

Lamar County Board of Commissioners
Regular Business Meeting
September 15^h, 2020
7:00 p.m.

Present for the meeting were Chairman Glass, Vice-Chair Thrash, Commissioner Horton, Commissioner Heiney, Commissioner Traylor, County Clerk Davidson, and County Attorney Mayfield. County Administrator Townsend was absent from the meeting. The meeting was available to the public via Zoom.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Glass called the meeting to order at approximately 7:37 p.m.

II. Agenda Approval

Commissioner Traylor made a motion to approve the agenda. Vice-Chair Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Minutes Approval

Vice-Chair Thrash made a motion to approve the following five sets of minutes. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- i. Public Hearing Meeting-August 11th, 2020
- ii. Public Hearing Meeting- August 11th, 2020
- iii. Workshop Meeting-August 13th, 2019
- iv. Public Hearing Meeting-August 18th, 2020
- v. Public Hearing Meeting-August 18th, 2020
- vi. Regular Business Meeting-August 18th, 2020

IV. Resolution 2020-18 Budget Amendment

Chairman Glass explained that Resolution 2020-18 Budget Amendment was for the following purpose:

Sale of Drug Dog- Sheriff	\$ 7,000.00
Sale of Property- Public Works	\$ 179,600.00
Damaged Equip - Public Works	\$ 11,098.23
Damaged Vehicle –Sheriff	\$ 1,002.87
Damaged Vehicle –Sheriff	\$ 10,756.60
Damaged Property - Rec Dept	\$ 6,242.00

The total revenue budget amendment is \$215,699.70.

Commissioner Horton made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-18 Budget Amendment. Commissioner Heiney seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Resolution 2020-19 by XCELL Properties-Minor Subdivision-Grove Park

Vice-Chair Thrash asked about approving Resolution 2020-19 XCELL Properties-Minor Subdivision-Grove Park and if any special exceptions are addressed now. Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that she had broken up this project with the subdivision part of it and the rezoning part of it. She said that the subdivision portion of the project is taking the 13 plus acres and dividing it into the 6 parcels. Vice-Chair Thrash made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-19 XCELL Properties-Minor Subdivision-Grove Park. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. Chairman Glass stated that Resolution 2020-19 XCELL Properties-Minor Subdivision-Grove Park has a condition of 1600 square ft. minimum. Vice-Chair Thrash withdrew her motion approving Resolution 2020-19 XCELL Properties-Minor Subdivision-Grove Park. Vice-Chair Thrash asked Mr. Stringer if the Board of Commissioners approved the Resolution with the 1600 square ft. condition, would he agree to build 1600 square ft. homes. Mr. Stringer replied that he would sell the lots. Chairman Glass suggested that they modify the 1600 square ft. condition. Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that on final plats you can have a square ft. minimum. Commissioner Heiney said that he appreciated the arguments from the people that do not want to see the property rezoned but he does not think that some of the arguments are fair. He said that the curve and the traffic will not change the subdivision. Commissioner Heiney said that it is questionable whether or not the property value will go down as a result of the subdivision. He said that they would relocate the power line anyway so that is not a factor. He said that the streams and the lakes could be a problem and said that this is an area for concern but not the other arguments. Chairman Glass said that if they rezone this subdivision to R-3 it only affects this particular property. He said if another piece of property on Grove Street is zoned A-R it will stay A-R. Chairman Glass called for a motion to approve Resolution 2020-19 XCELL Properties-Minor Subdivision-Grove Park. Vice-Chair Thrash made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-19 XCELL Properties-Minor Subdivision-Grove Park changing the condition from 1600 square ft. to 1200 square ft. minimum. Planning and Community Development Director stated that this is the requirement in R-3 zoning. Chairman Glass suggested that they take out the 1600 square ft. condition. Vice-Chair Thrash began to amend her motion again and Planning and Community Development Director Buice stopped her and requested that they make the recommendation that the condition is 1200 square ft. minimum and stick-built only. Vice-Chair Thrash amended her motion to approve Resolution 2020-19 XCELL Properties-Minor Subdivision-Grove Park with the condition that the homes built on this property are stick-built only with a minimum square footage of 1200 square ft. Vice-Chair Thrash asked if they would also put in there about the soil and topography requirement. Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that these are all standard requirements. Vice-Chair Thrash said that he had already done these anyway. Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that they will do these before any building is started. Vice-Chair Thrash noted that all of this is included in permitting as well. Chairman Glass called for a motion from Vice-Chair Thrash to approve Resolution 2020-19 XCELL Properties-Minor Subdivision-Grove Park with the condition that the homes be stick-built with a minimum of 1200 square ft. Chairman Glass called for a second to the motion and

there being none called the motion dead. Vice-Chair Thrash said that she is not going to allow Mr. Stringer to have to go through this again. Vice-Chair Thrash withdrew her motion and made a motion to table this until next month's meeting when they could get some questions answered and some things straightened out. She said that she did not want for him to have to wait another year and said that this is ridiculous. Vice-Chair Thrash withdrew her motion and made a motion to table the approval of Resolution 2020-19 XCELL Properties-Minor Subdivision-Grove Park until next month's meeting. Commissioner Heiney seconded the motion.

Mr. Stringer said that he would withdraw his petition for the subdivision and said that he would leave Grove Park as is. Vice-Chair Thrash said that now they can have mobile homes. Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that this is why she separates the subdivision and the rezoning request because one can happen without the other. She said that Mr. Stringer had already submitted a minor subdivision plat, and this is what the first vote is for. She said that if it is not going to be rezoned to R-3 then this board can approve the subdivision plat and not approve the rezoning and it would stay in A-R. Planning and Community Development Director Buice asked Mr. Stringer if he would submit the subdivision application with the same layout. Mr. Stringer replied that he would be in her office tomorrow with a new subdivision plat for the Planning and Zoning board to approve. Planning and Community Development Director Buice asked if it would have the same lot lines. Mr. Stringer said that it would be identical. Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that if they are voting on an identical layout then why not approve it. Vice-Chair Thrash said that it does not satisfy the citizens that spoke in the meeting and who apparently think that people who rent or who live in smaller houses are beneath everybody. She said that she knew that they were afraid and understandably so. Vice-Chair Thrash said that none of them know if these houses are going to turn into rental houses. She said that what they do know is that people have built 900 square ft. rental houses on Grove Street and they have lived in them for 40 years. Vice-Chair Thrash said that they do know what is going to happen and said that she could not satisfy their concerns. Vice-Chair Thrash said that one of the hardest things that the board does is zoning. She said that they have to balance everything out and try to please everybody. Vice-Chair Thrash said that she is with them and she understood their concerns. She said that rental property historically can turn into places that you do not want to have next door to you. Vice-Chair Thrash said that she rents, and she takes care of her property but said that she knows that some people do not. She said that she does not see anything that they were suggesting that is going to satisfy their concerns. Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that the first vote is for the land to be divided into six smaller parcels. She said that dependent on their answer then the second part of the project, that comes up for a vote, is for the rezoning and what size homes should be on that property. Vice-Chair Thrash said that if they don't approve the R-3 rezoning proposal and they leave it zoned A-R then Mr. Stringer can present the exact same plat but will then have to build a minimum of 1400 square foot homes based on the A-R zoning. Planning and Community Development Director Buice addressed the board and said that if Mr. Stringer is going to present the exact same plat again, why not approve the subdivision proposal tonight, and when it comes to the rezoning proposal section on the agenda, the board can deny the rezoning and then by default you will have six parcels that are zoned A-R. Chairman Glass reiterated Planning and Community Development Director Buice and said that if they approve the plat submitted tonight the board can still deny the rezoning proposal and it will stay A-R zoned and Mr. Stringer can divide the six parcels and build 1400

minimum square ft. homes based on the A-R zoning. Mr. Stringer said that the real difference is that he will have to build 1400 minimum square ft. homes instead of 1200 square ft. homes.

Mr. Stringer requested to add to Chairman Glass's analysis. He said that this will not only increase the square footage, but it also requires the developer to form an HOA and then enforce the HOA dues which he would impose making even more stringent than what the ordinance provides. Chairman Glass said that if this is what the board approves then this would be totally up to him. He said that Mr. Stringer could still put in an HOA even it is rezoned R-3. Mr. Stringer said that the HOA board would consist of all the people in the audience who spoke tonight. He said if one neighbor steps out of line and brings in farm animals he will have to go before their HOA president and the board. Mr. Stringer said that he would prefer that the County govern the use of the property. He said that on something this small, the politics do not work that well because you are pitting neighbor against neighbor especially when you only have six neighbors in your association and four of them are board members. Vice-Chair Thrash said that you are not just considering those six neighbors but that you are also considering the other people who are present at the meeting as well. Vice-Chair Thrash said that the impact is not just on those six neighbors it is also impacting the others. Chairman Glass said that the HOA is up to Mr. Stringer.

Commissioner Horton said that he heard the constituents that spoke tonight and he heard that their main concern is that the property stay zoned A-R. Commissioner Traylor inquired about the Planning and Zoning Board's recommendation to put a condition on Resolution 2020-19 XCELL Properties-Minor Subdivision-Grove Park that the homes be a minimum of 1600 square feet. Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that this would be to rezone to R-3 with a 1600 square foot minimum per home. She said that it is the option of the board to rezone with any condition and said that it does not have to be 1600 square ft.

Mr. Stringer said that he wanted the board to govern and said he would accept the R-3 zoning and 1400 square foot minimum. Commissioner Heiney said he thought that this would be acceptable. Mrs. Ward said that they wanted to leave the zoning at A-R, and it is already a 1400 square ft. minimum. Mrs. Ward said that he can do exactly what he says he is going to do and build 1400 square foot homes in A-R zoning. Mrs. Ward said that their concern is setting a precedent. Mrs. Ward said that Mr. Stringer is saying that there are houses on Grove Street that are already zoned R-3. Mrs. Ward said that this is on the other end of Grove Street. Vice-Chair Thrash said that homes in the vicinity of the subdivision are zoned R-3 based on the map Mr. Stringer presented. Mrs. Ward said that those houses are grandfathered in and have been there for about 40 to 50 years. Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that the R-3 zoning in this area happened about three years ago. She said that she wanted the board to understand that if they approve the subdivision as an A-R subdivision it goes in direct conflict with what has just been proposed for A-R zoning. Commissioner Heiney pointed out that R-3 zoning is more restrictive, and Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that R-3 zoning is much more protective. Commissioner Heiney said that it is better for the neighborhood. Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that it is more restrictive for home businesses such as those that have workshops in their backyards, where they are doing taxidermy. Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that they can do this in A-R zoning but not in R-3 zoning. Mrs. Ward said that they are okay with this because it is A-R zoning. Mrs. Ward said that they are okay with the cows,

chickens, and the goats. Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that the problem that they have in code enforcement is that when you have a more permissive zoning district with small lots, the number of complaints is high. Mrs. Ward asked Planning and Community Development Director Buice if they do not change the zoning, does she they think that someone will have these types of animals. Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that she guaranteed that they would. Mrs. Ward said that if they do then they do not have a problem with it. Commissioner Heiney said that in a more restrictive zoning they could not do it and that is the purpose of the rezoning. Mrs. Ward said that the neighbors feel like they are catering to what it is that Mr. Stringer wants and said they need to think about what the rest of the community wants. Vice-Chair Thrash said that they had discussed that, and they are trying to have a happy medium so that everybody that is impacted is protected. She said that with the R-3 zoning it is more restrictive and keeps people from having to deal with issues like someone putting a cow in their yard in A-R zoning. She said that someone could put in ducks, or a pool with a pool house and then someone can live in that pool house. Mrs. Ward said that this is what they discussed earlier with the trucks and said that it is a rural area and if that is what they choose to do then they can because it is their property. Mrs. Ward said that the complaints may not be legitimate, but they are sincere. Vice-Chair Thrash said that they are already there, and they are already dealing with the traffic. Mrs. Ward said that she understands that, and it is zoned A-R and they will have to deal with this anyway. Mrs. Ward said that in A-R zoning, Mr. Stringer can build 1400 square foot homes. Vice-Chair Thrash said that this will not slow down the traffic. Mrs. Ward said that their concern is about changing the zoning. Vice-Chair Thrash said that their argument doesn't hold water because from a legal perspective, they already have the traffic, they already have the curve, and these things won't change even if Mr. Stringer builds a 1600 square foot home and said that she understood where Mrs. Ward was coming from.

Commissioner Traylor said that he understood the point that Mrs. Ward was trying to make is the fear of spot zoning. He said that if they zone one lot R-3 and then they request for another lot to be zoned R-3 and then another lot zoned R-3, then all of them become zoned R-3. Mrs. Ward said that she knows the growth is going to come but said it can come with it still being zoned A-R. Commissioner Heiney said that what Mrs. Ward is saying is that when people move into an area, that is zoned A-R, they expect it to stay A-R. He said that they move there and live that A-R life and then houses start becoming zoned R-3. Commissioner Heiney said that it is perception. Vice-Chair Thrash asked what the "R" stood for? Commissioner Heiney responded that it stood for residential. Commissioner Heiney said that if someone moves into an area and they specifically look for A-R zoning for a reason then Mrs. Ward has a legitimate concern. Mrs. Ward said that it has to do with the density. Commissioner Heiney said that Mr. Stringer pointed out that there are several R-3 zoned properties next to Mrs. Ward's property, so R-3 zoning is already there, and they are just adding six more houses. Mrs. Ward said that those six houses can be added in A-R zoning. Commissioner Heiney said that this is not good for them because it is less restrictive, and they can do things on the property that will annoy them. Mrs. Ward said that it would not bother her for them to be there and said that another one of her concerns is with the water runoff and the creek bed. Chairman Glass said that there are permitting restrictions that would protect this regardless of whether it is A-R or R-3 zoned. Vice-Chair Thrash agreed that there would be permitting restrictions. Mr. Dixon said that those 1200 square foot houses are not going to sell. Vice-Chair Thrash said that this is a moot point because Mr. Stringer has agreed to build 1400 square foot homes. Commissioner Heiney

said that if Mr. Stringer does not sell the homes then that is his problem and not the Board's. Commissioner Heiney said that Mr. Stringer is a businessman and he has built thousands and thousands of homes and he knows better than anyone if they will sell or not, otherwise, he would not waste his money on it. Commissioner Heiney asked Mrs. Ward why she supports A-R zoning versus R-3 zoning. Mrs. Ward said that it is already A-R zoned. Commissioner Heiney said that this is the same thing. Mrs. Ward said it was not. Commissioner Heiney asked Mrs. Ward why she supports A-R zoning with six homes, but she does not support R-3 zoning with six homes. Mrs. Ward said that it has to do with the density. Mrs. Ward said that they had to figure out where they are going to locate these properties between the creek beds and now it is down to just six properties. Mrs. Ward said that they still have a concern about the water. Vice-Chair Thrash said that this will be covered in the permitting and Mr. Stringer has already done the soil studies. She said that she asked Mr. Stringer about this in the hallway during the break. She said that there is only one lot that may have to be dealt with differently and then Mr. Stringer said he would let her know about the runoffs. Vice-Chair Thrash said that she already told Mr. Stringer that she wants to know about the runoffs. She said that whether you are A-R zoned or zoned R-3 they will still have to deal with these issues. Vice-Chair Thrash said that the point that Commissioner Heiney was trying to make is that if R-3 zoning is better for the neighbors then why was Mrs. Ward arguing that point.

Mrs. Benson, of 399 Grove Street, who was in the audience, said that the zoning doesn't bother her as much as the square footage does and the larger your house is the more likely you are to stay put. She said that with a 1200 square foot home you are going to have elderly people and they are only there for a few years. She said that if they are newlyweds, by the time, they have had their first kid they will be moving and there is going to be a high turnover rate. She said that all she wants is longevity and people that want to stay. Commissioner Heiney pointed out that Mrs. Stringer increased his proposal to a 1400 square ft. minimum. Mrs. Benson said that she was good with that.

Chairman Glass said that there was a motion from Vice-Chair Thrash to table the approval of Resolution 2020-19 XCELL Properties-Minor Subdivision-Grove Park. Vice-Chair Thrash withdrew her motion. Chairman Glass called for a motion for Resolution 2020-19 XCELL Properties-Minor Subdivision-Grove Park. Commissioner Traylor reminded everyone that the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning board was for a condition of 1600 square ft. minimum. Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that the recommendation was made because they first wanted it to be zoned to R-1 but she was not aware of the process of the Planning and Zoning board changing a zoning application during a Public Hearing. Vice-Chair Thrash said that Planning and Community Development Director Buice needs to make sure moving forward that they tell the Board of Commissioners why they are doing what they are doing and if this does not apply, then they should withdraw that special exception. Vice-Chair Thrash said that she does not want to go through this again. Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that the Board of Commissioners has the authority to change the zoning.

Vice-Chair Thrash made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-19 XCELL Properties-Minor Subdivision-Grove Park with the exception that the homes built on these properties will have a minimum of 1400 square ft. and that they are stick-built homes. Commissioner Heiney seconded the motion. Commissioner Traylor and Commissioner Horton opposed the motion.

Chairman Glass cast the deciding vote and voted to approve the motion. The motion passed 3-2.

VI. Second Reading Ordinance 2020-06 Sec 82 Route of Travel Through Trucks

Chairman Glass explained that there are five roads on the list for the Sec 82 Route of Travel Through Trucks; Burnette Road, Grove Street, Cannafax Road, Williams Road, and Berry Road. Planning and Community Development Director Buice stated that Grove Street was included on this list and said that the Department of Public Safety tickets the trucks that violate this rule. She said that if the truck is not going to a particular property on that road, such as Grove Street, then they can now get a ticket. Commissioner Heiney asked if they could drop the speed limit from the 45-speed limit maximum. County Attorney Mayfield said that they would have to ask the Sheriff's Office if the State will allow them to run radar on the road.

Commissioner Horton made a motion to approve the Second reading of Ordinance 2020-06 Sec 82 Route of Travel Through Trucks. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. First Reading 2020-07 Zoning Ordinance

Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that everything was covered in the Public Hearing meeting and requested that the board set up town hall meetings in their districts in October. She said that the first reader for the Zoning Ordinance will be on the County website for review. Chairman Glass called for a motion for the First Reading 2020-07 Zoning Ordinance. Vice-Chair Thrash made a motion to approve the First Reading 2020-07 Zoning Ordinance. Commissioner Heiney seconded the motion. Vice-Chair Thrash asked if the First and Second Reading has to be month to month because her concern was that they get public input. County Attorney Mayfield said that they do not have to be approved month to month. Chairman Glass said that the goal is to make the Zoning Ordinance effective on January 1st, 2021 but said that it does not have to be approved by January 1st, 2021. Vice-Chair Thrash said that she is concerned that between now and next month that they do not have time to have a town hall meeting or to get with people to discuss it. Commissioner Heiney said that people may also be preoccupied with the election. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. First Reading 2020-08 Development Regulations

Chairman Glass said that the First Reading of 2020-08 Development Regulations is the same procedure as the First Reading 2020-07 Zoning Ordinance. He said that there will be time for questions and public input before the Second readings. Commissioner Heiney made a motion to approve the First Reading of 2020-08 Development Regulations. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Ordinance 2020-09 Rezoning by XCELL Properties

Commissioner Horton made a motion for Ordinance 2020-09 Rezoning by XCELL Properties to remain A-R zoned. Chairman Glass asked Commissioner Horton if he was requesting that they not approve the Ordinance 2020-09 Rezoning by XCELL Properties. Commissioner Horton made a motion to deny Ordinance 2020-09 Rezoning by XCELL Properties.

Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. Commissioner Heiney requested that they explain to him how this makes things better for the residents. Commissioner Traylor said that this is because the current properties, in that area, are A-R zoned. He said that for future boards this same conversation can be made about other properties and they can use this board's arguments for future case studies. He said that they are already going to make the stipulation as if it was R-3 zoned and they are already going to do what that they would need to as if it was R-3 zoned versus A-R zoned so there is really no need to change it. Commissioner Heiney asked if Commissioner Traylor is denying the fact that a more restrictive zoning benefits the people in Grove Park subdivision. Commissioner Traylor replied that it could. Commissioner Heiney asked how more restrictive zoning makes things worse for the people that live adjacent to it. Commissioner Traylor said it would not but said that they had just listened to the people that live in this area on Grove Street about why they should have more government. Commissioner Heiney replied that the purpose of zoning is to protect the people and the property owners and the people who want to use it. He said that in this case, a more restrictive zoning is actually more favorable. Commissioner Heiney said a more restrictive zoning benefits you because it restricts them from how they can use their property. Commissioner Horton said that he listened to the constituents and under A-R zoning they are keeping it agricultural, but they can still build 1400 square ft. houses, but they will be more satisfied. He said that they also heard that if it remains zoned A-R then someone who buys one of the six houses may want to have a cow or a horse. Commissioner Horton said that this is what they want and said that is why he made his motion. Commissioner Heiney said that if they leave it zoned A-R and someone has a few cows on their property, what if that starts to run off in the creek. Mr. Dixon said that cow manure does not affect human beings. He said that human feces are bacteria and that is what effects the human body. He said that cow and chicken manure come from animals. He said that wildlife drinks manure. Mr. Dixon said that wildlife feeds in those creeks. Mr. Dixon said that with the amount of water that comes into those creek beds there is going to be an overflow. Commissioner Heiney asked if he is okay with animals on someone's property. Mr. Dixon said that animals do not bother him. Mr. Dixon said that he is okay with this.

Planning and Community Development Director Buice addressed the concerns with the creeks. She said that she wanted everyone to understand that if it remains zoned A-R then you have the possibility of having two septic tanks per lot where if it was zoned R-3 there would only be one septic tank requirement. Mr. Dixon asked if there was a buffer. Planning and Community Development Director Buice responded that there is a buffer requirement of 20 ft. Mrs. Benson asked why there could be two septic tanks. Planning and Community Development Director Buice responded that because in A-R zoning you are allowed to have a guest house with no restrictions about how long someone can stay there and the Health Department requires a separate septic tank for each home. Mrs. Ward said that she understood that they could have guest houses if it remains zoned A-R. Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that this is correct, and they can be rented out to anyone.

Commissioner Heiney asked if a house in A-R zoning could be converted into a Bed and Breakfast (B&B). Planning and Community Development Director Buice said that in A-R zoning it is allowable to have an Air B&B.

Mr. Stringer said that if he sells a house to Mrs. Jones, he did not realize he could tell them that the house is special because they can build a rental house behind their new house for extra

income. Mr. Stringer said that if he can do that in A-R zoning he said that he would rather keep it zoned A-R. Mrs. Ward asked if two houses could be built on one lot. Vice-Chair Thrash responded that a guest house and a house can be built on the one lot. Commissioner Heiney said that this was not helping and said that what they are trying to convey is that it is better to have a more restrictive type zoning. He said that it protects the people living in the area. He said that it is not like they are looking for something radically different because it is already there. He said that if it is zoned A-R then it will potentially be more of a problem for each of them.

Chairman Glass called for a motion to deny the rezoning.

Ashley Giles of 425 Abbott Road addressed the board and asked Commissioner Heiney why he is wanting more restrictive zoning when he is a Commissioner who stays on point about loosening the restrictions. Commissioner Heiney replied that more restrictive zoning protects them. He said that they are not being restricted but it is the people that move in that will have more restrictive zoning and a certain level of restrictions about what they can do with their property. Commissioner Heiney said that if they are concerned about the density of the population in that area, under A-R zoning you can have two homes on each lot. He said that you can have a guest house and a rental house.

Chairman Glass called for a motion to deny the rezoning request. He repeated that Commissioner Horton made a motion to deny Ordinance 2020-09 Rezoning by XCELL Properties. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. Commissioner Heiney abstained from the vote. The motion passed 3-0 with one vote abstained. Chairman Glass said that the property remains zoned A-R.

X. Ordinance 2020-10 Rezoning by Thomas Lamb and Keri Thompson

Commissioner Traylor made a motion to table Ordinance 2020-10 Rezoning by Thomas Lamb and Keri Thompson to gather more information and to have further discussion with the Planning and Zoning board. Commissioner Heiney seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

XI. 2020 Voting Delegate Designation

Commissioner Heiney made a motion to approve Vice-Chair Thrash as the 2020 Voting Delegate Designation. Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

XII. Quote from Michael's Asphalt for the Repair and Resurfacing of Old Alabama Road

Chairman Glass explained that they had received a quote from Michael's Asphalt for \$17,000.00 for the repair and resurfacing of Old Alabama Road. Vice-Chair Thrash explained that this is for the pipe that was broken during the recent big rains. Chairman Glass reported that the funds will come from the Special Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST). Vice-Chair Thrash made a motion to approve the quote from Michael's Asphalt for the repair and

resurfacing of Old Alabama Road for a cost of \$17,000.00. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

XIII. Quote for Sheriff's Vehicle-SPLOST

Chairman Glass explained that the Sheriff's Office had received a quote from Jeff Smith Dodge Jeep for \$26,317.00 for a Sheriff's car that will come out of SPLOST funds. Commissioner Traylor made a motion to accept the quote from Jeff Smith Dodge for \$26,317.00. Vice-Chair Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

XIV. Recognition & Compensation of County Administrator

Chairman Glass explained that County Administrator Townsend, absent for the meeting, had over the last 18 months been the County Administrator. He said that he had recently completed the Public Manager training from the Carl Vinson Institute of Government. Chairman Glass explained that County Administrator Townsend is now a Certified Public Manager and the board wanted to give him some recognition. Chairman Glass reported that he was home due to having COVID-19. Chairman Glass said that the board also wanted to consider his compensation based on receiving the certificate. Chairman Glass stated that they would discuss this in executive session and vote on this after the meeting.

XV. Administrator's Report

In the absence of County Administrator Townsend, Chairman Glass reported that they are doing well on the Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) and they are hoping that no more draws will have to be taken this year. He said that they waited until the end of May to take the first draw for 2020. Chairman Glass said that hopefully the last draw was taken at the end of August and said that this is definite progress. He said that the cash flow is still positive and is much better than in previous years.

XVI. Public Comments

Thomas Lamb asked why their request had been delayed. Chairman Glass explained that this was so that they could gather some more information from the Planning and Zoning board. He said that the rationale that came from the Planning and Zoning Board was that they denied the request because they were not able to be at the meeting. Chairman Glass stated that he would speak to them after the meeting. Mr. Lamb said that he would like to get this project started. Commissioner Traylor said that he would speak to them after the meeting.

XVII. Round Table

Commissioner Horton gave a shout out to Boy Scouts Troup # 38 because they helped him with the sound system for a recent event. He thanked all of them because they came to his rescue. He said that this is what the Good Lord intended. He wants everyone to help each other. Commissioner Horton said that they and one of the dads, who is their Scout Master, helped with the speakers.

Commissioner Traylor thanked all the people that came out to participate in the process of local government. He said that sometimes you do not get it exactly as you want it but that is the reason that it is local government and not State or Federal government. He said that is why they are able to hear the voices, be close to the people, and be a part of the neighborhood that they encounter. Commissioner Traylor said that he had spoken to one of the members on the Planning and Zoning board and he had mentioned how their meeting went well. Commissioner Traylor said that the Planning and Zoning board member wants to make people understand that there is an importance with this process. He said that their voices and recommendations are important even if their concerns are not the same as the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Traylor said that he appreciates the work they do and said that the process is in place to help protect the community. He said that it may seem harsh and not what you would like to happen, but this is the beauty of local government and what they try to do.

Vice-Chair Thrash said that she appreciates what the Planning and Zoning board does and said that the communication is so much better since Planning and Community Development Director Buice has been on board. Vice-Chair Thrash also said that they need to make sure that nothing like this happens again and they are caught in the middle. Vice-Chair Thrash reported that they were successful on the Federal level and Congress did not act on increasing truck weights and lengths. She said that they dodged the bullet one more time. She said that it was a lot of work, but we were able to defeat it again.

Chairman Glass thanked everyone for coming and reminded everyone to complete the Census. He said that they still have until September 30th, 2020. He said that if you have not completed it you will probably get someone knocking on your door. He said that you can still complete it online.

XVI. Executive Session and Adjournment

Commissioner Horton made a motion to adjourn the Regular Business meeting at 8:55 p.m. to go into executive session. Vice-Chair Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The board came out of executive session. Vice-Chair Thrash made a motion to reconvene the Regular Business meeting and Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Traylor made a motion to increase the salary of the County Administrator by 6.54 percent which is an increase of \$5,000.00 per year. Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Horton made a motion to adjourn the Regular Business meeting at approximately 9:06 p.m. Vice-Chair Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

THE LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Charles Glass, Chairman

Nancy Thrash, Vice-Chair

Bennie Horton, Commissioner

Robert Heiney, Commissioner

Ryran Traylor, Commissioner

Attest: _____ Carlette Davidson, County Clerk