

**Commissioners Meeting
October 17, 2017**

Present: Al Logsdon, Jim Seiler, Tom Brown, Larry Dale Kenney, Attorney Jeff Lindsey, Auditor Autumn Winkler

Meeting was called to order by President Jim Seiler at 2:00 P.M.

Minutes

Logsdon made a motion to approve the minutes from October 3rd as presented. Brown seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Highway Report

Kenney reported they are finishing CR 925 in Brown's district and CR 800W in Seiler's district and that will complete the roads bid for this year. There are some overlays that need to be done and work will now begin on that, but some may not get done until next year. They have had to put off a lot of culverts and ditch work to get the roads done, so now catch up work begins on all those projects. A railroad tanker will be delivered this afternoon for Bridge#307 on CR 300N. They are hoping to get that set within a week or two.

Road Closings

CR 400N – CR 100E to CR 75E

Kenney stated that after speaking with landowners it was decided not to close the road. The highway department will repair the road and replace signs. Brown made a motion to not close CR 400N. Logsdon seconded the motion, motion was approved.

CR 300N – CR 200W to Orchard Rd.

After discussion at the public hearing it was decided that we could just close the hill on CR 300N and not the whole road. Kenney stated that we can start at Orchard Road and head east for about 500 ft and only close the hill portion, because the rest of the road is still usable. Logsdon made a motion to only close the hill. Brown seconded the motion, motion was approved.

CR 1000E – CR 900N to Old Lamar Hwy.

Brown stated that due to public comment at the public hearing he makes a motion to leave CR 1000E open. We will look at it again in the future. Logsdon seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Legal Report

AT&T Claims

Lindsey reported that he sent a letter to AT&T denying the claims. These lines were exposed when cut and AT&T needs to make it clear to the contractors that this is not acceptable leaving the lines exposed. Lindsey suggested that the Highway Dept. start taking pictures of lines that are not properly covered and taking notes of locations, then we can start sending pictures and letters to AT&T making a case of why we deny these claims.

City of Rockport – Mayor Harney

Mayor Harney came to request permission to use the courthouse for Christmas at the Courthouse on December 2nd. There will be a craft show in the rotunda from 9-4, Pageant from 11-12, and Christmas show from 7-8:30. The request is use of the courthouse from 7 am to 11 pm on December 2nd, but also from 6-8 on November 20th, 27th, and 30th for rehearsals. After discussion it was determined that the ABR should be required to sign a Hold Harmless Agreement and provide proof of insurance the same as we are requiring of others. Logsdon made a motion to allow use of the courthouse on the dates listed with required documentation. Brown seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Veteran Service Officer – Butch Meredith

Meredith presented an overview of activities and outreach that occurred in the Veteran Office since the last commissioner meeting. Meredith has contacted nursing homes within the county and has scheduled times to meet with veteran residents monthly. He will continue to update the commissioner's on services provided to veterans.

New Business


Judge Dartt came before the board to again address the need for a second courtroom and full use of the third floor of the courthouse. We have begun the process to attempt to get a second judicial officer for the county and we must begin making preparations for that possibility. Whether we receive a second judicial officer or not the Judge feels a second courtroom is needed to help expedite court cases. No new staff will be needed with the second courtroom, but funding will be required for necessary renovations. His plan is to have this completed by March and feels we need to begin planning now. There are 2 offices on the third floor that will have to be moved elsewhere and discussions need to be had on where that might be. Judge Dartt suggest a committee be formed to develop a short-term plan, but there also needs to be discussion for long-term. Attorney Lindsey stated that there is a joint commissioner/council meeting this evening and he feels it would be a great time for the Judge to come in and address both boards so everyone is on the same page. The judge will plan on attending the joint meeting to discuss further action.

Brown made a motion to approve all claims paid since the last meeting. Logsdon seconded the motion, motion was approved.


Office Exit Signs

Auditor Winkler presented the board with quotes from Koorsen and Vanguard on in-office exit signs. We currently have 24 Tritium exit signs that were installed in 2007 and have a 10 year life span, so Koorsen has advised us that we have to replace the signs. Auditor Winkler requested a quote from Koorsen on 10 year versus 20 year signs to see if there was a savings to be had on longer life span signs. Auditor Winkler also requested a quote from Vanguard on the same type of sign to compare prices with Koorsen. Vanguard provided a quote on Tritium signs, but also a price for luminescent signs that could potentially work just as well for significantly less money. We will do more research on the different types of signs and address again at a later meeting.

Logsdon made a motion to adjourn. Brown seconded the motion, motion approved. Meeting was adjourned at 3:25 P.M.



President

Attest:


Auditor, Autumn Winkler

