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COURT	<b>ORDER</b>	NO.	2010		4-26

### STATE OF TEXAS

# COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING MINUTES APRIL 5, 2010

#### **COUNTY OF COLLIN**

On Monday, April 5, 2010 at 6:00 p.m., the Commissioners Court of Collin County, Texas, met in Regular Session in the Town of Prosper Municipal Chambers located at 108 W. Broadway in Prosper, Texas with the following members present, and participating, to wit:

Present: Judge Keith Self

Precinct 1 Commissioner Matt Shaheen Precinct 2 Commissioner Jerry Hoagland Precinct 3 Commissioner Joe Jaynes

Absent: Precinct 4 Commissioner Kathy Ward

Commissioner Hoagland led the Invocation.

Judge Self led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Shaheen led the Pledge to the Texas Flag.

1. Judge Self called to order the meeting of the Collin County Commissioners Court at 6:03 p.m. Judge Self informed the Court and audience that due to an error made in the posting of the meeting location, any Court business listed on the agenda requiring an action would be held until the next scheduled Court.

The Court would hear briefings, and hear testimony and vote on the resolution because it is only a resolution and does not have the force of law. The rest of the agenda will be moved to next week.

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

1. <u>Al-31634</u> Budget amendment in the amount of \$17,516 to establish the budget to purchase heavy duty shredders utilizing the Drug Forfeiture fund, District Attorney.

#### **FYI NOTIFICATION**

- 1. <u>Al-31622</u> Budget amendment in the amount of \$3,750 to establish the budget for the 2009 CCP (Citizen Corps Program) grant for the BDLS (Basic Disaster Life Support) training provided by the National Disaster Life Support Foundation (NDLS), Auditor.
- 2. Public Comments. See General Discussion item 8.
- 3. Presentation/Recognition.
- 4. Consent agenda to approve:
- a. <u>Al-31655</u> Disbursements for the period ending March 30, 2010, Auditor.

**HELD** 

b. Al-31624 Tax Refunds totaling \$828,568.56, Tax Assessor Collector.

**HELD** 

- c. Advertisement(s):
- **1.** <u>Al-31631</u> Maintenance, Roads: Crack Sealing Services (IFB No. 03195-10), Public Works.

**HELD** 

- 2. Al-31610 Supplies: Fleet Repair Parts (IFB No. 01165-10), Public Works.
- d. Change Order(s):
- 1. <u>Al-31592</u> No. 5 to Supplies: Jail and Personal Inmate (IFB No. 03447-09) with Bob Barker Company, Inc. to add item 03447-09-2-79, Detention Suit: Orange Short Sleeve and item 03447-09-2-80, Detention Suit: Orange Short Sleeve, further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute the same, Purchasing.

**HELD** 

- e. Ratification of the County Judge's prior approval:
- 1. <u>AI-31650</u> 2007 Grant Adjustment Notice to extend the period of the 2007 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) with the State of Texas, Governor's Division of Emergency Management (GDEM) from March 31, 2010 to a new end date of April 30, 2010, Auditor.

HELD

- f. Receive and File, Auditor:
- 1. Final Audit Result(s):
- a. Al-31632 Medical Examiner (1st & 2nd Quarter FY2009).

**HELD** 

**b.** <u>Al-31633</u> Substance Abuse (2nd & 3rd Quarter Fy2009).

**HELD** 

## g. Miscellaneous

1. <u>AI-31647</u> Grant application for the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program with the Bureau of Justice (BJA) in the amount of \$62,330 (\$49,830–Federal Funds, \$12,500–County Match), Sheriff.

**HELD** 

#### **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

5. <u>Al-31648</u> LIRAP Projects update, Special Projects.

Chris Klaus, North Texas Council of Governments (NTCOG), presented a briefing and update on items 5 and 6. Mr. Klaus gave a power point presentation regarding the AirCheck Texas Program which included an emission inventory for the DFW non-attainment area for 2009 and an Ozone Historical Trend for the past three years.

AirCheck Texas Status, Drive a Clean Machine Program began in 2002 predominantly as a repair program. Two legislative sessions ago, the program was changed and more funding was offered for replacement. Since then there have been less repairs and a lot more replacements. A result of the federal CARS program was a significant increase in participation in the local program. A participant could benefit from both programs when going out to buy a vehicle. Just over 600 vehicles were retired and just over 200 repaired.

State funding by fiscal year was also included. Collin County receives approximately 10% of this funding. Bill Bilyeu, Administrative Services, asked for clarification on the data presented and asked if all of the funds for Collin County were allocated. Mr. Klaus said in 2008 there was some money that was not spent in Collin County. Shannon Stevenson, NTCOG, commented there was a little bit of carry over. Commissioner Shaheen asked if this was a continuous process, if money is not used in two years, would it be lost. Mr. Klaus replied the funds are rolled over every two years, but each year the carryover funds are used first. Additionally six dollars of each inspection is collected to assist in funding the \$22 million for region repairs and replacements, and local initiatives were set up to give those funds back to the County.

Programs that have an 80-20 match are the Remote Sensing Programs and the Emissions Enforcement Program.

Mr. Klaus addressed the Judge with comments on intersection improvements and using some of the funds for those improvements. Judge Self replied if the County does not get State approval this year, they will ask legislators to get relief because these programs are not what we need in Collin County. We need turn lanes. We cannot spend the funds on turn lanes, which would keep our traffic moving, so we will have to keep working on the issue and probably make some changes to the programs.

Mr. Klaus also shared emissions enforcement data, which includes a database that pulls in inspection information. There is also available training for law enforcement officials, so while they are out, if they pull someone over, they can tie into the AirCheck Texas database, which is Wi-Fi and free, to verify the inspection is legitimate and not fraudulent. County agencies participating include the cities of Plano, Celina and Frisco, Constable Precinct 4 and the Sherriff's Office. (Time: 6:31 p.m.)

**NO ACTION TAKEN** 

6. Al-31649 Local Initiative Project funding, Special Projects.

**NO ACTION TAKEN** 

7. Al-31639 TxDOT Briefing, County Judge.

John Hudspeth, TxDOT, addressed the Court with a briefing on the projects under construction. Mr. Hudspeth gave a power point presentation which included information such as estimated completion dates and project costs as well as the projects that had environmental clearance. Those environmentally cleared could begin the right of way process. The presentation also included RTR funded projects in final design, letting dates and estimated costs. At the request of Commissioner Jaynes, Mr. Hudspeth gave a brief explanation of the RTR funding. The presentation included a slide of the RTR funded projects in design and planning and consisted of those in the planning stage and let dates.

Mr. Hudspeth concluded the presentation with a slide depicting TxDot projects in Collin County and told the Court these are the high level priority projects. (Time: 6:14pm)

**NO ACTION TAKEN** 

**8.** <u>Al-31669</u> Resolution supporting the Texas Attorney Generals Legal Efforts to oppose the 2010 Healthcare Reform Bill, Commissioner Precinct 1.

Judge Self thanked everyone in attendance for their interest in County government. Judge Self informed the audience of how the proceedings would be conducted. Each person would have the opportunity to speak.

Collin County Commissioners Court Meeting Minutes April 5, 2010 Page 4 of 15 Each person would be allowed three minutes to speak and the Judge would alternate between those for and against until one side or the other ran out of cards, and then keep going until all have had the opportunity to speak. Judge Self asked that when the speaker's three minutes had expired that he/she conclude their comments within a few seconds. The Judge then responded to comments that were heard multiple times regarding this is not local County business. Judge Self remarked this is indeed local county business. This will have a profound impact on County government regardless of what happens with it. It will change the way we do business. It is a very important issue. Judge Self thanked Commissioner Shaheen for drafting the resolution.

Judge Self stated Congressman Michael Burgess, who was deeply involved in this debate, just an hour or so ago sent Judge Self a letter from our Attorney General to our two Senators, Hutchinson and Cornyn. Judge Self read two paragraphs from the letter.

Judge Self then turned the meeting over to Commissioner Shaheen who remarked the resolution is in support of the Attorney General of Texas, who is in opposition of the healthcare reform.

Commissioner Shaheen continued by saying many throughout the country are challenging the constitutionality of the legislation and whether the federal government has the right to tell citizens what they can and must buy, or is that a freedom left to the citizens of the United States. There is a lot of concern that a large part, if not most of congress, did not read the legislation before it was voted on. This resolution is in support of our Attorney General as well as our Representatives. Commissioner Shaheen concluded his comments. (Time: 6:37p.m.)

There were 83 blue cards submitted. 58 were for the resolution and 25 were against the resolution. Judge Self reiterated each speaker had three minutes and asked that they start making their way to the microphone.

- 1. Patty Jantho, Plano, addressed the Court. Ms. Jantho stated she is the President of The League of Women Voters. She read a statement. The League of Women Voters of the United States believes a basic level of quality health care at an affordable cost should be available to all U.S residents. The League joined with two other national organizations in urging congressional passage of the Health Care Bill. They urge the Commissioners Court to vote against support of the Attorney General of Texas in his efforts to join in the lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the bill.
- 2. Charles Fink, Allen, addressed the Court saying he doesn't care if you reduce taxes to zero, the bill is unconstitutional. He urged the Court to pass the resolution and support our Attorney General.

3. David Smith, Plano, addressed the Court saying he was not here to speak for or against the federal legislation. His initial reaction upon learning of the resolution was it is inappropriate to place a hot national political issue on the agenda. He looked into the effect of the legislation on the County; if you look at the effect on the County, you will find the law will make every individual eligible for indigent health care, eligible for Medicaid. His recommendation is to table the resolution, set aside partisanship, set aside ideology and take a look at the effect on County government.

Judge Self answered the comments saying Commissioner Suehs, Department State Health Services, in recent testimony in Austin made it very clear, if this does happen to Medicare, legislature will be forced to make additional cuts to education, roads and public safety. As an example, 237,000 children whose health care would shift from CHIPS to Medicaid, the state's payment from 25% to 40%; that is the sort of impact we are talking about.

- 4. R. Alan Foskett, Prosper, spoke about his best friend who does not have insurance. He himself is now unemployed with no insurance. In 2008 he was in the hospital three times and the cost to his company was over \$60,000. He now has no insurance and would have to go to Parkland and taxpayer money would be paying for it. He is in full support of America's plan.
- 5. Diane Nusbaum, Prosper, expressed concerns about the health care legislation and the impact this will have on her and her husband's business. They currently have 18 employees and taking a look at the legislation they are wondering what they are going to do in the next year and for the future of their business. They will have to cut jobs and/or lower wages because of the penalties the legislation is requiring. This bill is a job killer.
- 6. Shawn Stevens, Dallas, approached and read text from article one, section eight of the constitution. Mr. Stevens remarked that the Congress does have the power to impose a tax on those who choose not to carry health insurance. Treating the uninsured carries a cost that taxpayers or other insurance payers have to pay for. It was his opinion that the constitution seemed very clear that the congress had the right to do this. Collin County will be better off when this is implemented and it doesn't make sense to seek the resolution.
- 7. Linda Schenck, McKinney, approached saying this is not a political issue, it is a people's issue. She supported the Commissioners Court when the dollar amount for health care was raised. She supported the five dollar PrimaCare decision. It shows that the Commissioners care about their constituency and about establishing a doctor-patient relationship. In addition to the resolution, Ms. Schenck made the suggestion that the Commissioners also talk to the state legislators. Although she believes the judicial system is just and fair, it is also

very slow and having the state legislators do something might be faster than waiting on a court hearing. She is against the Health Care Bill not because she is against health care, but because she believes there is a way to do this constitutionally. She applauds the Commissioners and the resolution.

- 8. Bob Fusinato, Richardson, approached saying he did not come here to thwart or disparage anyone; however, he thinks the resolution is a bad idea. Mainly because it doesn't do anything except give us a chance to vent against something we may not like but can't control. It sends a bad message to people that may be wanting to locate in this area. He thinks almost everyone can find something about the current law they don't like. Give it a chance and let it fail where it will fail and then fix it. The resolution may represent a personal opinion, but it does not represent his opinion. He recommended advising against the resolution.
- 9. Kelly Cooper, Prosper, approached saying the bill effects the County so this is absolutely the proper place to discuss it. Ms. Cooper is speaking for the resolution and against the bill. She has been unemployed since June as a result of a layoff; however, she does not expect everyone in this room or every citizen across the country to take care of her, her children or her husband. Our problems are not insurmountable. They can be solved without tearing down another person, group or party.
- 10. Terrill Brandon, Murphy, spoke about another meeting he attended which spoke of indigent health care. We pay taxes to support not only government, but also to support and care for each other; the elderly, the homeless, the disabled, our service people. This country is a symbol of what "for the people, by the people" means. We are moving in a more humane direction. What it means to be an American is that we take care of each other.

Judge Self read aloud the names of those who submitted blue cards both for and against the resolution, but chose not to speak.

- 11. Jim Scott, Plano, approached the Court. He respects the previous speaker's right to speak and greatly appreciates what he had to say; however, he strongly disagrees with the fundamental points made. The bill was not favored by the majority of the people. If such a law is allowed to remain, he questioned what would be next. He is in strong favor of repeal.
- 12. Kelly Van Auken, Allen, spoke to the Court next. She is against the resolution. She feels it is fiscally irresponsible for the Court to go against the federal government. She is for the federal healthcare bill because it will allow a lot of the County's indigent health care costs to be covered by the federal government. We are the richest nation in the world and any way we can help people with health

- care costs is helpful. The bill is not perfect but she believes it is a very good step in right direction and she strongly supports it.
- 13. Alford Klein, Frisco, approached. Mr. Klein brought attention to the tee shirt he was wearing regarding health care costs. Mr. Klein believes in a Christian nation and also believes in paying for what we get. Each individual citizen should assume their own responsibility for their own income. If we redistribute the wealth, we become a socialist nation. He believes we are on the brink of losing our liberty. He spent 22 years in the military and although it is thought military health care will not be affected, he does not believe that.
- 14. Camille Hedrick, Plano, approached the Court. Ms. Hedrick asked to display the resolution so she could comment on one line. She believes health insurance is not like car insurance. She gave a comparison of insurance rates between her and her husband while unemployed. Her cost was double his cost. She believes that the health care bill, although not perfect, would provide help to people like her who work very hard to buy their own health insurance.
- 15. Charles Clark, Celina, approached the Court. Mr. Clark has spent most of the last year unemployed. He has been working with friends on a startup company and is terribly opposed to the healthcare plan because it makes it incredibly more expensive to hire and employ people.
- 16.Lex Staley, Prosper, told the Court he appreciated everything they do, but did not put them in office to tackle health care reform. No one addressed it is any of their campaigns because no one wants to deal with it during an election. There are many things to take care of in the County and we should not spend time or money tackling something that has already been decided. It is a complete waste of time. He is totally against this and they should stop right here.
- 17. Mary Kaye Adams, Dallas, addressed the Court saying she is in favor of resolution. She feels it would be nice if we could be everything to everybody; however, we cannot do that. She has lived in two foreign countries and has seen socialized medicine up front. It does not work. She has students who bring relatives who are ill to this country when they need health care because they do not receive adequate health care in their home country. She feels this is good evidence that what we have is superior to socialized medicine.
- 18. Cindy Kohen, Prosper, approached the Court. Ms. Kohen is a 15 year veteran. Last year she was out of pocket \$10,000 even with insurance. This bill will help 32 million people. You were elected to serve the constituents of Collin County. Please do that. Look at all of them. Please look out for all of them. This is not a Republican or Democratic issue. It is an American issue and everyone should have health care.

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- 19. Elizabeth Lanier, Dallas, approached the Court. Ms. Lanier came here from Dallas because she feels this issue is critically important. Most Americans do not want this bill, it was forced upon us by this administration and this congress. There at better ways to do this. If this has any chance of showing unconstitutionality, she feels it is imperative for Texas to move ahead with this lawsuit.
- 20. Helen Van Auken, Allen, approached the Court. She is against resolution and agrees with the previous speaker who felt there are more important things to do in Collin County than take time on this resolution when it's a done deal. She feels it is embarrassing that we don't provide health care for our citizens. Think about what a great country this is and the wealth we have and do not pass the resolution.
- 21. Andrew Piziali, Parker, approached saying he rises in favor of the resolution. Mr. Piziali had three points to make. This nation was founded as a republic. Our founder considered a democracy and rejected it in favor of a republic. Mr. Piziali used a story with three questions to make his points. To take someone's money to pay for another's health care is immoral. He retired and budgeted for insurance. He will never reach into the pockets of his neighbors through Social Security, Medicaid or any other wealth transfer program because he believes it is wrong.
- 22. Shawn Ahsan, Plano, approached. Mr. Ahsan agrees with the others that this is a waste of time and money. We should speak for those who do not have health insurance, not for us. Whatever happens, the bill has passed; we have to put it behind us. Move forward and let it work and hopefully improve our lives. We elected out congress and senate and they are supposed to make decisions for us. He thinks this is a good deal and we have to work with it and give it chance and go forward with it.
- 23. Terry Wade, Plano, approached. She thinks this is not a waste of time. This is probably the most packed this room has been in a years, the reason is because people are impassioned about this bill. This bill will destroy her family who owns their own businesses. She has been an educator for 25 years. Her observations are the more we give, the more they expect and the more they want. People need to be proactive. Stop this nonsense. The government is being too intrusive. Take responsibility for your actions and be proactive. You cannot complain about something if you're not ready to fight for it; we have to fight for this country.
- 24. Steve Bolden, Allen, approached the Court. His great, great grandfather was a Senator in this state. He received an email that questioned his patriotism because he has a different belief. Everyone in here is a patriot. A patriot is

someone who loves his country and cares about his country. The point he wants to make is that this is a federal issue. He does not understand how the Collin County Commissioners Court could put forth this resolution. He appreciates everyone's fervor, but thinks that the Collin County Commissioners Court has no standing nor is this issue right to act on.

- 25. Steve Duke, Lucas, addressed the Court. He feels this is not about health care; it's about control over the population. It's about socialism and control. Several lawyers in this room have attacked equity for the Commissioners Court to bring this up. It is your duty to bring this forward. The constitution is under assault. This is not constitutional. This single bill will effect more people than even he can come up with.
- 26. Micky Mayer, Dallas, addressed the Court saying she is absolutely against the resolution. Texas happens to be the number one state of uninsured people. We should be embarrassed by that statistic, and we shouldn't add Collin County into that mix. She is a liberal and proud of it. She feels like nothing is perfect. This health care is not perfect but it is making an impact. There are many of us in this room who are strongly against this resolution. She is the proud daughter of a veteran, a girl scout, a proud American and Collin County resident.
- 27. Alton Smith, Plano, addressed the Court. He considers this act unconstitutional, because the government has assumed the right to tell the American citizen what he can and cannot do. If he doesn't pay for insurance he will be subjected to a fine. The worse thing is that this is unfunded. Who is going to pay for this? It's the wrong bill because it does not include tort reform. This is a hoax, to think that we can tolerate this kind of penalty on civilization. America is dead. It is radically unfair to small businesses.
- 28. Marge Langteau, Plano, addressed the Court. She is a citizen of Precinct 4 and also active in a grass roots organization called the Health Care Committee of Collin County. She is here to share her perspective on working on the committee as well as her personal views on the resolution to support the Attorney General. Many in this room have no clue what's in the bill. It is massive. She hopes that before it is on record that Collin County supports the Attorney General, the Court will analyze what the bill can do for Collin County's health care budget and how many people will be overlooked in the support to this legal action. Please drop health care and move on to the business of Collin County to which you were elected.
- 29. George Collis, Princeton, addressed the Court. He is a 36 year businessman in Collin County. He sees this as an invasion of his freedom, to do what he was willing to give his life in Vietnam for, so this country could remain free to have a business without a totalitarian government taking it away. He is for the resolution

- and hopes the Court goes through with it. He is behind the Attorney General and hopes we win.
- 30. Barbara Walters, Plano, approached the Court. What she has not heard tonight is what we have now. She thinks what we have now in health care is currently in crisis and unsustainable. She feels everyone wants to reform health care although she wishes it had been a more bi-partisan decision. It is her understanding that 60% of health care is being paid by us. She read from a document outlining the health care bill. She is very much against the resolution and thinks it is not the Court's business to be doing this.
- 31. Beverly Frey, Dallas, addressed the Court speaking for the resolution. She is tired of her money being taken and spent on unconstitutional items. The issue is whether the health care bill should have been passed to start with. We aren't putting it behind us because it never should have been passed, it is unconstitutional. It is a job killer and as such we will continue to fight against the bill in every way we can. There is nothing that allows the federal government to provide health care for our people. It is not in section 1 article 8. She also feels that Medicare is unconstitutional.
- 32.Betty Sharp, Anna, addressed the Court. There are many good things about living in Collin County. She is, however, against the resolution. She thinks the 82<sup>nd</sup> legislature will face a deficit and not because of health care reform. The people you want to follow have had 10 years to do better and they haven't. She expressed if you don't have insurance in Collin County, you have to go to Parkland. People ask how we are going to pay for the reform. We are already paying for it.
- 33.Bob Chambers, Frisco, approached. Some of the previous speakers alluded to the fact that a portion of the cost of Collin County would be paid for by the government and that small businesses would be given credits. In all due respect, the federal government does not pay for anything and everything comes out of the pocket of the local taxpayer. He stands in favor of the resolution
- 34. Andrew Spence, Plano, approached to stand in opposition of passing the resolution. He wanted to look at the whereas paragraphs in the resolution and suggest rewrites. The first four whereas paragraphs are unsupported opinion and do not pertain to the health care reform law; therefore it is requested they be stricken from the resolution. Congress does have the constitutional authority to regulate interstate commerce. Lawsuits brought forth by the state of Texas are frivolous and a waste of taxpayer money. The Commissioners Court should not sanction such activities by passing this resolution. Costs are a valid concern and should be debated. Whereas six is acceptable with a proviso. Alternative statistics were read aloud to the Court. Finally, the health care reform was signed

by the President; therefore, it is a law not a bill. Please correct the error in the final resolution text.

- 35. Jim Bolton, Collin County, addressed the Court. Each of us here has on opinion on the constitution. Framers of the constitution put into place a procedure for disagreements. He proposed that this is not about healthcare, but about whether the law that was passed is constitutional or unconstitutional. The procedure put into place by the constitution's framers was the Supreme Court of the United States. That procedure cannot take place until litigation is filed to get it before the Court, so all the resolution does is allow the Court to decide whether this is constitutional or unconstitutional. All of us should be interested to know whether our laws are constitutional or not. He supports the legislation that allows us to find that out.
- 36 Kim Sharp, Allen, approached the Court and addressed comments made earlier by previous speakers. She is opposed to the health care because various pages are offensive to her. She believes the bill that was passed was unconstitutional and that it was rammed through. We are Americans coming together to exercise our right of free speech and to exercise our frustration over what this administration has rammed through by trying to force us, as American's to purchase something that's unconstitutional.
- 37. Susan Davis-Duarte addressed the Court as the last speaker. She is a Latino from Brazil. Her mother is from Brazil. She was born and raised in Brazil. Her dad is Texan. She is infinitely proud to be half American and half Brazilian. Her mother became a citizen at age of 80 so, it hurts her to see the direction our country is going. She did her best in Brazil to fight communism. It is better to die and be free than live under communism. She is confused to hear others say Texas is number one in uninsured. We are not number one in not having health care. People in Brazil would kill to have Parkland giving them their health care. Now for the eight hundred pound gorilla nobody mentioned previously. We are also number one in illegal immigrants. Nobody mentions that. They are draining the economy. She is complaining because people who have the right to be here see illegals coming in and just walking across. These things are shocking. She agreed with another speaker's sign that read health care for all Americans, if we are all Americans.

Judge Self showed the audience the stack of blue cards representing the evening's speakers. He was very appreciative of the people who spent the evening with the Commissioners Court in order to voice their opinion. He asked for any other discussion.

Commissioner Hoagland addressed several comments that were made throughout the public speaking. He agreed with the last speaker about illegal immigrants.

He also informed the audience they do not have to go to Parkland. There are hospitals all over Collin County which are available if you are indigent. Any decisions he makes today is not made for him, it is made for his children and grandchildren. The federal government does not have a good track record of handling things. He is appalled at how the health care bill was passed at the federal level and someone has to speak out in opposition. He has never been more concerned about the future of our country than right now. This may be the straw that breaks the camel's back. Regarding the disease issue, the County is required by state law to inoculate people without regard to immigration status. We will not allow people to walk around and make you sick. He has horror heard stories about European citizens waiting up to 2 to 3 years for procedures. We have to take individual responsibility for our lives. Something does need to be done about health care, but this just isn't it. It is his opinion that the health care bill is atrocious. Health care is absolutely on the Commissioners radar screen. He talks about it in his campaign. After additional comments, Commissioner Hoagland made a motion to approve the Commissioner Shaheen's resolution.

Commissioner Shaheen seconded the motion. He found it interesting that during the talks about the health care reform, there was a parallel discussion on the U.S. Postal Service and whether the level of service should be lowered from six days to five days. What he does not want to happen is to let bureaucrats in Washington D.C. make a decision on your level of service of your heath care. Our government is 12.5 trillion dollars in debt and another 40 trillion dollars in liability. This could very well bury our nation sooner rather than later. He has a very strong opinion the Attorney General is right in this. This is unconstitutional. The federal government does not have the right to tell me what health care I have to pay for. He thinks the Attorney General and the other Attorney General's who have joined him will prevail. Commissioner Shaheen thanked the Prosper City Council for hosting the meeting. He then thanked the citizens on both sides of the agenda for attending and hoped to see them attend more Commissioners Court meetings. He reiterated he seconds the motion.

Commissioner Jaynes commented next saying thank you to those who attended whatever position they have and for being able to have this discussion. He thanked Judge Self for the manner in which he conducted the meeting. He pointed out that Collin County is a leader in health care. Health care is our responsibility. Commissioner Jaynes explained what the state defines as indigent which is 21% of the poverty level, Collin County is at 100%. Collin County provides a clinic plus we have a public/private partnership with Prima Care. We still have the lowest tax rate of the ten most populous counties. Commissioner Jaynes gave additional comments regarding a sign that read "Affordable health care for everyone". He agrees; however, a federal government more than 12 trillion dollars in debt, passing a 2100 page bill and taking over one sixth of the economy is not the way to go about it. He concluded saying he supports the resolution.

Judge Self also thanked everyone for coming. This is the kind of discussion that is happening all across America for various reasons.

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This is where all discussion should start; at the local level. At the city then at the county and then at the federal level. You have heard two visions of government tonight. You will choose your vision of government. It has been said that great civilizations do not die because of being attacked, they die from suicide. He does not believe we should let our country commit suicide by destroying the very foundations of freedom in an economy that made our country great. That's where he comes down on this bill he will always come down on the side of freedom and this destroys freedom. What is wrong with health care today is too much government, not too little. One reason Texas has done so well with getting doctors in our state is tort reform and no one at the national level has addressed that. Judge Self remarked the mental health was not even discussed. Collin County is deeply involved in advocating mental health. He congratulated Commissioner Shaheen for drafting the resolution. (Time: 8:31 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Jerry Hoagland Second by: Commissioner Matt Shaheen

Vote: 4 - 0 Passed

At the end of the evening, 83 blue cards had been submitted. 58 were for the resolution and 25 were against the resolution. 37 citizens expressed their opinions both pro and con to the Commissioners Court.

9. <u>Al-31660</u> Personnel Appointments, Human Resources.

**HELD** 

10. Al-31661 Personnel Changes, Human Resources.

**HELD** 

11. Al-31670 Board/Committee Appointments, Commissioners Court.

**HELD** 

12. Al-31657 Potential 82nd Legislative items, Commissioners Court.

**HELD** 

13. Possible future agenda items by Commissioners Court without discussion.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Commissioner Court did not recess into Executive Session. Judge Self adjourned the Commissioners Court meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Keith Self, County Judge

Matt Shaheen, Commissioner, Pct. 1

Jerry Heagland, Commissioner, Pct. 2

Joe Jaynes, Commissioner, Pct. 3

ATTEST:

Stacey Kemp, Ex-Officio Clerk Commissioners' Court Collin County, T E X A S

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