

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR SESSION**

July 16, 2013  
7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: J. Harry Lange, Joey M. Loudermilk, Becky Langston, Jim Woods, Charles Wyatt.  
Staff Present: Greg Wood, County Manager; John Taylor, County Attorney; Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**. Chairman Lange called the Regular Session to order.
2. **MINUTES**. The motion to approve the Regular Session minutes of July 2, 2013, was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.
3. **OLD BUSINESS**
  - A. **Third Reading: Application of Nadeem Chaudhry for Beer and Wine Off Premises at Midway Grocery located at 10016 GA Highway 315, Cataula (new owner)**. Chairman Lange said that this was the third reading because the applicant was not present during the previous readings. Hameed Aziz, manager of the business and representing the applicant, was present, but had no comments. Chairman Lange asked if anyone wished to speak in opposition to or in favor of this application. There being none, he asked for a motion. The motion to approve this application was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.
  - B. **Agreement with Coast2Coast for Prescription Discount Card**. Chairman Lange said that action on this document was tabled during the July 2 meeting due to questions and concerns regarding the card. Greg Wood, County Manager, said that he had contacted ACCG and learned that the \$1.25 per prescription to be paid to the County would come from the charge to fill the prescription, that the personal information of the user is not sold to any company. Following discussion, the motion to approve the agreement was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed with four in favor (Woods, Langston, Lange, Loudermilk) and one opposed (Wyatt). (Document can be found in "Contracts & Agreements" file as C&A #13-16.)
4. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - A. **Set Millage Rate**. Chairman Lange said that the County's millage rate is still at 6.14, but that the Board of Education was increasing its millage from 16.91 to 17.91, which will result in the millage rate being increased to 24.85, and because County did not increase its millage, public hearings were not necessary. He said that action was needed to set the County's millage at 6.14, the West Point millage at 3.68, and to authorize the Tax Commissioner to collect the School Board's millage of 18.56 was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously.
  - B. **Abandoned Cemeteries**. Chairman Lange said that John Taylor, County Attorney, had previously provided the Board with a memo concerning abandoned cemeteries, and he asked Mr. Taylor to explain. Mr. Taylor said that while the County is authorized by State law to preserve and protect any abandoned cemetery or burial ground, it is not obligated to do so. Following discussion the motion to start an abandoned cemetery list and to consider assistance regarding each on a case by case basis, to include cost and time to perform work, was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Wyatt, and passed with four in favor (Loudermilk, Wyatt, Lange, Langston) and one opposed (Woods).
  - C. **Radio System Revision and Fiber Optic on Railroad Recreation Right of Way**. Chairman Lange said that the Board had heard from Dean Ginn, with Dean's Commercial Two-Way, regarding revisions to the new radio system, and from Randy Sheppard, with Diverse Power, regarding the possibility of Diverse Power utilizing the Railroad Recreation Trail right-of-way to run fiber optic cable through Hamilton and provide County offices in Hamilton with internet and IP phone capabilities. The motion to authorize the Tetra radio system and to move forward with Diverse Power running fiber optic cable on the County's Railroad Recreation Trail right-of-way was made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed unanimously.
  - D. **First Reading: Application of Yugal K. Thakur for Beer & Wine Off Premises at Harris Food Mart located at 45 Georgia Highway 35, Waverly Hall**. Chairman Lange read the specifics of the application, said that the Sheriff's Office had recommended approval, that the Health Department's recommendation wasn't necessary because it is a convenience store, and that while the Community Development Department had recommended approval and noted that improvements, to include refrigeration units, were necessary, it was noted that the applicant is waiting for approval of the license before starting on any

renovations and that should the license be approved, it would be held until a Certificate of Occupancy was issued. Yugal Thakur, applicant, was in attendance and responded to questions from the Board. Chairman Lange said that the Second Reading is scheduled for the August 6 meeting.

- E. **Reappointment to Department of Family & Children Services Board**. Chairman Lange said that the term of Debbie Blackmar expired June 30, that Ms. Blackmar has consented to reappointment and that the DFACS Board has recommended her reappointment. The motion to reappoint Debbie Blackmar to the DFACS Board for the term expiring June 30, 2018, was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.
- F. **State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for FY2014**. Chairman Lange said that he had received a letter from DOT regarding the STIP, which included a list of projects in the County, and that copies of the letter and list were in the Commissioners' mailboxes in the office.
- G. **Transportation Improvement Assistance (TIA) SPLOST**. Chairman Lange said that the County has received three payments totaling approximately \$300,000, that another monthly payment should be received shortly, and that it appears the County is on track to receive its projected \$1,000,000.
- H. **War Veterans Brick Paver**. Chairman Lange said that he has received a mailing from Rockdale County requesting the County purchase a brick paver for the Walk of Heroes Veterans War Memorial located in Rockdale County; that the cost would be \$100 for a small brick, and \$200 for a large brick. Following discussion, Commissioner Wyatt made the motion to approve the purchase of a large brick, but Commissioner Woods asked that this be tabled. Greg Wood, County Manager, is to work on the wording and take back to the Board for action.

5. **COUNTY MANAGER**

- A. **Request for Executive Session**. Greg Wood, County Manager, requested an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter.

6. **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

- A. **QCHC Agreement for Inmate Medical Services at Prison**. John Taylor, County Attorney, reviewed the agreement with QCHC to provide medical services at the Prison and said that it is essentially the same as the previous agreement, but that he had made a few minor changes. Following discussion, the motion to approve the agreement was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously. (Document can be found in "Contracts & Agreements" file as C&A #13-17.)
- B. **EMC Agreement for Kings Gap CDBG Road Survey**. John Taylor, County Attorney, said that in conjunction with the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for improvements to water line and infrastructure, a survey of where the roads are actually on the ground is necessary to make sure we don't end up with the wrong information for the right of way documents; that EMC, the engineers for the CDBG project, has proposed the preparation of the road survey for \$9,500; and that he recommends the County move forward with the survey. Nancy McMichael, County Clerk, said that if all goes well with the project budget, the cost for the survey could be counted as part of the County's leverage for the grant. The motion to approve the agreement was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously. (Document can be found in "Contracts & Agreements" file as C&A #13-18.)

7. **RECESS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**. The motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter and real estate acquisition was made at 8:03 PM by Chairman Lange, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously.

8. **RESUME REGULAR SESSION**. The motion to go back into the Regular Session was made by Chairman Lange, seconded by Commissioner Wyatt, and passed unanimously.

9. **OTHER**

- A. **ShoeBox Accounting Systems Proposal for Financial Support**. Greg Wood, County Manager, said that a proposal had been received to provide financial assistance to the County during the transition between outgoing financial staff and incoming new staff for the cost of \$25 per hour per person, and that the time frame would be through October 15. The motion to approve the proposal was made by Chairman Lange, seconded by Commissioner Wyatt, and passed unanimously.

10. **ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business to discuss, the motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed unanimously.

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J. Harry Lange, Chairman

Attest:

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Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk