

COMMISSIONERS' COURT MEETING

August 10, 2020

BE IT REMEMBERED That the Commissioners' Court of Comanche County, Texas met in a Regular Meeting on the 10th day of August, 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 August 3, 2020 Commissioners' Court Meeting as presented. Commissioner Gillette seconds the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

No public comments.

A Budget Workshop for entities that receive contributions from Comanche County was held. The Comanche Historical Commission Budget was presented with no increase in budget requested. The DeLeon Train Depot/Historical Museum was presented with no increase in budget requested. The DeLeon Public Library budget was presented with a 5% increase in the budget requested. No action was taken to increase the budget. John Woodard representing the DeLeon Boy Scout Troop discussed funds sent to this troop and requested to return at a later meeting to discuss this budget. The Budget workshop remained open to discuss County Fire Department's budget at 10 am.

Regina Johnson, 220th Judicial District Probation Department presented information on the Annex at 211 S. Austin. Raccoons have damaged the ceiling and air conditioning vents of the lobby to the building. And possibly damage to other areas in the building. Commissioner Underwood agreed to find someone to make the repairs.

Commissioners Johnson and Sides made the motion and second to designate Commissioner Underwood to proceed with the repairs to the Annex. All approved. Motion carried.

Commissioners' Court considered the application from Comanche Organization of Businesses requesting to hold the event We support Comanche on the Courthouse Square. The event is to be held September 5, 2020 7 pm to 11 pm. Expected participants would be 20-30 persons. Live music will be provided for the event with dancing. This event is to help support alcohol sales for Stone Eagle.

Commissioners Underwood and Gillette made the motion and second to approve the application from Comanche Organization of Businesses for the We Support Comanche event to be held on the Comanche Courthouse Square on September 5, 2020 from 7 pm to 11 pm provided the gathering is approved by the Mayor of Comanche pursuant to the Governor's Proclamation amending Executive Order GA-28 and all CDC guidelines, Governor's Orders and social distancing guidelines are followed. Event organizers are responsible for compliance with these guidelines. All approved. Motion carried.

Commissioners Sides and Gillette made the motion and second to approve the proposal from Texas Rural Living, Clint Tunnell, to trim four large pecan trees, one large red oak tree and 1 large cedar elm tree on the Courthouse lawn for the fees of \$1200.00. Removal of cut limbs is included. All approved. Motion carried.

A motion from the Comanche Courthouse Security Committee for the purchase of security cameras for the Courthouse was considered. The present camera system was installed in 2012. The cameras and computer serving the cameras need to be updated. Apollo Computers, Inc. of Brownwood proposed to upgrade the cameras, add five additional cameras and update the computer for the fees of \$18,909. Guardian Security Solutions, LC, the original installers proposed the upgrade for the fee of \$37,000.

Commissioners Sides and Gillette made the motion and to approve the purchase of the camera system from Apollo Computers, Inc. for the fee of \$18,909. All approved. Motion carried.

No action was taken on a County Feral Hog Grant. Further research is needed.

Judge Davis made the motion to approve advertising for bids for road material for Precincts #1, #2, #3 and #4. Commissioner Underwood made the motion and second. All approved. Motion carried.

John Woodard, Pastor of the DeLeon First Methodist Church and also the Intuition Leader of the Boy Scout, Cub Scout Pack and Venturing Group Charter. Woodard reported there is an active Cub Scout Pack in DeLeon however there is not currently an active Boy Scout troop. DeLeon has a charter for boys and girls' troops. Woodard indicated the Cub Scouts will move up to Boy Scouts at some point. They are looking for leaders for the Boy Scouts. It was also indicated he was unaware Comanche County makes an annual donation totaling \$2500 to the DeLeon Scouts. The donation is sent in monthly installments to the City of DeLeon for the Scouts. Woodard is going to contact the City of DeLeon concerning these funds and return to court at a later date to discuss funding and budget.

The Sipe Springs, VFD, Comanche VFD, DeLeon VFD Energy VFD, Gustine VFD, Promontory VFD, and Proctor VFD presented their budgets for 2021. None of the Volunteer Fire Departments in Comanche County requested an increase in their budgets.

Judge Davis informed elected officials of an opportunity to receive continuing education credits from Texas Association of Counties. In person conferences to obtain continuing education credits have been cancelled due to Covid-19 and the prohibition of large in-door gatherings. TAC is offering a Virtual Legislative Conference September 26-28, 2020. Attendees may receive 11.5 continuing education credits for attendance. County Commissioners are required to earn 16 hours of continuing education each year and County Judge is required to obtain at least sixteen hours of continuing education credits per year after the first year in office. Other elected officials are required to earn twenty hours of continuing education per year. The registration fee is \$100.

Judge Davis is encouraging everyone to complete their 2020 Census. Comanche County is below the state average for completion of the responses from residents of Comanche County. It is important to count everyone. This information determines what benefits Comanche County and Comanche County residents may be eligible for. Some rural areas may not have received the census form. 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". The Census will end one month early, September 30, 2020. Texas officials are concerned

counties will lose federal funding and loss of legislative representation due to the low response to the census. Comanche County is below the Texas average for response to the census. Rural areas have had a low response.

The Komatsu Architecture Firm is in the process of finalizing the Master Plan for the Comanche County Courthouse and Old Cora.

There is no update for the Texas A & M University Community Planning Project.

The County Clerk discussed the possibility of hold the Election Day voting for the November 3, 2020 General Election for Voting Precinct #1 at the County Annex at 215 N. Houston Street, Comanche. Presently Precinct #1 votes vote at the Comanche Senior Citizen Center. Permission to use the Annex at 215 N. Houston must be obtained from Comanche County Medical Center since they currently have a lease on the property.

There are no additional updates to the Annex at 211 S. Austin in Comanche

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.

All entities in the county are in regular meetings to receive updates on COVID-19. Current Comanche County Covid-19 updates are available on Judge Davis's Face book page.

The Burn Ban remains in effect.

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

The jail had 1247 Inmate Days, 0 Contract days,

44 Book in/Release and 3 Sentenced.

Patrol; 583 Calls for Assistance,

72 Offense Reports and 13 Arrests.

Jail/Patrol; 118 Training Hours.

Employment; Openings; 2 Jailer position and 1 Dispatch positions.

Officer's Reports were not considered.

Commissioner Johnson made the motion to enter an Order approving the Treasurer's Monthly Report for the month of July, 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 \$8,959,989.09. Commissioner Underwood seconds the motion. All approved. Motion carried

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

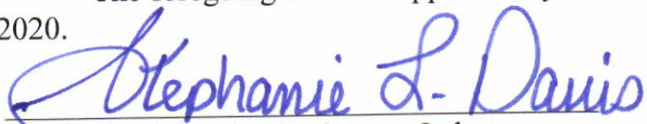
Commissioners Johnson and Sides made the motion and second to approve an Emergency Amendment to the Budget. All approved. Motion carried.

Commissioner Underwood and Sides made the motion and second to audit accounts due and owing and approve payment thereof in the amount of \$236,919.57. All approved. Motion carried.

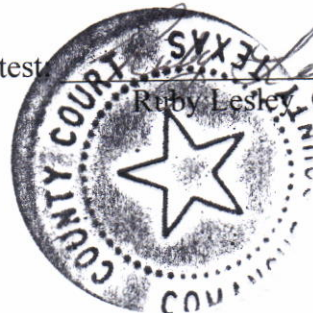
A brief discussion of the General Fund Budgets was held.

There being no further business to come before the Court, Court was adjourned this the 10th day of August, 2020 with a motion by Commissioner Johnson and a second by Commissioner Underwood. All approved. Motion carried.

The foregoing minutes approved by the Comanche County Commissioners' Court on the 17th day of August, 2020.


Stephanie L. Davis, County Judge

Attest




Ruby Lesley, County Clerk