxing unit voter-approval rate of eight percent (8%) pursuant to Section 26.04(c-1) of the Tax Code. This would allow an increase of up to 8% without a mandatory referendum.

Commissioner Johnson made the motion to approve an order to preserve the option to increase the tax rate up to 8% without a mandatory referendum. Commissioner Underwood seconds the motion. Commissioners Johnson, Underwood, Gillette and Judge Davis voted for the motion. Commissioner Sides voted against the motion. Motion carried.

Judge Davis is encouraging everyone to complete their 2020 Census. It is important to count everyone. This information determines what benefits Comanche County and Comanche County residents may be eligible for. Census information will be available at the local food banks and information will be mailed with your water bill. 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". If you have not responded to the census you will be contacted to complete the information.

Work is ongoing on the Master Plan for the Courthouse and Old Cora. A representative from Komatsu Architecture will be in Commissioner's Court August 3, 2020 to discuss a draft of the proposed Master Plan.

Judge Davis made the motion to seek additional funding in addition to the use of Capital Credit funds for the Texas A & M University Community Planning Project. Commissioner Johnson seconds the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

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

There is no update for the Corona Virus Relief Fund Grant. Notification has not been received on reporting of when or how expenses are submitted.

Commissioner Underwood made the motion with a second by Judge Davis to amend the policy as formulated by the Local Health Authorities for the return to work after a positive Covid-19 test. "Employees that test positive for Covid-19 may return to work 10 days after the date tested, if they have improved symptom and fever free for 24 hours prior to the 10th day. If they continue to have symptoms or fever at or after 10 days, they must have improvement of symptoms and fever free for 24 hours before returning to work." All approved. Motion carried.

The Courthouse remains open, entrance to the Courthouse is permitted thru the north door and everyone is encouraged to sign-in. Online or mail submissions for the Tax Assessor's Office is encouraged. Your payments may also be deposited in the drop box outside of the Tax Office door. Other county offices will meet you at the office door to conduct your business. Everyone is encouraged to wear a face covering and maintain social distancing.

The Burn Ban remains in effect.

Sheriff Pounds reported 24 inmates are paper ready to transfer to State facilities. The Texas Department of Criminal Justice has started accepting inmates if they are coming from a Covid-19 negative facility. They must have temperature checks for the four days prior to transfer.

Sheriff Pounds reported the Texas Rangers, Texas Department of Public Safety and local law enforcement officials participated in the crime scene investigation of the alleged triple homicide over the weekend.

Judge Davis and Commissioner Sides made the motion and second to approve the Officer's Reports as presented. All approved. Motion carried.

Commissioners Sides and Gillette made the motion and second to enter an Order approving the Treasurer's Quarterly Report for the quarter ending June 30, 2020 with the total amount of cash and investments in the custody of the County Treasurer as of the period covered by this report was \$9,319,712.41. All approved. Motion carried.

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

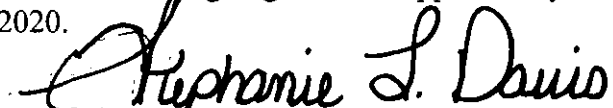
There were no Emergency Amendments to the Budget.

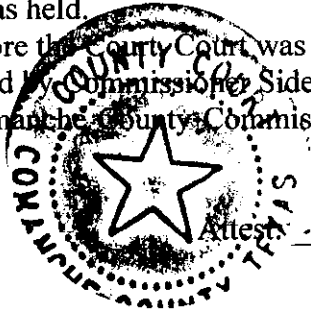
Commissioners Sides and Underwood made the motion and second to audit accounts due and owing and approve payment thereof in the amount of \$199,798.03. All approved. Motion carried.

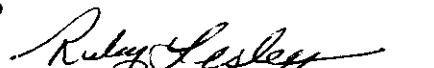
A Budget Workshop for the General Fund was held.

There being no further business to come before the County Court was adjourned this the 27th day of July, 2020 with a motion by Commissioner Gillette and a second by Commissioner Sides. All approved. Motion carried.

The foregoing minutes approved by the Comanche County Commissioners' Court on the 3rd day of August, 2020.


Stephanie L. Davis, County Judge




Ruby Lesley, County Clerk