

STATE OF TEXAS

COMMISSIONERS COURT

COUNTY OF HOOD

BE IT KNOWN THAT ON THIS THE 21ST DAY OF AUGUST , 2012, THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF HOOD COUNTY WAS DULY CONVENED IN A SPECIAL SESSION, IN THE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE 1&2 COURTROOM IN THE HOOD COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER, 1200 WEST PEARL ST., GRANBURY, TEXAS, FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES TO WIT:

Pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act, Notice is hereby given that a special called meeting of the Commissioners' Court of Hood County, Texas will be held on **TUESDAY, August 21, 2012**, at **9:00 AM** in the **Justice of the Peace 1&2 COURTROOM in the Hood County Justice Center**, 1200 West Pearl St., Granbury, TX 76048, at which meeting, the following subjects will be discussed, and the following matters acted upon:

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to order.
- II. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding salaries planned for Elected Officials. (AUD)
- III. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding cost of living allowance for present TCDRS retirees. (AUD)
- IV. Discuss and take appropriate action as needed on matters relating to the budget. (Comp4)

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**Addendum**

- V. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the final pay application for the Hood County Courthouse project from J. C. Stoddard. (AUD)

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**Addendum 2**

- VI. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding Granbury ISD request for Road Operations to create an egress for buses to relieve traffic congestion at Granbury Middle School. (RO)

Adjourn

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:  
DARRELL COCKERHAM, COUNTY JUDGE  
MIKE SYMPSON, COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 1  
DICK ROAN, COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 2  
LEONARD HEATHINGTON, COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 3  
STEVE BERRY, COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 4  
MARLINA STUCKEY, CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

REGARDING ITEM I: JUDGE COCKERHAM CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT APPROXIMATELY 9:00 A.M. ON THE AFORESAID DATE OF AUGUST 21, 2012.

REGARDING ITEM VI: DONALD LINNEY, ROAD OPERATIONS, REQUESTED THE COURT'S PERMISSION TO CREATE AN EGRESS FOR BUSES AT GRANBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL.

MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER BERRY TO APPROVE THE REQUEST BY GRANBURY ISD FOR AN EGRESS FOR BUSES AT GRANBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HEATHINGTON. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

REGARDING ITEM II: THE FOLLOWING ELECTED OFFICIALS ADDRESSED THE COURT:

TREASURER KATHY DAVIS STATED THAT SHE WAS NOT THERE FOR A SALARY GRIEVANCE BUT SHE HAD CONCERNS ABOUT INEQUITIES IN SALARIES, STAFF AND TRAVEL IN SOME OF THE OFFICES THAT ONLY REPRESENT ONE PRECINCT INSTEAD OF THE WHOLE COUNTY.

J.P. JUDY WATSON STATED THAT BECAUSE OF SOME STATE REQUIREMENTS AND POPULATION GROWTH HER OFFICE IS JUST AS BUSY AS IT WAS BEFORE IT WAS SPLIT. SHE STATED THAT EACH J.P. IS ON 24 HOUR CALL ONE WEEKEND A MONTH AND THAT THERE IS A LOT OF PAPERWORK INVOLVED WHEN THEY ARE CALLED OUT DURING THE NIGHT REGARDING A DEATH.

J.P. DANNY TUGGLE SAID THAT THEY SERVE THE WHOLE COUNTY, STATE OF TEXAS AND THEY HAVE CASES FROM OTHER STATES FILED IN THEIR COURT ALSO. HIS OFFICE, AS WELL AS JUDGE WATSON'S OFFICE IS OPEN FROM 7:30 A.M. TO 6 P.M. MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY. HE STATED THAT HE HAD CHANGED HIS OFFICE HOURS AFTER MOVING INTO THE COURTHOUSE AND HAD RECEIVED REQUEST FROM THE PUBLIC TO CHANGE IT BACK. HE STATED THAT OTHER COUNTIES HAD CORONERS BUT SINCE THE J.P.'S DID THAT SERVICE HERE IN HOOD COUNTY IT SAVED THE COUNTY MONEY.

CONSTABLE CHAD JORDAN ALSO ADDRESSED THE SUSPOSED INEQUITIES IN THE COUNTY OFFICES AND STATED THAT HIS OFFICE STILL HAS THE SAME STAFF EVEN THOUGH THEY HAVE TAKEN OVER THE DUTY OF SERVING PAPERS FROM THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

DISTRICT CLERK TONNA HITT ASKED THE COURT WHAT CRITERIA WAS USED TO DETERMINE THE SALARIES OF OFFICES THAT SERVE ONE PRECINCT AS OPPOSED TO THE ONES THAT SERVE THE WHOLE COUNTY.

COMMISSIONER BERRY STATED THAT COUNTY GOVERNMENT WAS STRUCTURED BAD AND NEEDED IMPROVEMENT.

COMMISSIONER SYMPSON EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT TO BE AN ELECTED OFFICIAL USED TO BE OUT OF A SENSE OF PUBLIC DUTY AND RESPONSIBILITY AND NOT PAY.

COMMISSIONER ROAN STATED THAT EVERY ELECTED OFFICIAL KNEW THE SALARY OF THAT OFFICE WHEN THEY RAN AND THAT YOU CANNOT COMPARE RESPONSIBILITY BETWEEN OFFICES.

JUDGE COCKERHAM SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED NUMEROUS PHONE CALLS REGARDING THE ANIMAL CONTROL DEPUTIES AND THE MIS-CONCEPTION THAT THE BUDGET WAS GOING TO CUT THE SALARIES OF THE J.P.'S.

COMMISSIONER HEATHINGTON STATED THAT OVER-ALL THE SALARIES OF HOOD COUNTY WERE ABOVE AVERAGE.

NICK CANGIAMILLA STATED TO THE COURT THAT HE IS A DEMOCRAT RUNNING FOR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PCT. 1 AND HE THOUGHT IT SHOULD BE A PUBLIC SERVICE OFFICE AND THERE WAS ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE.

MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER SYMPSON TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED 2% SALARY INCREASE FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS AND FOR THESE ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE SALARY COMPENSATION COMMITTEE AFTER THE FIRST OF THE YEAR.. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HEATHINGTON. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

REGARDING ITEM III: AUDITOR STAN MCBROOM PRESENTED THE COURT WITH THE FIGURES FOR THE TCDRS RETIREES. MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER SYMPSON TO APPROVE A 2% COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT FOR THE TCDRS RETIREES. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ROAN. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

REGARDING ITEM IV: COMMISSIONER BERRY BROUGHT UP THE QUESTION OF THE \$25,000 COMMITMENT TO THE CLEAN AIR COALITION WHICH WAS NOT ADDRESSED IN THE PROPOSED BUDGET. THE OPTIONS OF TAKING THE MONEY FROM EXCESS HEALTH INSURANCE FUND OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 381, WHICH CAN BE USED FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, WERE DISCUSSED.

MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER ROAN TO TAKE THE MONEY FROM LGC SECTION 381 ON THE CONDITION THAT THE CITY MATCHES THE FUNDS. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HEATHINGTON. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

OTHERS MATTERS RELATING TO THE BUDGET:

SHERIFF ROGER DEEDS ADDRESSED THE COURT AND STATED THAT SOME OF HIS EMPLOYEES ARE ON FOOD STAMPS WHICH RELATE TO THE SALARIES OF SOME OF HIS DEPUTIES AND JAILERS WHO ARE BELOW AVERAGE PAY AND WHICH CAUSES A HIGH TURNOVER RATE. COMMISSIONER SYMPSON STATED THAT A QUICK FIX TO THE PROBLEM WOULD BE TO SHIFT THE PAY SCALE TO THE LEFT WHICH WOULD MAKE STEP 1 THE ENTRY LEVEL PAY.

CONSTABLE CHAD JORDAN REQUESTED THE COURT LOOK AT THE LINE ITEM FOR FUEL AND THE 40 HOURS OF TRAINING THAT THE CONSTABLES ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE EACH YEAR.

CONSTABLE DEWAYNE HART TOLD THE COURT THAT THE SALARY FOR HIS SECRETARY HAD GONE DOWN IN THE PROPOSED BUDGET. IT WAS DETERMINED THAT IT WAS JUST A TYPO AND WOULD BE CORRECTED.

REGARDING ITEM V: AUDITOR STAN MCBROOM ADVISED THE COURT ON THE FINAL BILL FROM STODDARD FOR THE COURTHOUSE RESTORATION. THE FINAL BILL IS FOR \$358401.06 AND ONCE THAT IS PAID THEN STODDARD WILL RELEASE THE LIEN ON THE PROPERTY TO THE TEXAS HISTORIC COMMISSION FOR THEM TO SCHEDULE A DEDICATION OF THE COURTHOUSE.

JUDGE COCKERHAM STATED THAT STODDARD HAD NOT FULLY COMPLETED THE COURTHOUSE BECAUSE THERE WERE GAPS AROUND THE DOORS WHICH ALLOWED RAIN INTO THE BUILDING. THERE WAS NO ACTION TAKEN ON THIS ITEM AND IT WILL PLACED ON THE NEXT REGULAR COURT AGENDA.

ADJOURNED AT 10:30

APPROVED:

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DARRELL COCKERHAM, COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

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MARY BURNETT, COUNTY CLERK