

MINUTES
**Montgomery County Bail Bond
Board**
Darin Bailey
Presiding Officer

Wednesday, October 20, 2021

THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY BAIL BOND BOARD CONVENED AT 12:00 NOON ON THE DATE LISTED AT THE TOP OF THIS AGENDA, IN THE ALAN B. SADLER COMMISSIONER'S COURT BUILDING, 501 N. THOMPSON, 4TH FLOOR, CONROE, TX 77301.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At any time during the meeting the Board may announce it will go into closed session pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code to receive advice from legal counsel or for any other lawful matters that are specifically related to items listed on this agenda. Prior to any such closed session the Presiding Officer, in open session, will identify the agenda item to be discussed and the section or sections of Chapter 551 under which the closed discussion is authorized.

I. CALL TO ORDER TIME: 12:00

II. ROLL CALL

Board members present: Lt. Jeremiah Richards, designee for Sheriff Rand Henderson, Melanie Mush, County Treasurer, Melisa Miller, District Clerk, Alexis van de Ven Seda, Surety Representative, Darin Bailey, designee for Mark Turnbull, County Clerk, Colleen Rice, designee for Judge Claudia Laird, County Court at Law # 2, Representative for County Courts and Judges, Jamie Meinkowsky, designee for Judge Mark Keough, County Judge, Vanessa Windham, designee for Brett Ligon, District Attorney, Paul Damico, designee for Judge Phil Grant, 9th District Court, representative for District Courts and Judges.

Board members not present: Judge Wayne Mack, Justice of the Peace, Pct., 1, representative for Justice Courts and Judges, Judge Michael Davis, Conroe, Municipal Court, Amanda Webb, Defense Attorney Representative.

Non Board members present: John McKinney, Asst. County Attorney, Legal Counsel to the Bail Bond Board, Jan Avery, Bail Bond Board Administrator.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

(Note: Public must sign registration prior to the start of meeting in order to address the Board. Comments are limited to 3 minutes per speaker.)

No public comments

IV. MINUTES

A. Approve the minutes for the meeting September 15, 2021.

Alexis van de Ven Seda moved to approve the minutes as written for the September 15, 2021 meeting, Melisa Miller seconded. Melanie Bush, Lt. Jeremiah Richards and Colleen Rice abstained. All other Board members approved, the motion passed.

V. TREASURER

A. Consider, discuss and take action on the Treasurer's Report.

Jamie Meinkowsky moved to approve the Treasurer's report as presented, Vanessa Windham seconded, and all Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

VI. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A. Review funds received for the month of September 2021. Report attached.

Jan Avery stated the funds received for the month of September was \$1,000.00, for one new license application and one renewal application, both are on the agenda.

B. Consider:

1. Updated list of Licensed Surety companies for posting, October 08, 2021 posting date.
2. License Expiration Report – updated 09/30/2021.

VII. PRESIDING OFFICER

A. Hearing on license application: Steve Cruz, agent for The North River Insurance Company dba Amigo's Bail Bonds.

Swear in Steve Cruz and the representative from The North River Insurance Company and proceed to a)

Darin Bailey swore in Steve Cruz agent and Mike Padilla representative for U.S. Fire Insurance.

- a) Conduct hearing on the license application for Steve Cruz, agent for The North River Insurance Company, dba Amigo's Bail Bonds.

Jan Avery stated that all the documents appeared to be in the packet and complete.

Darin asked Mr. Cruz if he was currently licensed in Harris County, he stated he was and has been since 2010. Darin also stated that his application showed he had no employees, he said that was correct, at this time he did not. She mentioned that if/when he does get any employees to make sure he adheres to our Local Rules for employees. There were no other questions.

- b) 1704.159 – Enter an order on action taken on the license application of Steve Cruz, agent for The North River Insurance Company dba Amigo's Bail Bonds.

Alexis van de Ven Seda moved to approve the license, Melanie Bush seconded. All Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

B. Hearing on license renewal application: Jerry Steven Sondag, dba AAAA Discount Bail Bonds, License 0022.

Swear in Jerry Steven Sondag and proceed to a)

Darin Bailey swore in Jerry Steven Sondag.

- a) Conduct hearing on the license renewal application of Jerry Steven Sondag, dba AAAA Discount Bail Bonds, License 0022.

Jan Avery stated that all documents appeared to be in the packet and complete. She also stated that Steve was not able to take a continuing education class until October 08, 2021, the receipt for registration was provided in the application packet, and upon completion the certificate was immediately provided.

Darin Bailey stated to Mr. Sondag that in accordance with the new rules that are in effect, without the Certificate of completion the application was not complete and technically should not have been accepted. He stated he would make sure in the future that he would take the continuing education class well before needed. Alexis confirmed that it was not easy since Covid as the PBT only offered 4 classes a year and confirmed that no one else provided them.

Darin Bailey said he had also stated on his application that there was no current litigation but she found there was \$300.00 owed on a case # 21-06-08602. Steve stated that he was not aware of that, and asked who the defendant was. Darin and Alexis proceeded to look up the case and stated it was Richard Eugene

Clark, and Steve stated that he had not been noticed on it. He would check on it after the meeting and take care of it.

- b) 1704.159 – Enter an order on action taken on the license renewal application of Jerry Steven Sondag, dba AAAA Discount Bail Bonds, License 0022.

Melissa Miller moved to approve the license renewal, Alexis van de Ven Seda seconded. All were in favor, the motion passed.

C. HEARING – DISCRETIONARY LICENSE SUSPENSION –

- A) Consider, discuss, and take action on the complaint filed by Georgette Whatley on July 07, 2021 against Derrick Dixon, agent for Lexington National Insurance Company.

This was set for hearing by the Board at the September 15, 2021 meeting to be held immediately following the regular meeting on October 20, 2021. Lexington National Insurance Co voluntarily surrendered License 0099 for their agent Derrick Dixon which was effective October 1, 2021. It is legal counsel's suggestion to the Board to dismiss the claim and no further action be taken by the Board at this time.

Melanie Bush stated the Sub Committee had referred this to who it needed to be referred to and the Subcommittee agreed with legal counsel's suggestion that the Board dismiss the claim.

Melisa Miller moved to dismiss the claim, Jamie Meinkowsky seconded. All Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

VIII ADJOURN

Alexis van de Ven Seda moved to adjourn, Melisa Miller seconded. All Board members were in favor, the meeting adjourned at 12:10p.m.

The Agenda is on this bulletin board and may be obtained in the County Clerk's office on the 1st floor of the Court's building at 210 West Davis, Conroe, TX 77301 and in the Commissioner's Courtroom on the day of the meeting.