

**Hamilton County Commissioner's Court**



Regular Session  
Monday, December 10, 2012  
9:00 A.M.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met in Regular Session on Monday, December 10, 2012 at 9:00 A.M. with the following members present: County Judge Randy Mills, Commissioners Jim Boatwright, Mark Tafel, Jon Bonner and Dickie Clary.

The meeting was called to order and Judge Mills opened with prayer.

Damon Chumney spoke in regards to the county selling county property stating that he hoped that they would sell the property and not take a loss on that transaction.

A motion was made by Tafel and seconded by Clary to approve the following budget amendments: Courthouse Restoration from Phase 2 from Architect/Engineering Fee to Architect Engineering Additional Service, Health and Welfare from Indigent Burial to Multi-purpose Utilities, Department of Public Safety from Non Capital to Telephone, Jail from Equipment Repair to Jail Repair, Sheriff's Office from Investigation to Non-Capital, Jail from Non-Capital to Prisoner Transport, and Sheriff's Office from Telephone to Professional Services. The motion carried. Mills abstained. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 44 Page 467)

A motion was made by Boatwright and seconded by Clary to approve the minutes of 11-26-2012 Commissioner's Court Meeting. The motion carried by a majority vote with all four commissioners voting for. Mills abstained.

A motion was made by Boatwright and seconded by Clary to approve the departmental reports. The motion carried by a majority vote with all four commissioners voting in favor. Mills abstained. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 44 Page 496)

A motion was made by Tafel and seconded by Bonner to approve the bills submitted for payment in the amount of \$104,053.06. Mills, Bonner and Tafel voted for and Boatwright and Clary voted against. The motion carried by a majority vote. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 44 Page 485)

Judge Mills stated that we had received the County Clerk's vault door but still waiting on the interior vault doors.

Judge Mills also presented to the court the letter received from the Texas Historical Commission rebuking the placement of the elected officials name and title on their respective doors. Texas Historical Commission Architect Bess Graham will be here for a site visit January 21, 2013. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 45 Page 1)

A motion was made by Clary and seconded by Boatwright to approve the Report for Eminent Domain Authority as required by the Texas Comptroller of Public Comments with Exhibit A which contained Commissioner Clary's recommendations for a shortened version. The motion failed as

Boatwright and Clary voted in favor and Mills, Bonner and Tafel voted against. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 45 Page 4)

A motion was made by Bonner and seconded by Boatwright to approve the deputation for Assistant County Treasurer Katie Thompson. The motion carried by a majority vote with all four commissioners voting for. Mills abstained. (Recorded in Commissioners Court Papers Book 45 Page 19)

A motion was made by Tafel and seconded by Bonner to approve the bond for Assistant County Treasurer Katie Thompson. The motion carried by a majority vote with all four commissioners voting for. Mills abstained. (Recorded in Commissioners Court Papers Book 45 Page 16)

A motion was made by Boatwright and seconded by Clary to approve the county clerk expenditure of records management, records archival and preservation fees for additional digitization of real property records. County Clerk Rudolph presented to the court the current cash balances in each of the accounts and the amounts budgeted for 2013 expenditures. The project cost of \$53,745.36 presented by Kofile Solutions will digitize the land records back to 1967. The funds will be expended from all three accounts 026, 040 and 052. The motion carried by a majority vote with all four commissioners voting for. Mills abstained. (Recorded in Commissioners Court Papers Book 45 Page 6, 9)

Judge Mills made an inquiry of the court about the sale and listings of county owned properties at 200 East Gentry and 724 South College, Hamilton, Texas. Mills informed the court that an inspection of the properties would cost \$2500.00 per property and he wanted to know what the courts feelings were about spending this amount for properties that we would probably put up for bid. County Attorney will look into the bid process regarding these properties so that the court may proceed with the sale.

Commissioner Clary reported that the Hamilton County Jail received a surprise inspection for the Texas Commission on Jail Standards and passed with flying colors. The Commission was highly pleased with their findings. (Recorded in Commissioners Court Papers Book 45 Page 8 and Page 11)

A motion was made by Boatwright and seconded by Clary to implement the Hamilton County Burn Ban for ninety days effective at noon on December 12, 2012. The motion carried by a majority vote with all four commissioners voting for. Mills abstained.

Judge Mills informed the court that the county had some recycling billing issues regarding propane for the forklift.

The court did not address the agreement between Hamilton County and United States Department of Agriculture (Trapper's Agreement). The court had not received the agreement for consideration.

Commissioner Tafel requested reimbursement of legal fees incurred by himself during conduct of official duties as an officer of Commissioner's Court. Tafel informed the court that he had spent \$15,678.99 for legal fees since November 14, 2011. The costs are divided \$10,000.00 for the felony charges and \$5,678.99 for the misdemeanors. The misdemeanor cases are still pending. The court took a recess to allow Judge Mills to make an inquiry at 10:00 A.M. and reconvened at 10:30 A.M. Judge Mills did not make contact with Jim Allison so the court decided to place this on the next agenda for consideration. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 45 Page 20)

Richard Layne spoke against Commissioner Tafel being reimbursed for his legal fees. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 44 Page 466)

A motion was made by Boatwright and seconded by Clary to adjourn. The motion carried by a majority vote. The meeting adjourned.

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County Judge

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

County Clerk