

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Regular Session

Tuesday, September 28, 2021

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: County Judge Mark Tynes, Commissioners Johnny Wagner, Keith Curry, Lloyd Huggins, and Dickie Clary. Tynes called the meeting to order and a quorum was established. Huggins led the invocation and Tynes followed with the pledges.

Bob Self of American Legion Post addressed the Court requesting use of the southwest corner of the Courthouse grounds to place a goal thermometer representing progress toward a memorial for fallen veterans.

There were no budget adjustments to consider.

The Court considered the following consent agenda:

- A. Minutes from previous Commissioner's Court meetings**
- B. Approve Departmental reports**
- C. Approve bills in the amount of \$62,529.27, and payroll in the amount of \$74,800.64**
- D. Certificates of continuing education – none**
- E. Application(s) for culvert – Robert Scheider, 3026 CR 606, Hamilton, TX; three entry positions**
- F. Building and Use Request – Bob Self, American Legion Post asked to place a goal thermometer on Southwest corner of Courthouse grounds**
- G. Bonds/Deputations –**
 - a. Bonds: Carla Broome, Tonya Cox, Isaac Partain, Brent Shelnut**
 - b. Deputation: Brent Shelnut**

Huggins made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Clary seconded. The Court approved the consent agenda unanimously.

Brent Shelnut was hired as Deputy Sheriff effective September 9, 2021.

There were no Hamilton County Facilities issues to discuss.

The Court considered the appointment of Tonya Cox as Hamilton County Treasurer. Clary made a motion to confirm the appointment of Tonya Cox as Hamilton County Treasurer, Huggins seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

County Treasurer reported that the County has \$1,485,710.58 in cash, and \$3,329,097.66 in investments.

Huggins updated the Court on Hamilton County Emergency Communications. The purchase orders needed for the dispatch console and Sheriff's Office radios have been signed. The SEC license must be addressed next, and then the tower replacement. Huggins will meet with City of Hamilton official regarding the tower location. Emergency Management director Alexander will be in Hamilton next week, however there is no definite timeline for accomplishment of above tasks.

Tynes informed the Court that current ARPA reporting had been submitted.

The Court discussed the need for a BURN BAN. Huggins and Wagner expressed need for the ban. Wagner made the motion to institute a burn ban, Clary seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The Court ordered a burn ban for unincorporated areas of the County, beginning October 1, 2021, for 90 days.

The Inter-local agreement between Hamilton and Mills counties came before the Court, specifying a \$50.00 per day charge for housing Hamilton County prisoners. The Sheriff announced that he had been speaking with Mills County and Bosque County, as well as surrounding counties regarding the housing topic. Housing prisoners will soon become more difficult due to rise in crime and rise in female felony crime. Clary made the motion to approve the Inter-local agreement with Mills County, Huggins seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The subject of Hamilton County CFO being designated as Payroll Officer came before the Court. Richard Layne asked to speak on the topic. Layne expressed concerns that the Court seemed to be moving tasks away from elected officials in an effort to save money. However, he did not see any monetary savings and feared that the Commissioner's Court was trying to control elected offices. Tynes responded with language from the Local Government Code authorizing the Court to designate an appropriate person to handle payroll services. Tynes made the motion to designate the Hamilton County CFO as Payroll Officer, Huggins seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Huggins made a motion to ratify the appointment of Election Judges John Parks, Connie Chapman and Robert Jackson. Curry seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

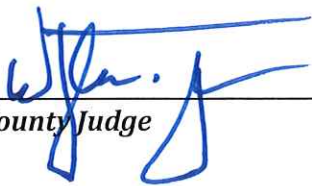
Huggins reported that the County could obtain free road base from a property owner on CR 225 if the County agreed to repair the property owner's driveway. Huggins asked to use the County's dump truck, on his own time, to accomplish this task. The Court agreed by consensus.

The Motorola communications project had been covered previously by Huggins. However, Clary needed clarification on certain purchase orders.


The Court considered the Sheriff Department fleet and whether Enterprise Leasing would be the best option. The lease contract called for leasing five Chevrolet Tahoes, with an up-front cost of \$40,288.15, and 48 monthly lease payments of \$5,778.40 which include a maintenance option. After discussion, Huggins made the motion to approve the Enterprise Lease Agreement, Tynes seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Court then agreed and announced that FPY2021-2022 meetings of the Hamilton County Commissioner's Court would be held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, at 9:00 a.m. in the Courthouse Annex. The Court so ordered.

The Court adjourned at 9:52 a.m.



County Judge

Attest: 

County Clerk

