

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF COLLIN

COMMISSIONERS' COURT  
MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 9, 2018

On Monday, April 9, 2018, the Commissioners' Court of Collin County, Texas, met in Regular Session in the Commissioners' Courtroom, Jack Hatchell Collin County Administration Building, 4th Floor, 2300 Bloomdale Road, City of McKinney, Texas, with the following members present, and participating, to wit:

Judge Keith Self  
Commissioner Cheryl Williams, Precinct 2  
Commissioner John Thomas, Precinct 3  
Commissioner Duncan Webb, Precinct 4

Absent: Commissioner Susan Fletcher, Precinct 1

Commissioner Thomas led the Invocation.  
Commissioner Webb led the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Judge Self led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

1. Judge Self called to order the meeting of the Collin County Commissioners' Court at 1:30 p.m.

President Self called to order the meeting of the Collin County Health Care Foundation at 2:04 p.m. and adjourned the meeting at 2:04 p.m.

President Self called to order the meeting of the Collin County Toll Road Authority at 2:04 p.m. and adjourned the meeting at 2:04 p.m.

President Self called to order the meeting of the Collin County Housing Finance Corporation at 2:04 p.m. and adjourned the meeting at 2:04p.m.

**DECISIONS MANDATED BY LEGAL ENTITIES OUTSIDE OF COMMISSIONERS COURT AUTHORITY:**

**1. Amendment(s):**

a. AI-44695 No. 2 to CSCD, GPS Offender Monitoring (Contract No. 2016-251) with SurScan, Inc. to increase the contract amount from \$67,500 to \$95,000 effective March 23, 2018 through and including August 31, 2018, Adult Probation.

b. **AI-44696** No. 8 to CSCD, Offender Specimen Collection and Drug Testing Services with Treatment Assessment Screening Center, Inc. to decrease the contract amount from \$485,000 to \$420,000 effective September 1, 2017 through and including August 31, 2018, Adult Probation.

## **FYI NOTIFICATION**

1. **AI-34688** Outstanding Agenda Items, Commissioners Court.

2. **AI-44639** Addendum No. 1 to In-Car Video & Body Camera Replacement (RFP No. 2018-153) to make changes to the Request for Proposal, Purchasing.

2. **Public Comments.**

3. **Presentation/Recognition:**

a. **AI-44719** Proclamation recognizing April 8 – 14, 2018 as National Crime Victims' Rights Week, District Attorney.

Judge Greg Willis, District Attorney, and the Commissioners' Court joined in recognizing crime victims throughout the community and issued a joint proclamation recognizing April 8 – 14, 2018 as National Crime Victims' Rights Week. (Time: 1:54 p.m.)

4. **Consent agenda to approve:** Judge Self asked for comments on the consent agenda. Commissioner Webb pulled item 4c1. Hearing no other comments, a motion was made to approve the remainder of the consent agenda. (Time: 2:03 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Cheryl Williams

Second by: Commissioner Duncan Webb

Vote: 4 – 0 Passed

a. **AI-44671** Disbursements for the period ending April 3, 2018, Auditor.

**COURT ORDER NO. 2018-292-04-09**

b. **AI-44672** Indigent Defense Disbursements, Auditor.

**COURT ORDER NO. 2018-293-04-09**

**c. Award(s):**

1. **AI-44703** Base Bid for Construction, Roof Recovery For Collin County Justice Center (IFB No. 2018-116) to JJ Red Commercial Roofing, LLC, budget amendment in the amount of \$884,218 and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute the Construction Agreement, Construction & Projects.

A motion was made to approve the item. Commissioner Webb did not participate in the vote. (Time: 2:04 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Cheryl Williams

Second by: Commissioner John Thomas

Vote: 3 – 0 Passed

Abstained: Commissioner Duncan Webb

**COURT ORDER NO. 2018-294-04-09**

**d. Amendment(s):**

1. **AI-44474** No. 1 to Inmate Telephone System (RFP No. 2017-121) with Inmate Calling Solutions, LLC dba ICSolutions, LLC to add 124 telephones to the contract and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute same, Sheriff.

**COURT ORDER NO. 2018-295-04-09**

**e. Contract Renewal(s):**

1. **AI-44711** Specialized Printing for Elections (IFB No. 2016-188) with Jayden Graphics, Inc. to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including May 30, 2019, Elections.

**COURT ORDER NO. 2018-296-04-09**

2. **AI-44702** Tax Statement Preparation and Mailing Service (RFP No. 2017-202) with VariVerge, LLC to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including August 31, 2019, Tax Assessor/Collector.

**COURT ORDER NO. 2018-297-04-09**

**f. Ratification of the County Judge's prior approval:**

1. **AI-44698** Grant application for the FY 2018 Feral Hog Grant through the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Development Services.

**COURT ORDER NO. 2018-298-04-09**

2. **AI-44699** Grant application for the Shelter Operations Grant through Petsmart Charities, Development Services.

**COURT ORDER NO. 2018-299-04-09**

**g. Budget adjustment(s)/amendment(s):**

1. **AI-44688** \$5,332 to reallocate funds for the Spay/Neuter Program, Development Services.

**COURT ORDER NO. 2018-300-04-09**

**h. Receive and File, Auditor:**

1. **AI-44700** Monthly Financial Reports for December 2017.

**COURT ORDER NO. 2018-301-04-09**

**i. Filing of the Minute(s), County Clerk:**

1. **AI-44693** March 19, 2018.

**COURT ORDER NO. 2018-302-04-09**

**j. Miscellaneous**

1. **AI-44707** Acceptance of supplemental funding in the amount of \$15,000 for the Internet Crimes Against Children Grant, Sheriff.

**COURT ORDER NO. 2018-303-04-09**

2. **AI-44720** Personnel Appointments, Human Resources.

**COURT ORDER NO. 2018-304-04-09**

3. **AI-44721** Personnel Changes, Human Resources.

**COURT ORDER NO. 2018-305-04-09**

**GENERAL DISCUSSION**

5. **AI-44646** **Public Hearing** – Replat of Lots 11A1 and 11A2 of the Cottage Hill Estates, Engineering.

Tracy Homfeld, Engineering, came forward to request a public hearing for the replat of lots 11A1 and 11A2 of the Cottage Hill Estates. Ms. Homfeld said a letter was received from a landowner concerned about the location for the ability of a septic pump truck to enter into one of the new existing lots. It was explained to the landowner the replat meets subdivision regulations and there is believed to be no issues with the septic tank. Judge Self opened the public hearing at 2:02 p.m. Hearing no comments, the public hearing was closed at 2:03 p.m. A motion was made to approve the item. (Time: 2:03 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Cheryl Williams

Second by: Commissioner John Thomas

Vote: 4 – 0 Passed

**COURT ORDER NO. 2018-306-04-09**

**6. AI-44685 Veterans Court Update, Commissioner, Precinct 3.**

Judge John Roach, Jr., 296<sup>th</sup> District Court, came forward to give an update on the Veterans Court. Judge Roach first explained how Veterans Court came to be. Fifteen years ago a judge in New York came up with the concept of Veterans Court. He realized the regular criminal justice system was not fit to handle the issues veterans could face coming back from service if they find themselves in the criminal justice system. Examples of the issues include: traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, military sexual trauma, hyper anxiety, depression and insomnia. All of these issues are different for a veteran than a civilian. Before organization of Veterans Court, veterans would not get the help or support needed which in turn would cause recidivism.

Veterans Court has a team approach to criminal justice as it pertains to veterans. If a person has been discharged from the military and can show a causable connection between their service and the crime they allegedly committed, they can apply to be in Veterans Court. If accepted, they come under the team approach. The team includes a probation officer and representatives from the District Attorney's office, Veterans Affairs, the county's Veteran Services office, and the Sheriff's Office, all of which volunteer to be on the team. The team addresses veterans on an individualized basis.

On March 25, 2013, with the approval of the Commissioners' Court, the Collin County Veterans Court began. The goal of Veterans Court is for the veteran to pay for their crime and to get the treatment they need to never come before the Court again. The Collin County Veterans Court performed so well that in 2015 Rockwall County wanted a Veterans Court followed by Grayson, Kaufman and Fannin Counties in 2016. In September 2016 the five counties celebrated their official partnership as the North Texas Regional Veterans Court, presided over by Judge Roach. This is the first and only Regional Veterans Court of its kind in the US. The North Texas Regional Veterans Court hears both misdemeanor and felony cases throughout all five of the counties.

The recidivism rate for the North Texas Regional Veterans Court is 6.7%. This is lower than both the regular probationer recidivism rate of 21.4% and the national average of veteran treatment courts recidivism rate of 7-9%.

Program funding for the Court is at zero cost to taxpayers. All program funds are provided by the Texas Veterans Commission through annual grants. Grant funds provide Veterans Court participants with financial assistance for: treatment, counseling, abstinence monitoring, and mental health and substance abuse evaluations. It also assists with critical needs to support the veterans' overall wellbeing, such as: emergency utility and housing, medical, transportation, education and employment assistance.

The program works in three phases. Phase I is orientation and assessment. Phase II is treatment and recovery. Phase III is reintegration and continuing care. Typically the program lasts two years for misdemeanor cases and longer for felony cases. In order for a veteran to be in the Veterans Court they must submit an application. This is followed by the District Attorney's approval, then a psych evaluation to address all concerns.

Next is the team interview and approval. Judge Roach noted that a veteran must take responsibility for their actions and plead guilty to the charges to be allowed in the program.

Judge Roach was excited to share some future plans for the Veterans Court. The non-profit organization GallantFew will be taking over Phase III of the program for aftercare and transition assistance. Dallas County Community College is working with the Court for college credit for heroes and programs specifically for Veterans Treatment Court. The Court is also working with Grayson County Community College. Because the number of participants is expanding the Court is going into a grant to provide a case manager to manage the growing number.

Judge Roach mentioned ways to help the Veterans Court succeed. One is by elected officials and community members attending Court sessions. This shows the veterans that the program is important to the community. Another is more community involvement within the program. This can be done by providing breakfast for the veteran participants and mentors before Court which facilitates fellowship and/or by volunteering as mentors, especially in the smaller counties.

Judge Roach thanked the Commissioners' Court for their continued support of the Collin County Veterans Court and the North Texas Regional Veterans Court which is changing the lives of veterans.

Commissioner Webb asked why Collin College is not part of the program. Judge Roach said having the colleges on board is a new concept because when you think of a college you think of degrees, but they also have certifications veterans can obtain. The community colleges of Dallas and Grayson counties reached out specifically to the Veterans Court to be involved, but now that he understands the concept of the certifications he will be reaching out to Collin College. He anticipates they will be willing to do the same as the others.

Commissioner Thomas said he enjoyed attending a Veterans Court Session. It was encouraging and very different from other courts. The Commissioner said Judge Roach uses tough-love when appropriate, but also provides a lot of encouragement to the veterans.

Judge Self asked Judge Roach if Phase III will still be considered Phase III under his direction when GallantFew takes over. Judge Roach said it would still be Phase III under his direction. GallantFew will be introduced midway through Phase III. They will be there for graduation and then carry on with aftercare and transition assistance.

Judge Self congratulated Judge Roach on one of his graduates being recommended to become a spokesman for Smiles Charity. The graduate is an outstanding man who has come a long way. (Time: 1:51 p.m.)

**NO ACTION TAKEN**

**7. AI-44722 Law Enforcement Fallen Officer Portrait Project, County Judge.**

Judge Self opened Court discussion on the proposal of a Law Enforcement Fallen Officer Portrait Project. The portraits would be painted by Colin Kimball, artist and veteran, and hung in the lower floor of the courthouse next to the DA's (District Attorney) office. Greg Willis, DA, said he has agreed to this and would be very excited about it. Judge Self said it is a great project, but he believes the perspective of the defense attorneys is the portraits of the fallen officers could sway juries.

Judge John Roach, Jr, 296<sup>th</sup> District Court, said his personal opinion, as a judge, of honoring fallen officers of Collin County with a portrait is an outstanding idea. He doesn't believe this would sway a jury because this is honoring the officer for their service and ultimate sacrifice and it is not at the expense of a defendant or anyone else. This is the same as honoring the veterans and retired judges with portraits hanging in the courthouse. Also, most of the jurors will remain on the first floor where the jury room is and on the above floor where the courtrooms are located. The only time they would go down to the lower floor is if they visit the cafeteria.

Commissioner Webb supports the idea as well as the location. His only concern is to not hang a portrait of a fallen officer whose death is involved in a legal case until the case is concluded. Commissioner Williams supports the project and is in agreement with the proposed location.

Commissioner Thomas asked Chief Deputy Kelley Stone, Sheriff's Office, to share his view on an alternate location for the portraits in the administration entryway of the Sheriff's Office. Chief Deputy Stone could not speak for the Sheriff, but believes he would be proud to have the portraits displayed in the Sheriff's Office.

With no further discussion, a motion was made to begin a Law Enforcement Fallen Officer Portrait Project located on the lower floor of the courthouse next to the DA's office. (Time: 2:02 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Duncan Webb  
Second by: Commissioner Cheryl Williams  
Vote: 4 – 0 Passed

**COURT ORDER NO. 2018-307-04-09**

**8. Possible future agenda items by Commissioners Court without discussion.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Court did not recessed into Executive Session. There being no further business of the Court, Judge Self adjourned the meeting at 2:04 p.m.



*Keith Self*

Keith Self, County Judge

*Susan Fletcher*

Susan Fletcher, Commissioner, Pct. 1

*Cheryl Williams*

Cheryl Williams, Commissioner, Pct. 2

*John D. Thomas*

John D. Thomas, Commissioner, Pct. 3

*Duncan Webb*

Duncan Webb, Commissioner, Pct. 4

ATTEST:

*Stacey Kemp*

Stacey Kemp, Ex-Officio Clerk  
Commissioners Court  
Collin County, T E X A S