

**COMMISSIONERS' COURT
REGULAR SESSION
NOVEMBER 9, 2015**

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF BOSQUE**

On this the 9th day of November, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Courtroom of the Bosque County Courthouse, in Meridian, Texas, the Bosque County Commissioners' Court convened in Regular Session with the following present:

**Dewey Ratliff, County Judge
Douglas Day, Commissioner, Precinct #1
Durwood Koonsman, Commissioner, Precinct #2
Sammy Leach, Commissioner, Precinct #3
Ronny Liardon, Commissioner, Precinct #4
Tabatha Ferguson, County Clerk**

1) CALL TO ORDER – 9:04 a.m.

2) DETERMINATION OF QUORUM – all present

3) PROOF OF NOTICE

4) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

5) FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT

Mr. Reeves gave a year-end report for September 30, 2015. Total cash and invested \$4,404,811 which puts us a little ahead of last year. Cash in bank is \$1,748,657 and investments and CD's \$2,656,154. 99.33% of the property taxes have been collected leaving \$107,000 uncollected. Total County wide including fund transfers is \$11,371,087, total going out is \$10,790,116 leaving an excess of \$580,971. Legislative notes – he has received the engagement letter from the outside auditor and the process starts once the court accepts the proposal on the agenda today. The external audit should be done in a short amount of time. GASB 68 has to be shown as an asset. The financial accounting software has started and will be in place in about 9 months. The old data will not be converted, it will be a fresh start in the new software. The online pay stubs went away when they switched to the cloud, NetData is fixing it. If anyone needs their pay stub printed to let him know and he will print them as they are needed. The new system has a payroll portal with online electronic time sheets.

6) ORDER APPROVING OR DISAPPROVING TO PAY CLAIMS, SALARIES AND WAGES AGAINST COUNTY FUNDS

Commissioner Liardon made the motion approving to pay claims, salaries and wages against county funds in the amount of \$95,726.78. Commissioner Leach seconded the motion. All approved.

7) ORDER APPROVING OR DISAPPROVING TO PAY CLAIMS, SALARIES AND WAGES AGAINST PRECINCT FUNDS

Commissioner Leach made the motion approving to pay claims, salaries and wages against precinct funds. Commissioner Koonsman seconded the motion. Commissioner Day explained that he had serviced the chip spreader and paid for it out of Road and Bridge. All approved.

8) LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

Commissioner Koonsman made the motion to approve the line item transfers. Commissioner Liardon seconded the motion. All approved.

9) STATUS REPORT ABOUT JAIL FROM MARY FARLEY, JAIL ADMINISTRATOR

Ms. Farley reported the jail count was 33 for in house and 15 out of county for a total of 48. She received a bill from Comanche county for \$7,140. She has not received bills from Limestone or Jack Harwell. Comanche County is housing 4 females, Limestone is housing 1 male and 5 females and Jack Harwell is housing 5 males. She has not received medical bills from Limestone or Comanche but she has not received a report of any significant bills from them. The Pill Box bill was \$631.00 and Hill County submitted a late bill of around \$400. Transportation has been low. She is able to email Jack Harwell with a list of who she needs for court and they bring them to us. There are no roof leaks but there is an air conditioner issue.

10) DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE FINAL REPLAT OF RE-SUBDIVISION OF LOT 101 OF LAGUNA PARK SUBDIVISION

Commissioner Day made the motion to table so the court can review the site plan. Commissioner Leach seconded the motion. All approved

11) DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE ENGAGEMENT LETTER FOR EXTERNAL AUDIT FOR 2015

Commissioner Leach made the motion to approve the engagement letter for Boucher Morgan and Young. Commissioner Liardon seconded the motion. All approved.

12) DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE INFORMAL LETTER OF AGREEMENT WITH CRANFILLS GAP, TX

Commissioner Day made the motion to accept the informal letter of agreement with Cranfills Gap. Commissioner Koonsman seconded the motion. All approved.

13) DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DECLARE 2 CATTLE GUARDS SURPLUS FROM PRECINCT 4

Commissioner Leach made the motion to declare 2 cattle guards surplus. Commissioner Day seconded the motion. All approved.

14) DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING PUMPING AND PURCHASING WATER TO USE ON COUNTY ROADS

Commissioner Leach made the motion to have the County Attorney research this as a governmental entity and seek an AG opinion if needed. Commissioner Liardon seconded the motion. All approved.

15) DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING COUNTY TREASURER'S BUDGET AND STAFFING NEEDS

Commissioner Leach made the motion to take financing for vacant position and remove from the budget and move to general fund. Commissioner Liardon seconded the motion. After further discussion Commissioner Liardon rescinded his second of the motion. Judge Ratliff called for the vote again, motion failed for lack of second. Commissioner Liardon made the motion that at the Commissioners Court after next the Treasurer is to have no hiring in interim and time to collect and prepare and present justification for the second job and or justification for herself as a standalone office. Commissioner Day seconded the motion. Commissioner Day, Commissioner Koonsman and Commissioner Liardon voted for, Commissioner Leach voted against. Motion passes.

16) RECEIVE AND FILE LETTER FROM BOSQUE COUNTY CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT LISTING 2016/2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Commissioner Koonsman made the motion to receive and file the letter from Bosque County Central Appraisal District. Commissioner Liardon seconded the motion. All approved.

17) RECEIVE AND FILE CERTIFICATE FOR KENT REEVES, AUDITOR

Commissioner Day made the motion to receive and file the certificate for Kent Reeves. Commissioner Koonsman seconded the motion. All approved.

18) DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON BURN BAN

Commissioner Liardon made the motion to take no action on the burn ban and to leave off the agenda until notification by Mr. Jeske. Commissioner Leach seconded the motion. All approved.

19) ANNOUNCEMENTS OR COMMENTS

Judge Ratliff received a letter from TxDOT about the county match in-kind for replacing the Old Whipple Bridge in Clifton. They are not taking it down, just removing the approaches. They will build a new bridge upstream. The County match is \$115,800. In the past the Commissioners Court named 5 projects that would qualify to meet the match but those projects are not feasible now. The Court needs to review the list of projects. Mr. and Mrs. Ficklin of CR 3139 spoke regarding the bridge that was damaged in the May floods. They have dumped a load of 5 inch rock on the approach to be able to get a vehicle across. Judge Ratliff asked Mr. Jeske to call FEMA to get a status on the project approval. Judge Ratliff will also call Austin to see what he needs to do. Mr. Jeske to give Judge Ratliff a report later today. The landowner is to call Commissioner Leach if he adds any gravel to the road and if the gravel has to be removed it will be at their cost. Commissioner Liardon announced the Go Texan Extravaganza is next weekend and tickets may be purchased from Juanita Miller.

A recess was taken at 10:54 a.m. Court reconvened at 11:15 a.m.

20) WORKSHOP: BOSQUE COUNTY JAIL

Lorraine Dailey with LMD Architects showed a power point relating to her experience and qualifications. She also spoke about site selection.

A recess was taken at 12:30 a.m. Court reconvened at 12:41 a.m.

Judge Ratliff said after looking at the numbers if we build a 48 bed jail we will still be having to house prisoners out of county and we are not eliminating the out of county expense and we are losing the ability to apply that money for financing. If we cross train the jailer's and dispatcher's we will need 5 fewer dispatchers but will need 5 jailers so it is completely an offset to personnel cost. We need to look at the jail population and peak numbers to determine what we need to eliminate the out of county housing, he recommends looking at 50 to 55 to 60 bed jail. Joe Walker wants to make a presentation at the next meeting. That will be the end of the presentations unless others come forward. Templeton Construction is finishing a jail in Blanco County and has invited the Court to come look at it. The next meeting is set for November 16, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Liardon made the motion to adjourn at 12:53 a.m. All approved.

I, TABATHA FERGUSON, COUNTY CLERK, ATTEST THAT THIS IS AN ACCURATE ACCOUNTING OF A PROCEEDING OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT HELD NOVEMBER 9, 2015.

TABATHA FERGUSON, BOSQUE COUNTY CLERK