

AGENDA ITEM 23

Discuss and take appropriate action on the administration of the HUD Community Development Block Grant.

Commissioner Boatright addressed the Court regarding the administration of the HUD Community Development Block Grant, which HUD requires to be a function of the County government. Julie Kiley addressed the Court on the issue of grant-funded employees.

Moved: **Commissioner Boatright**

Seconded: **Commissioner Hays**

Motion: To create a position in the County Auditor's Office for a person who will oversee the HUD Community Development Block Grant and receive a salary, drawn from the grant, in an amount to be determined by the Court at a future date.

Vote: 3 – 2. **Commissioner Curlee** and **Commissioner Limmer** were opposed stating that grant funds are temporary, but such a position would be permanent.

AGENDA ITEM 24

Consider appointing a committee for hiring Public Information Officer.

The committee was described as being six people: **Commissioner Boatright**, County Tax Assessor Deborah Hunt, County Clerk Nancy Rister, County Attorney Gene Taylor, Sheriff Jim Wilson, and EMS Director John Sneed, or a person appointed to represent said officials.

AGENDA ITEM 25

Discuss and take appropriate action on the \$15 Family Protection Fee.

Kathy Wierzowiecki with the County Auditor's office and Theresa Leftwich, the executive director of the Williamson County Crisis Center addressed the Court on this issue.

Moved: **Judge Doerfler**

Seconded: **Commissioner Hays**

Motion: To approve the collection of the \$15 Family Protection Fee with no distribution of said funds, which will be held in escrow pending an opinion by the Texas Attorney General on the question of the legality of the law that authorized the fee [Tex. Gov't Code Ann. Section 51.961 (Vernon Supp. 2004)] vs. the Texas Constitution [Article 1, Section 13 (Open Courts provision)] as raised in the January 14, 2004, brief by the Harris County Attorney's office.

Vote: 3 – 2. **Commissioner Curlee** and **Commissioner Limmer** were opposed stating that pending litigation could cause an expensive return process of collected funds.

< Attachment >