

COMMISSIONERS' COURT MEETING

June 8, 2020

BE IT REMEMBERED That the Commissioners' Court of Comanche County, Texas met in a Regular Meeting on the 8th day of June, 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 9:03 a.m.

Commissioner Underwood gave the invocation.

Commissioner Sides made the motion to approve the Minutes of the May 26, 2020 Commissioners' Court Meeting as presented. Commissioner Gillette seconds the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

No public comments.

Jamie Masterson, Texas A&M University representative presented a videoconference concerning the Texas A&M University Community Development Planning program. This is a service-learning program where by A&M faculty, students, local governments and stakeholders develop a long range plan to create sustainable communities across Texas. The mission is to provide training, tools, and assistance to facilitate the transformation of communities from high risk, low opportunity to equitable, resilient and adaptive by mitigating threats to the economy. The project would begin August 1, 2020 and end December 31, 2021. The program will develop a policy document guiding Comanche County for the next 20-30 years. Counties with a long range plan are more likely to receive grants. Admission to the program is on a limited basis. However due to the support of local officials, Senator Buckingham, Representative J. D. Sheffield, former Lt. Governor Ben Barnes and numerous other county Texas A&M alumni Comanche County will be accepted in to the program. The project is anticipated to cost \$47,000. Texas A&M will reduce the cost to \$37,000 by providing a grant to the county in the amount of \$10,000. The county has received the return of capital credits from unclaimed credits due from the Comanche Electric Co-Op thru the Texas Comptroller. These funds can be applied to the cost of the program as long as the purpose is economic development. Seeking other sources of funding was also encouraged.

Commissioner Johnson and Sides made the motion and second to move forward with the Texas A&M University Community Development Planning Program and authorize Judge Davis to fund the project with returned capital credits and other outside sources if available. All approved. Motion carried.

Commissioners Underwood and Gillette made the motion and second to approve the application from Gateway of Hope Comanche for a concert/non-profit faire to be held on the Courthouse Square July 18, 2020. All approved. Motion carried.

Commissioners Gillette and Sides made the motion and second to approve the application from Comanche County Christmas to set up a video screen on the Courthouse Square for the July 4 events. The video event will also play music from 6 pm until 11 pm. Beginning June 25 and ending July 6, 2020. All approved. Motion carried.

Charlie Kearns and Marie Oehlerking presented a draft preview of the proposed Master Plan for the Comanche County Courthouse and Old Cora. Structurally the building is in good shape for its age. It was stated the building is not designed to be a tornado shelter. Plumbing issues have been partially addressed. Plumbing is not up to code. It was stated electricity coming in to the building was sufficient however the problem was distribution after entering the building. Electrical was not up to code. There were numerous issues with heating and cooling. Probable cost to complete a full restoration of the Comanche County Courthouse would be \$6,711,461. Preservation of Old Cora could be \$53,968. The grant cycle is not currently open for the restoration. The Comanche County may apply for an emergency grant to address plumbing and electrical issues by mid June after all present grants are fulfilled. Grants require a 20% match from the County. The final plan should be complete in 5 or 6 week and ready to submit to the Texas State Historical Commission.

No action was taken on the rates for Texas County and District Retirement System beginning January 2021.

Commissioner Johnson and Sides made the motion and second to approve amending the County Personnel Policy for military leave. The amendment grants up to 12 weeks insurance for military on leave. All approved. Motion carried.

Commissioners Underwood and Gillette made the motion and second to acknowledge the renewal of the Comanche County Liability Insurance Policy thru Texas Association of Counties Risk Management Pool for the term of September 30, 2020 thru September 30, 2021. All approved. Motion carried.

No action was taken on the Order prohibiting or restricting certain fireworks in unincorporated areas of Comanche County during the Fourth of July period (June 24, 2020-Midnight July 4, 2020). This order can only be enacted if the Texas Forrest Service designates Comanche County as in a drought condition.

All employees are reminded the Texas Association of Counties Cyber Security must be completed by June 14, 2020

Sheriff Chris Pounds presented the Law Enforcement Support Office agreement between the State of Texas and the Comanche County Sheriff's Office. This program provides for the transfer of demilitarized property from the Department of Defense to local law enforcement agencies. The program is administered by the State of Texas.

Commissioners Gillette and Johnson made the motion and second to approve the Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) Agreement. All approved. Motion carried.

Sheriff Pounds discussed the Service Wing system that generates Hypochlorous Acid which is used as an environmentally friendly agent against all pathogens. The machine can produce 156 gallons of spray in 12 hours at a cost of \$.04 a gallon. The spray is diluted 10 to 1 ratio and kills viruses including the Corona Virus in 20 seconds. The material could be used to disinfect the jail on an ongoing basis and the Courthouse. The spray could be made available to other entities in the county.

Commissioners Underwood and Sides made the motion and second to authorize Sheriff Pounds to purchase the Service Wing Organic Solution, LLC machine to be used to combat the Corona Virus. All approved. Motion carried.

Judge Davis is encouraging everyone to complete their 2020 Census. It is important to count everyone. This information determines what benefits Comanche 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. Judge Davis hopes census workers are out in the county counting those who did not respond to the census questionnaire. 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. Completed worksheets are to be completed and returned to the County Judge.

Entrance to the Comanche County Courthouse is permitted thru the door on the north side of the Courthouse, Grand Street entrance. Some offices are allowing customers into the office 2 or 3 at a time. Social distancing is required and face covering are recommended.

County Annex at 215 N. Houston Street and 211 S. Austin were 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.

CCMC officials are encouraging Commissioners' Court to apply for the FEMA Grant to help with the funding of the Emergency Operations Center.

Commissioners Underwood and Johnson made the motion and second to enact the Burn Ban until the June 22, 2020 Commissioners Court meeting. All approved. Motion carried.

Sheriff Pounds presented the May, 2020 Sheriff's Report.

The jail had 1100 Inmate Days, 0 Contract days,

33 Book in/Release and 5 Sentenced.

Patrol; 532 Calls for Assistance,

65 Offense Reports and 10 Arrests.

Jail/Patrol; 138 Training Hours.

Employment; Openings; 1 Jailer position

Sheriff Pounds reported a favorable report from the State Jail Commission after an unannounced visit. A Certificate Of Compliance has been received stating the Comanche County Jail to be in compliance with Texas Minimum Jail Standards.

Officers Reports will be considered at a later date.

Commissioner Sides made the motion to enter an Order approving the Treasurer's Monthly Report for the month of May, 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 \$9,528,523.87. Commissioner Johnson seconds the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

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

There was no Emergency Amendment to the budget.

Commissioner Sides and Underwood made the motion and second to audit accounts due and owing and approve payment thereof in the amount of \$171,786.93. All approved. Motion carried.

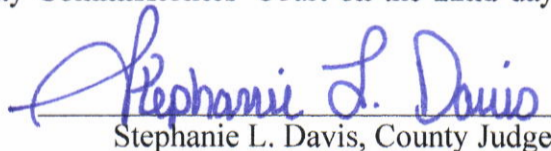
There being no further business to come before the Court, Court was adjourned this the 8th day of June, 2020 with a motion and second by Commissioner Johnson and Gillette. All approved. Motion carried.

The foregoing minutes approved by the Comanche County Commissioners' Court on the 22nd day of June, 2020.

Attest



Ruby Lesley, County Clerk


Stephanie L. Davis, County Judge