

INFORMAL SESSION MINUTES

December 2, 2013

2:00 p.m.

Commissioners' Office Conference Room

PRESENT: Commissioners Kathy George, Mary P. Stern, and Allen Springer.

Staff: Laura Tschabold, Christian Boenisch, Chuck Vesper, John Phelan, and Tim Loewen.

Guests: Nathalie Hardy, News-Register.

* indicates item forwarded to formal agenda

Kathy called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

* Personnel - Kathy presented personnel requests from various departments. See formal session agenda for details.

* Contracts/Grants - See agenda for details.

Department Updates

Public Works - John Phelan discussed improvements being done along Worden Hill Road near its intersection with Highway 240. Kathy suggested that if the crew is going to be doing any paving, they might also pave the shoulder at Ribbon Ridge Road and Highway 240 so vehicles can pull out and around other vehicles waiting to turn. John reported that he is gathering pricing for the informational kiosks, and the first ones should be installed by spring. He said that the Green Bridge project should be substantially completed by December 15. He also provided updates on the widening of Christensen Road, the Dejong Bridge project, implementation of the Habitat Conservation Plan, after-hours call-out statistics, Bayou Drive right-of-way, and the purchase of a dump truck. He said that his department will be coordinating with county residents on some work to be done near the Hidden Hills Road bridge. He said that the bridge itself is not the county's responsibility, and the bridge issues aren't critical at this point. Allen stated that he has received compliments from the community about the work being done by John and his crew.

Juvenile Department - Tim reported that a federal compliance monitor recently visited the office and gave a positive review. He discussed the community service garden and a proposed craft shop for woodworking projects. Allen mentioned that he'd read about table saws that are so sensitive to moisture that they won't cut through body parts. Laura stated that Christian would need to be included in discussions about that kind of project. She said that she has some recommendations to make the garden project more viable and to address concerns about not undercutting private businesses. Mary noted that there might be some funding available through Job Growers. Tim provided updates on the Behavior Rehabilitation Services program, Title IV-E reimbursement, fingerprinting, training, and the Juvenile Court Excellence Committee.

Following commissioner updates, the meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

Anne Britt
Secretary