

HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION

September 1, 2020
7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: Becky Langston, Susan Andrews, Rob Grant, J. Harry Lange, Andrew Zuerner.
Staff Present: Randy Dowling, County Manager; Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk. Staff Present (via telephone): Russell Britt, County Attorney.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Langston called the Regular Session to order.
2. **MINUTES.** The motion to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2020, Regular Session, was made by Commissioner Lange, seconded by Commissioner Zuerner, and passed unanimously.
3. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. **Proclamation: American Business Women's Day.** Chairman Langston welcomed members of the Harris County Chapter of the American Business Women's Association and asked Commissioner Grant to read the document proclaiming Tuesday, September 22, 2020, as American Business Women's Day. Following the reading, the motion to approve the document was made by Commissioner Grant, seconded by Chairman Langston, and passed unanimously.
 - B. **Resolution to Accept Hudson Trail and Creekside Way in Hudson Meadow Subdivision, Phase One, Section Two.** Chairman Langston said that all required documents to accept the two roads have been submitted in accordance with County regulations. The motion to approve the Resolution to accept the two roads was made by Commissioner Lange, seconded by Commissioner Grant, and passed unanimously.
4. **COUNTY MANAGER**
 - A. **Bid Award: Replacement Telephone System.** Randy Dowling, County Manager, said that the FY 2020-21 IT budget included \$65,000 to purchase a replacement telephone system for the Administration building, the Courthouse, Community Development, the Extension Service, EMS Headquarters/Station #1, the Sheriff's Office, the Jail, the IT office, and the CID building; that bids were prepared and advertised during May and June; that on July 2, the County received 18 responses; that an evaluation committee, consisting of himself, the IT director, and the Clerk of Superior Court, reviewed the responses and selected the top three (3) companies to make presentations; and that the top three companies are as follows:

COMPANY	Local Service Support
LogMeIn USA, Inc, Boston MA	ACOM, Columbus GA
Estech Systems, Inc., Plano TX	Lighthouse Telecom, Thomaston GA
Verizon Wireless, Annapolis Junction MD	Verizon, Columbus GA

Mr. Dowling said that after the presentations, which included interviews and product demonstrations, the committee selected LogMeIn/ACOM to continue the process; that the system manufacturer will be industry standard Yealink products and that telephone features will include programmable automated attendant, integrated directories, four digit interoffice dialing, call routing, call pick up, call transfer, call forward, call recording, speaker phone, music on hold, voicemail, voicemail to email, speed dial extensions, number display, caller ID, find me/follow me features, conference call, portability, GoTo video meeting access, and text messaging. He also said that the County will be buying a service, not a system; that LogMeIn will provide 138 telephone handsets for a one-time cost of \$5,316.94 and a one-year warranty, charge of \$200/cable drop if needed, \$1,832.85/month as a service fee for 36-months or \$21,994.20/year for three years; that the service will include cloud hosting, dial tone, local and long-distance calling, periodic software upgrades, maintenance, redundancy in the US, and GoTo meeting access; that the monthly cost will be spread out over many departments in their budgeted telephone line item; that replacement handsets, if needed, would range from \$68 to \$135; that upon expiration of the 36 months, the monthly service fee will remain the same and continue on a month to month/year to year basis; that the current AT&T telephone and computer lines will not be needed and the County will be saving around \$3,000/month; that if approved, the installation can be completed by late November; that the current Iwatsu phone system has minimal salvage value and will be disposed of via GovDeals.com; and that future expansion may include Water

Works, Facilities Maintenance, Vehicle Maintenance, Prison and the EMS stations. Following discussion, the motion to award the bid to LogMeIn, with local vendor ACOM, was made by Commissioner Lange, and seconded by Commissioner Zuerner. Following discussion, which included responses from Andy Rice, of ACOM, to questions from the Board, the motion passed unanimously. With this approval, the County Manager and County Clerk are authorized to execute the necessary documents.

B. **Project Updates.** Randy Dowling, County Manager, reviewed various projects, as follows:

- (1) Replacement Telephone System. Approved during tonight's meeting; installation to begin soon.
- (2) Live Stream Equipment for Commission Chambers. Equipment has been ordered and will be installed by late October.
- (3) Courthouse ERU Replacement. Project should be completed by late September 2020.
- (4) Removal & Disposal of Underground Fuel Storage Tank. Project is underway and should be completed by early October 2020.
- (5) Melody Lakes Dam. Bid specifications are being prepared, and project completion is expected early 2021.
- (6) Rails to Trails Project of 1.5 miles to Country Store. Engineering is underway; following survey, design to take place.
- (7) Airport Flagpole. Installation is complete and flag is flying.
- (8) Renovation of Old Library. Work continues on the MOU and lease agreement with Mercer Medicine.
- (9) Land Use and Development Codes Update. Project is underway; meetings have been held; a drop-in community workshop is scheduled for September 22 and 23 at the Community Center.
- (10) SPLOST Collection. Record high for August.
- (11) LOST Collection. Record high for August.
- (12) T-SPLOST Collection. Average for August.
- (13) Single Family Building Permits. 22 permits issued during August, for a total of 43 for the fiscal year.
- (14) CARES Act Allocation. In response to a question from the Board, Mr. Dowling said that the County has received 30% (about \$480,000) for public safety salaries, and the information has been uploaded for the additional 70%, which is all public safety salaries and benefits.
- (15) Water Works Customer Service Building. In response to a question from the Board, Mr. Dowling said that nothing regarding the project has started.
- (16) Repair to Five County Bridges. In response to a question from Commissioner Zuerner, this project has changed from three bridges to five bridges, with the addition of the Barnes Mill Road and Jordan bridges. Jordan Road bridge is to be completed first.
- (17) Fortson Road Bridge. Chairman Langston announced that the Fortson Road Bridge is scheduled to be open the end of November. This bridge work is being performed by GDOT.

5. **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

- A. **Proposed Lease Agreement: Corporate Hangar at Harris County Airport.** Russell Britt, County Attorney, reviewed the agreement with Rebel Aviation, to include that the purpose is for the leasing a corporate hangar for various aircraft services; that it's been reviewed by all parties; that it is based on the standard lease

agreement with a few specific modifications for this hangar; that it is for 21.5 months with automatic renewal; that the rent is \$1,900/month which is the rate approved by the Board in January 2018; that either party can terminate the lease without cause with a 90-day notice; and that a motion and vote are needed. The motion to approve the lease agreement, as written, was made by Commissioner Andrews and seconded by Commissioner Grant. In response to questions, Jarrard Breeding, with Rebel Aviation, said he is just starting this business; that he doesn't have interest in being a fixed base operator; that he sees the business as being a benefit to the airport and doesn't expect to be in direct competition with Ben Baker, the on-site airport mechanic. Discussion by the Board included that leasing the corporate hanger will free up at least two T-hangers; that \$1,900 is an appropriate monthly rental rate; that the 10% sub-lease amount is for long-term sub-leases of a month or more; that the agreement includes provisions for signage; and that this is something the Airport committee has talked about in the past as a means to help develop the airport. The motion to approved passed unanimously. (Document can be found in "Contracts & Agreements" file as C&A# 20-19.)

6. **NEED FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Chairman Langston said there was a need to have an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.
7. **RECESS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION.** The motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel was made at 7:40 PM by Commissioner Andrews, seconded by Chairman Langston, and passed unanimously.
8. **RESUME REGULAR SESSION.** The motion to go back into Regular Session was made by Commissioner Grant, seconded by Commissioner Lange, and passed unanimously.
9. **ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business, the motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Lange, seconded by Commissioner Grant, and passed unanimously.

Becky Langston, Chairman

Attest:

Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk