

MOTLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

Regular SESSION

June 8, 2020

9:30 A.M.

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the 08th day of June 2020, the Commissioners' Court of Motley County met in Regular Session in the Courthouse in Matador, Texas. The following members present:

Jim Meador	County Judge
Douglas Campbell	Commissioner, Pct. #1
Roegan Cruse	Commissioner, Pct. #2
Franklin Jameson	Commissioner, Pct. #3
David Stafford	Commissioner, Pct. #4
Lindsey Aldrich	County Clerk

Also, in attendance was County Attorney Tom Edward and Liz Adams with the Caprock Courier. Judge Meador called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

No. 270

Clerk Aldrich read the minutes from the previous regular session Commissioner Campbell made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Cruse. The motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

There wasn't anyone from TXDOT present to give a report or anyone for public comments.

The outstanding bills and monthly reports were reviewed by the commissioners. Commissioner Campbell made the motion to approve all bills. Commissioner Jameson seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

Commissioner Cruse made the motion to approve the reports for the District and County Clerk, Extension Agent, Justice of the Peace, Library and Tax Assessor-Collector. Commissioner Stafford seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

No. 271

The first item on the agenda was the discussion of the bids received for lots 25, 26 & 27 of Block 125. Judge Meador stated that he had placed the ad in the newspaper for the 2 weeks that was discussed in last month's meeting. He stated that he had 2 people come and inquire about the property, but he had only received 1 bit. He presented the sealed bid that stated \$150 was offered for the 3 lots by Ethan Mason. Commissioner Campbell made the motion to accept the bid from Mr. Mason. Commissioner Jameson seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

No. 272

The next item on the agenda was to consider terminating the Disaster Declaration. Judge Meador stated that the governor's order did not require the county to have an active declaration to receive relief funds and that he did not

feel as though a declaration was needed any longer. Commissioner Cruse made a motion to terminate the declaration. Commissioner Stafford seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

No. 273

Clerk Aldrich then spoke to the court about a request for open records she had received and was unsure of how to charge for the fulfillment of the request. The court was in agreement that reimbursement was necessary for the work that was going to be done to get the request done but suggested for Clerk Aldrich to contact TAC to find out what the legal way to charge for the service would be. Clerk Aldrich stated that she would do just that and thanked the court for their guidance.

No. 274

The next item on the agenda was considering the HAVA Security Grant. Judge Meador explained that this grant would be for \$120 thousand and that \$40 thousand was a no match amount while the \$80 thousand had a 20% match. That would require the county to pay \$16 thousand. He explained that Clerk Aldrich and Treasurer Jones had been working on how to obtain new election equipment with this grant. Clerk Aldrich let the court know that if the county were to buy the equipment out of pocket it would be about \$85 thousand dollars and that the grant would be a good way to be able to get the updated equipment that will be required in the future. Commissioner Campbell made the motion to approve applying for the HAVA Security Grant. Seconded by Commissioner Jameson. The motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

No. 275

The next agenda item was the HAVA Cares Act Grant. Treasurer Jones explained that this grant could be used for the elections as well as the Voter Registrar for infection control supplies. With this grant the county would received \$1,348.84 with a 20% match. Commissioner Stafford made the motion to approve applying for the HAVA Cares Act Grant. Commissioner Cruse seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

No. 276

There was one more grant to present to for the court's approval. The third grant was the COVID-19 Supplemental Grant. Judge Meador explained that this grant is a Federal Grant that is being handled by SPAG. This grant has \$10 thousand available to get the court system opened back up. This would help pay for the required supplies and equipment necessary to get court opened again. Those items would be things such as, hand sanitizer dispensers, trash bins, disinfects, PPE, and other things along those lines. Commissioner Campbell made the motion to approve applying for this grant. Commissioner Cruse seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

No. 277

With the approval to apply for each of the grants, a resolution is required to be approved and signed by the court. Judge Meador stated that he had combined the resolutions for all three grants into one agenda item. Commissioner Cruse made the motion to approve the 3 resolutions that were associated with the grants previously voted on. Commissioner Stafford seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

No. 278

Next on the agenda was the discussion about Election Precinct 3. Judge Meador stated that he and Commissioner Jameson had discussed that back in the December 10, 2018 when Clerk Aldrich presented to close the Precinct 3 polling location that they were under the impression that it was closing the election precinct and that it

wasn't until this last election that it was understood that it did not. Commissioner Jameson stated that he had shared with his community members that they would have to vote in Matador because the precinct was closed and that he wasn't sure that it was a help if it was just the polling place that was closed. Attorney Edwards stated that he had reviewed the Election Codes 42 & 43 and was unable to determine with clarity that closing an election precinct could be done. Judge Meador stated that he had contacted Paul Miles, an attorney with TAC about the situation and that he was unsure as well and would have to do some research but did know that to close a precinct there is a specific time in the year that that can be done. Commissioner Campbell made the motion to table this agenda item until the next meeting when there would be more information on the process. Commissioner Jameson seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

No. 279

The next item on the agenda was the discussion on the PAC facility. Judge Meador stated that in the last meeting in Dickens the board along with District Judge Smith they had discussed how the PAC facility in Floydada hasn't been able to take in new juveniles and that they had only had 3 currently and they were about to go home and that the state had put so many restrictions and requirements it made it difficult for anyone to qualify to be placed there. Judge Meador went on to say that the county currently pays \$6 thousand per year to the facility and that in his 10 years in office the county had not utilized the resource at all. Judge Meador stated that at the next meeting with the board he would vote to close the facility unless the court felt like he should do differently. No one objected to the vote of closure.

No. 280

The last item on the agenda was to consider implementing a burn ban for the county. Judge Meador stated that he had been contacted by Commissioner Cruse who had been contacted by Craig Turner about the subject. Judge Meador stated that he had visited with Emergency Coordinator/Fire Chief Lee Jones about the necessity of the burn ban. Chief Jones stated that if the county didn't get some rain before the 4th of July there could be problems. Commissioner Jameson said that he completely understood if a burn ban was necessary but that his community relies on being able to burn their trash since there is no dumpster service out there and it does become an inconvenience when they are in a burn ban. Commissioner Jameson asked Judge Meador if he were able to implement a burn ban alone like he could remove one. Judge Meador stated that he could implement one for a 7-day period until the court met. Commissioner Cruse stated that one thing that is good about have an active burn ban is if there is a disaster that occurs the county is eligible for relief funds. Judge Meador asked if the Forrest Service had declared the county to be in a drought. To which Commissioner Cruse stated that we are and at a D1 level he believed. Commissioner Stafford suggested for Judge Meador to apply the 7 day burn ban on April 29th thru July 5th. Commissioner Campbell made the motion to not implement a burn ban for the county at this time. Commissioner Jameson seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

There was no further business or discussion at this time. Commissioner Cruse made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Stafford seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote. Court adjourned at 11:29 am.

Signed: _____ County Judge

_____ CommPct#1

_____ CommPct#2

_____ CommPct#3

_____ CommPct#4

ATTEST: _____

County Clerk