

HARRIS COUNTY BAIL BOND BOARD MEETING MINUTES - December 11, 2018

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1001 Preston Street, 9th Floor

December 11, 2018

1:30 p.m.

HARRIS COUNTY BAIL BOND BOARD MEETING MINUTES - December 11, 2018

A P P E A R A N C E S

1
2 Mike Fields, Chairman

3 Glenn Strickland, Vice Chairman

4 Michael Butera, designee for District Attorney Kim Ogg

5 Bill Henderson, Commissioners Court,

6 designee for Honorable Ed Emmett

7 Honorable Garcia, designee for

8 Honorable J. Elaine Marshall

9 Orlando Sanchez, County Treasurer

10 Honorable Esmeralda Pena Garcia,

11 designee for Honorable J. Elaine Marshall

12 Captain Curtis Ruggles, designee for Sheriff Ed Gonzalez

13 Sergeant Sisto DeLeon, Harris County Sheriff's Office

14 Deputy Gregory Cox, Harris County Sheriff's Office

15 Leslie Rubio, Recorder, Harris County Sheriff's Office

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(All witnesses previously sworn.)

CHAIRMAN FIELDS: It is 1:30. We are going to begin this last and final Harris County Bail Bond Board meeting for the year 2018.

We have in attendance representatives from the Sheriff's Office, the County Attorney's Office, the municipal judge's office, the District Attorney's Office, the county courts at law and the Bail Bond Board representative. And we in addition, have a representative from the County Treasurer's Office, specifically the County Treasurer. With that --

MR. SANCHEZ: Soon to be former.

CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Aren't we all; aren't we all?

MR. HENDERSON: And Judge, it's -- I represent the Commissioner's Court.

CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Commissioner's Court. My apologizes, Judge.

MR. HENDERSON: That's okay.

CHAIRMAN FIELDS: And so we have everyone here. We have a quorum. Let's dig in.

The first item of business is a reading of the prior minutes.

MR. STRICKLAND: Motion.

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1 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Is there a second?

2 MR. BUTERA: Second.

3 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: All those in favor,
4 please signify by saying aye to approve.

5 THE BOARD: Aye.

6 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Opposed by the same sign.
7 Motion carries. Minutes are approved.

8 First item of old business is a request
9 for renewal of license.

10 Mr. Trevino, are you here, sir?

11 MR. TREVINO: Sure.

12 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: He has been previously
13 sworn.

14 (Witness previously sworn.)

15 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Are there any issues from
16 either the Sheriff's Office or the DA Office?

17 CAPTAIN RUGGLES: No, sir.

18 MR. BUTERA: None from the DA's Office.

19 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Is there a motion to
20 approve?

21 MR. STRICKLAND: Motion.

22 MR. BUTERA: Second.

23 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: All those in favor,
24 please signify by saying aye.

25 THE BOARD: Aye.

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1 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Opposed by the same sign.
2 Motion carries. Thank you, sir.

3 MR. TREVINO: Thank you.

4 (Witness previously sworn.)

5 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Next item of business is
6 a request by Financial Casualty & Surety to release a CD
7 No. 102711, \$50,000 deposited with Harris County for
8 Joseph Valdes doing business as Eastex Bail Bonds,
9 License No. 74467.

10 JP letter have had enough time to be out.
11 Are there any issues from either the Sheriff's Office or
12 the State?

13 CAPTAIN RUGGLES: No, sir.

14 MR. BUTERA: Nothing from the State, Judge.

15 MR. STRICKLAND: Motion.

16 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: And second?

17 MR. BUTERA: Second.

18 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: All those in favor,
19 please signify by saying aye.

20 THE BOARD: Aye.

21 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Opposed by the sane sign.
22 Motion carries. Thank you, sir.

23 And that witness has been previously
24 sworn.

25 Item No. 3, request made by Accredited Surety

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1 and Casualty, Agent Anthony Muharib doing business as
2 Online Bonding, License No. 74588 to add the following
3 two addresses and phone numbers.

4 Mr. Muharib is an attorney and it's my
5 tradition, I do not swear attorneys. I take them at
6 their oath that they will be truthful to this tribunal.

7 Mr. Muharib, these telephone numbers,
8 have they been used for any purpose?

9 Well, is just a -- moving the address

10 MR. STRICKLAND: But it is the phone.

11 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: He is adding phone
12 numbers. Have they been used for any other bonding
13 office?

14 MR. MUHARIB: They have not.

15 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: All right. Any
16 opposition or any motion?

17 MR. STRICKLAND: Motion.

18 HONORABLE GARCIA: Second.

19 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: All those in favor,
20 please signify by saying aye.

21 THE BOARD: Aye.

22 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Any opposed by the same
23 sign? Motion carries. Thank you, sir.

24 MR. MUHARIB: Thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: We are on to new

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1 business. First item of new business -- these are all
2 renewals of licenses.

3 It was my suggestion and I'm going to --
4 I'm going to honor the wishes of my
5 colleague, Glenn Strickland, to just go through all of
6 these at one time -- unless there was some issues on one
7 of them.

8 Do you have any issues on any of these?
9 CAPTAIN RUGGLES: Sheriff Department does
10 not, sir.

11 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: And does the State have
12 any issues?

13 MR. BUTERA: Through -- 1 through 4, we do
14 not, Judge.

15 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Is there a motion?

16 MR. STRICKLAND: Motion.

17 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: On 1 through 4, is there
18 a second?

19 MR. SANCHEZ: Second.

20 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: All those in favor,
21 please signify by saying aye.

22 THE BOARD: Aye.

23 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Opposed by the same sign.

24 Motions on 1 through 4 carried, 1 through
25 4 are granted. Thank you, everyone.

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1 The next item of business is by
2 Ms. Irene M. Villarreal doing business as 3 Amigos Bail
3 Bonding, License No. 74409 to release pledged property
4 at 6944 Navigation Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77012 and
5 replace it with property 1302 Munger Street, Houston,
6 Texas 77023.

7 I think the Board comes out ahead on this
8 one. Is there a motion?

9 MR. SANCHEZ: I'll make a motion.

10 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Is there a second?

11 MR. STRICKLAND: Second.

12 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: All those in favor,
13 please signify by saying aye.

14 THE BOARD: Aye.

15 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Opposed by the same sign.
16 Motion carries.

17 Item No. 6 will be tabled for the
18 JP letters to have time to matriculate. That will be
19 tabled until July.

20 We have some good news and some bad news.
21 The good news is that Glenn Strickland has been
22 re-elected to the Board. Congratulations, Glenn
23 Strickland. (Applause.)

24 And the other good news --

25 MR. SANCHEZ: Somebody had won an election.

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1 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: I know. I'm glad someone
2 won an election. It wasn't me and Orlando.

3 The bad news, of course, is that -- I'm
4 sorry -- is that we're gone, at least it's bad news for
5 us.

6 Another piece of good news is
7 Troy McKinney is coming back. That's a whole lot of
8 brain power in one place. So we got Glenn and Troy.

9 I do not have any say in this next thing
10 that I'm going to say whatsoever. It's just me opining.

11 There will be a lot of new people on this
12 Board starting in January to include the District Clerk,
13 new representatives, new treasurer, new everyone, new
14 Commissioners Court representative. My suggestion for
15 purposes of maintaining institutional knowledge is that
16 Mr. Strickland be nominated and approved as Chair.

17 Obviously, the Board can do what it
18 wants. But this is the largest bail bond board that I
19 know of, certainly in this state and anyplace else. The
20 business that is done here is serious and it involves
21 million of dollars. And you need somebody like Glenn
22 who is serious about this and who has promised me that
23 he will keep the meetings to no longer than 15 minutes.
24 He didn't make that promise; but now, I've put him out
25 there, he's got no choice.

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1 So that would be my suggestion. I hope
2 that you all will do well without us. It has been a
3 pleasure to serve this Board. I told Glenn before we
4 got started there are two things that I really love to
5 do. I love veterans court, you know, for obvious
6 reasons and I love coming here because I appreciate what
7 you all do for this county.

8 I think the face of bail bonding is going
9 to change in the next few years and that bail bondmen
10 will have to adjust and do other things to make the same
11 level of income. But the work that you all have done
12 for the citizens of Harris County, no one else, you
13 know. You keep us safe. You make sure that people get
14 to court. You make sure that they're not doing crazy
15 stuff before they get there. When they are, you let us
16 know immediately and that is greatly appreciated. So
17 thank you all for your service. And with that ...

18 MR. STRICKLAND: Since we are concluding
19 and we're going to change the Board ...

20 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Yes, sir.

21 MR. STRICKLAND: I would like to thank
22 Judge, Orlando and Bill for your service sitting on the
23 Board. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

24 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Now -- and you know, I'd
25 like to do the same. Orlando and I are friends. We're

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1 going to see a lot of each other. Bill and I have known
2 one another a very long-time and I cut my teeth in his
3 court. He helped mentor me and bring me up when I was a
4 young lawyer. And so I'm going to hate to see both of
5 you guys doing something different.

6 MR. HENDERSON: A long time ago.

7 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: Yeah, that was a long
8 time ago, Brother. We -- I had some hair, and you had
9 black hair. And with that ...

10 MR. STRICKLAND: Motion.

11 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: We are -- we have a
12 motion to adjourn.

13 MR. HENDERSON: Second.

14 CHAIRMAN FIELDS: We are adjourned. Thank
15 you, everyone.

16 (Meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.)
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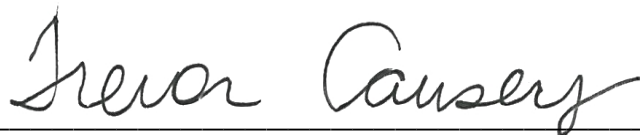
1 STATE OF TEXAS)

2 COUNTY OF HARRIS)

3
4 I, Trevor Causey, do hereby certify that the
5 facts as stated by me in the caption hereto are true;
6 that the above and foregoing transcript of the
7 proceedings was taken in stenograph, reduced to
8 typewriting under my direction, and is a full, true and
9 correct transcript of the proceedings.

10 I further certify that I am not, in any
11 capacity, a regular employee of the party in whose
12 behalf this transcript was taken, nor in the regular
13 employee of any attorney; and I certify that I am not
14 interested in the cause, nor of kin or counsel to any of
15 the parties.

16 GIVEN UNDER MY HAND, on this, the 12th day of
17 February, 2019.

18 

19 Trevor Causey
20 Notary Public in and for
The State of Texas
My Commission expires 5/24/2021

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22 Firm Registration No. 62
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