



STATE OF TEXAS 0
 COUNTY OF HAYS 0

ON THIS THE 16th DAY OF MAY A.D., 2002, THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF HAYS COUNTY, TEXAS, MET IN SPECIAL EMERGENCY MEETING. THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT, TO-WIT:

JAMES L. POWERS	COUNTY JUDGE
DEBBIE GONZALES INGALSBE	COMMISSIONER, PCT. 1
H. S. "SUSIE" CARTER	COMMISSIONER, PCT. 2
WILLIAM "BILL" BURNETT	COMMISSIONER, PCT. 3
RUSS G. MOLENAAR	COMMISSIONER, PCT. 4
LINDA C. FRITSCH	DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK

This special emergency meeting was held pursuant to Section 551.045, Texas Government Code. An emergency relating to public health and safety exists due to recently received air quality testing results at the Hays County Justice Center.

20279 PRESENTATION FROM STAFF ON AIR QUALITY TESTING IN THE JUSTICE CENTER AND ACTION RELATING TO FACILITIES, COURT SCHEDULING, AND PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS

Environmental Health Director Allen Walther advised that information had been received regarding testing at the Justice Center. This information needs to be made available to the public. Testing was done by two companies and a claim has been submitted to the insurance company (who also hired a company to do additional testing). It was discovered that the Justice Center has a super saturation of water in the building. The Texas Dept. of Health made air quality tests with negative results, however, additional testing was done and it was determined that we do have mold growth in the building due to the super saturation of water. Some of the obtained samples they did not find sources for. They did not do any invasive testing into the walls. There was no black mold (stachybotrys) but they did find other commonly occurring molds in the air – high concentration of these molds were found. Allen Walther recommended that the building be vacated as soon as possible and conduct invasive testing to determine the extent of contamination and see what can be done – he recommended hepa filters in the interim. These filters would not get rid of the mold, but will improve the air quality by removing them from the air. He spoke of questionnaires that were given to employees at the justice center and some interviews were had – the most common complaint was headaches. Our insurance claim requires more invasive testing of the building. He spoke of having met with dept heads/elected officials at the justice center and advised them of the situation and they will be consulted to determine office needs. It is critical that we move forward as quickly as possible. He spoke of need to keep all these offices in close proximity. It will be a monumental task to move computer services - we may be able to isolate computer systems in the building and still do the necessary invasive testing in other parts of the building. Staff needs to evaluate what facilities are available and bring back options to the court. Commissioner Carter spoke of exclusions in the county's insurance policy. Commissioner Molenaar spoke of moving forward on the proposed county facility to be built at the old hospital property. A motion was made by Commissioner Ingalsbe, seconded by Commissioner Molenaar to authorize Environmental Health Director Allen Walther, Judge Powers, and Commissioner Pct. 1 Debbie Ingalsbe to look into options available for relocating offices at the Justice Center. All voting "Aye". A motion was made by Commissioner Burnett, seconded by Commissioner Molenaar to give Allen Walther, Judge Powers, and Commissioner Ingalsbe the authority in court scheduling and personnel assignment at the Justice Center. All voting "Aye".

20280 AUTHORIZE FUNDING FOR ADDITIONAL TESTING AND INTERIM AIR FILTERS IN THE JUSTICE CENTER

Environmental Health Director Allen Walther spoke of need for additional air testing and plumbing testing at the Justice Center – more invasive testing is required. He asked for authorization to expend funds from contingencies not-to-exceed \$20,000 to fund additional air and plumbing testing and to purchase hepa filters (12+). A motion was made by Commissioner Molenaar, seconded by Judge Powers to authorize expenditures from contingency funds – not to exceed \$20,000 – to fund additional air quality testing and plumbing testing; and to purchase interim hepa air filters in the Justice Center. All voting "Aye".

Commissioner Molenaar spoke of need for a press release so that the public can be properly informed of the situation. Discussion was had regarding placement of portable buildings at the old hospital property or the civic center property. Allen Walther spoke of cleaning of records and equipment coming out of the justice center.

Court was adjourned.

MINUTES APPROVED IN OPEN COURT ON THE 21ST DAY OF MAY, 2002.

JAMES L. POWERS, COUNTY JUDGE
 H A Y S COUNTY, TEXAS

LEE CARLISLE, COUNTY CLERK
 H A Y S COUNTY, TEXAS

