

COMMISSIONERS' COURT MEETING

February 22, 2021

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Commissioners' Court of Comanche County, Texas met in a Regular Meeting on the 22nd day of February, 2021 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 9:04 a.m.

Commissioner Johnson gave the invocation.

Commissioner Gillette made the motion to approve the Minutes of the February 8, 2021 Commissioners' Court Meeting as presented. Commissioner Johnson seconds the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

Public Comments; Commissioner Johnson acknowledged appreciation from Sue Brown for all that Commissioners do for retirees and employees.

Margaret Dudley addressed the Court concerning the acquisition of a capital artifact from the Margaret Waring Family. The capital came from the 1890 Courthouse and was the top decorative portion of one of the columns that was part of the 1890 Courthouse. Ms Dudley is requesting permission to place the capital at Old Cora near the columns that came from the 1890 Courthouse. Dudley also requested help with moving and placing the capital at Old Cora. Commissioners Gillette and Underwood offered their assistance. The new location of the capital will be determined by Judge Davis.

Commissioners Johnson and Gillette made the motion and second to approve the acquisition of a capital to be placed at the Old Cora site and give Judge Davis authority to designate a location at Old Cora. All approved. Motion passed.

Commissioners Johnson and Sides made the motion and second to approve a service and maintenance agreement with Kirbo's for a new Canon copier/printer for the District Clerk's Office. All approved. Motion carried.

No action was taken on the purchase of the Verity Voting equipment pending review of the HART contract and approval from the Texas Secretary of State. This new system cost \$310,163.00. HART will give a \$60,365 discount. Comanche County is also eligible to receive a grant in the amount of \$136,000.00 to be used exclusively for the purchase of a new voting system. The grant is in the amount of \$120,000 with a Comanche County match of \$16,000.00 with the grant and HART discount the total additional cost to Comanche County would be \$113,798.00.

Commissioners Underwood and Gillette made the motion and second to approving selling the Emergency Management Chevrolet 350 truck at auction. All approved. Motion passed.

The Proctor Volunteer Fire Dept has donated a replacement truck to be used by Emergency Management.

Commissioners Johnson and Sides made the motion and second to acknowledge the completion of required continuing education hours for 2020 by Ruby Lesley, County Clerk. All approved. Motion passed.

Sheriff Pounds requested approval to employ two Reserve Deputy Deputies. The only additional cost would be approximately \$200 for insurance and \$100 for a bond. Funds are available in the current budget.

Commissioners Gillette and Underwood made the motion and second to approve adding two Reserve Deputy Positions to the Sheriff's staff. All approved. Motion passed.

Sheriff Pounds presented his 2020 Racial Profiling Report as submitted to the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement. The report reflected a total of traffic stops at 470. Prior knowledge of race or ethnicity before the stops were known in eleven of the stops. No knowledge of race or ethnicity prior to stops was indicated for 459 stops. Race or ethnicity included five Asian/Pacific Islanders; Eleven Blacks were stopped. One Hundred twenty-two whites were stopped. One hundred three Hispanic/Latinos were stopped. Sheriff Pounds is in compliance with the Racial Profiling standards and has satisfied the statutory data audit requirements as prescribed in Article 2.133(c), Code of Criminal Procedure during the reporting period.

Commissioners Underwood and Johnson made the motion and second to acknowledge the 2020 Comanche County Sheriff's Racial Profiling Report filed with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement on February 7, 2021. All approved. Motion passed.

Thanks were extended to Judge Davis, Chris Pounds, Patsy Phifer and Lorenzo Gutierrez for the extended time spent getting the Courthouse electrical outage addressed during the recent weather event. The Courthouse was without electricity due to the heavy usage getting all of the offices up and going after the black outs. Sheriff Pounds brought a generator to power the Treasurer's Office computers one day during the outage in order to facilitate timely payroll. The power outage and blown fuses served as a warning that the electrical distribution in the Courthouse is in immediate need of electrical repairs. The wiring is from 1940-41 and was not designed to accommodate all of the demand for electricity in the Courthouse today.

Commissioners Sides and Underwood made the motion and second to repair the electrical distribution within the Courthouse. All approved. Motion passed.

The Komatsu Architecture Firm is in the process of developing a floor plan for the Annex at 215 N. Houston Street, Comanche.

The Texas A & M University Community Planning Core Group did not meet due to the bad weather.

There is no update for Comanche County Annex properties.

Judge Davis reported a down turn in Covid-19 cases in Comanche County. Comanche County is continuing to receive the Covid-19 vaccine. Patients who received the first dosage of the vaccine have also received the second dose.

There are no changes to the Interlocal Agreement between the City of DeLeon and Comanche County for the administration of the Cares Act Grant.

There are no changes have been made to the Administrative COVID-19 leave policy.

There are no changes to the Courthouse Corona Virus Policies and Procedures.

Work is ongoing to document and close out FEMA projects DR-4223, DR-4272 and DR-4416.

Commissioner Sides and Underwood made the motion and second to extend the County Judge's Declaration of Local State of Disaster for Comanche County dated February 18, 2021 due to the extremely severe winter weather for thirty days or until the Governor's Declaration of Disaster expires. All approved. Motion passed.

Russell Johnson with the Proctor Volunteer Fire Department discussed purchasing generators for the fire station and the Proctor Community Center. Johnson stated the purchase could be made thru the Texas Facilities Commission if the County Judge submitted an application to reinstate Comanche County as a member of the Texas Facilities Commission. These generators are from federal surplus and are available at a reduced price. Other county essential service providers would also be eligible to purchase generators. Johnson also cautioned anyone setting up a generator to properly wire the generator to avoid a back feed which could be fatal.

Commissioners Sides and Underwood made the motion and second to approve Judge Davis submitting an application to the Texas Facilities Commission for the purchase of generators for Comanche County. All approved. Motion passed.

The Burn Ban remains in effect.

Sheriff Pounds reported the Jail and Sheriff's Office faired well during the recent winter weather event.

Commissioners Johnson and Sides made the motion and second to approve Officer's Reports. All approved. Motion carried. No reports were submitted.

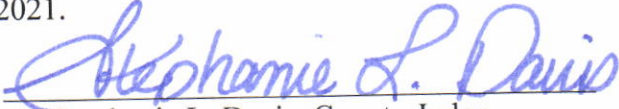
Commissioners Gillette and Johnson made the motion and second to approve amendments to the County Budget. All approved. Motion carried.

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


Commissioner Underwood made the motion to audit accounts due and owing and approve payment there of in the amount of \$189,475.60. Commissioner Johnson made the second to the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

There being no further business to come before the Court, Court was adjourned this the 22nd day of February, 2021 with a motion by Commissioner Gillette and a second by Commissioner Underwood. All approved. Motion carried.

The foregoing minutes approved by the Comanche County Commissioners' Court on the 8th day of March, 2021.


Stephanie L. Davis, County Judge

Attest:


Ruby Lesley, County Clerk
