

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

Thursday, February 25, 2021

THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY BAIL BOND BOARD CONVENES AT 12:03P.M.ON THE DATE LISTED AT THE TOP OF THIS AGENDA, IN THE ALAN B. SADLER COMMISSIONER'S COURT BUILDING, 501 N. THOMPSON, 4<sup>TH</sup> 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: 12:03P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Board members present: Melisa Miller, District Clerk, Melanie Bush, County Treasurer, Alexis van de Ven Seda, Surety Representative, Darin Bailey, Presiding Officer and Designee for Mark Turnbull, County Clerk, Judge Wayne Mack, Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1, representative for Justice Courts and Judges, Paul Damico, Designee for Judge Phil Grant, 9<sup>th</sup> District Court, representative for District Courts and Judges, Jamie Meinkowsky, Designee for Judge Mark Keough, County Judge, Vanessa Windham, Designee for Brett Ligon, District Attorney, Amanda Webb, Defense Attorney Representative.

Board members not present: Judge Claudia Laird, CCL#2, Representative for County Courts and Judges, Judge Michael Davis, Conroe Municipal Court, Lt. Jeremiah Richards, Designee for Sheriff Rand Henderson.

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 one was signed up for public comment.

#### IV. MINUTES

- A. Approve the minutes for the meeting January 21, 2021.

Melanie Bush moved to approve the minutes as presented for the January 21, 2021 meeting, Alexis van de Ven Seda seconded. Paul Damico and Judge Wayne Mack abstained, all other Boards members were in favor, the motion passed.

#### V. TREASURER

- A. Consider acceptance and take action on the Treasurer's Report.

Judge Wayne Mack moved to approve the Treasurer's report as presented, Melisa Miller seconded. All other Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

#### VI. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- A. Review funds received for the month of January 2021. Fees collected for the month of January 2021 was \$1000.00 for 1 new agent license and 1 agent license renewal. Report attached.
- B. Consider:
  - 1. Updated list of Licensed Surety companies for posting, February 10, 2021 posting date.
  - 2. License Expiration Report – updated 01/31/2021.

No action was needed on the Administrator's report.

#### VII. PRESIDING OFFICER

- A. Hearing for license renewal application: Alexis van de Ven Seda agent United States Fire Insurance Company, dba Alexis Bail Bonds, License 0079.

Swear in Alexis van de Ven Seda and United States Fire Insurance Company representative if present and proceed to a)

Melisa Miller swore in Alexis van de Ven Seda and the United States Fire Insurance representative.

- a) Conduct hearing on agent license renewal application for Alexis van de Ven Seda, agent for United States Fire Insurance Company.
- b) 1704.159 – Enter an order on action taken on the agent license renewal of Alexis van de Ven Seda, agent for United States Fire Insurance Company.

Judge Wayne Mack moved to approve the license renewal for Alexis van de Ven Seda, agent for United States Fire Insurance, License 0079. Melanie Bush seconded. Alexis van de Ven Seda abstained from the vote, all board members were in favor. The motion passed.

- B. Hearing for license application: Steven Elliott Sondag, agent The North River Insurance Company dba AAAA Betterway Bail Bonds.

Swear in Steven Elliott Sondag and The North River Insurance Company representative if present and proceed to a)

Melisa Miller swore in Steven Elliott Sondag and the representative for The North River Insurance Company.

- a) Conduct hearing on agent license application for Steven Elliott Sondag. Agent for The North River Insurance Company.
- b) 1704.159 – Enter an order on action taken on the agent license of Steven Elliott Sondag, agent The North River Insurance Company dba AAAA Betterway Bail Bonds.

Judge Wayne Mack Moved to approve the license for Steven Elliott Sondag, agent for The North River Insurance Company, Alexis van de Ven Seda seconded. All Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

- C. Hearing for license application: Michael Cox, agent First Community Insurance Company, dba Cox Bail Bonds.

Swear in Michael Cox and First Community Insurance Company representative if present and proceed to a)

Melisa Miller swore in Michael Cox and the representative for First Community Insurance Company, Drew Johnson.

- a) Conduct hearing on agent license application for Michael Cox, for First Community Insurance Company, dba Cox Bail Bonds.
- b) 1704.159 – Enter an order on action taken on the agent license of Michael Cox, agent for First Community Insurance Company dba Cox Bail Bonds.

Alexis moved to approve the license application of Michael Cox, agent for First Community Insurance Company dba Cox Bail Bonds, Amanda Webb seconded. All Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

D. Hearing for license application : Sondra Morris dba Ace Bail Bonds

Swear in Sondra Morris and proceed to a)

Melisa Miller swore in Sondra Morris and Mike Griffin her representative.

- a) Conduct hearing on license application for Sondra Morris dba Ace Bail Bonds.
- b) 1704.159 – Enter an order on action taken on the license application of Sondra Morris dba Ace Bail Bonds.

Darin Bailey stated that she had questions on the application that she would like the Board to discuss in Executive Session with the Boards legal counsel. The Board recessed to Executive session at 12:09 p.m.

The Board reconvened from Executive Session at 12:36 p.m.

Darin Bailey deferred taking any action on Item D and E at this time. Mike Griffin asked the Board to make a decision either approving or denying. John McKinney stated that the Board needed to perform additional research on the application at this time and any action on the items was deferred at this time. Darin Bailey stated that Mike Griffins Objection was noted.

- E. Upon approval of license application for Sondra Morris – Consider, discuss and take action on the pledge of collateral for the license known as 803 Woolley Circle, Crockett, Texas 75835 – Houston County – No liens on property, taxes paid, and proof of insurance provided. Current value is \$64,520.00 which will be  $x 5 = \$322,600.00$
- F. Consider, discuss and take action on the request by Renell Pedigo to have the Certificates of deposit at First Bank of Conroe, NA and First National Bank Texas released along with any accrued interest. These Certificates of Deposit were pledged for her license #0033 dba Bail Bonds by Renell. The original value of CD's was \$76,150.00 and as of the update on the collateral list a total value of \$99,269.20 which will have accrued additional interest. The current outstanding bonds against that license is \$ 82,504.80 as of 01/24/2021.

Melanie Bush moved to approve the release of the Certificate of Deposits at First

Bank of Conroe, NA and First National Bank Texas for Renell Pedigo, Judge Wayne Mack seconded. All Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

- G. Consider, discuss and take action on the request by Renell Pedigo to have the property known as 4614 Canadien River Ct, Spring Texas 77386 with a value of \$ 133,600.00 released as collateral. This along with the release of the Certificates of deposit will leave the 2029 N Thompson Rd., Conroe, Texas property pledged which has a value of \$132,760.00 which will be sufficient collateral to cover outstanding bonds and possible court costs and final judgments.

Alexis van de Ven Seda moved to approve the release of the property known as 4614 Canadien River St., Spring, Texas 77386 for Renell Pedigo, Vanessa Windham seconded. All Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

- H. Consider, discuss and take action on the request by Alexis van de Ven Seda to pledge property @11814 White Oak Pass, Conroe, Texas 77385. The current value from the latest property tax bill is \$114,790.00. The property taxes are paid and there are no liens against the property.

Judge Wayne Mack moved to approve the request by Alexis van de Ven Seda to pledge property known as 11814 White Oak Pass, Conroe, Texas 77385, Jamie Meinkowsky seconded. Alexis van de Ven Seda abstained from the vote, all other Board members were in favor. The motion passed.

- I. Consider, discuss and take action on the request by Steven Elliott Sondag to have property released as collateral known as 505 N. Frazier with a current value of \$195,000.00. Upon approval of release he will still have the property known as 108 E Davis pledged with a value of \$166,000.00 x 10 gives him \$1,660,000.00 in writing capabilities. As of the report received February 08, 2021 his current O/S bonds for license 0070 is 914,057.00 which leaves an available balance of \$745,943.00

Melanie Bush moved to approve the release of the property pledged by Steven Elliott Sondag known as 505 N Frazier, Conroe Texas, and Judge Wayne Mack seconded. All Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

J. Complaints:

- a) Consider, discuss and take action on the complaint filed by Robby Lilly Johnson against Derrick Dixon dba 1<sup>st</sup> Choice Bail Bonds per recommendation from Complaint Subcommittee.
- b) Consider, discuss and take action on the complaint filed by Robby Lilly Johnson against Jason Ayala, dba 1 Way Out Bail Bonds per

recommendation from Complaint Subcommittee.

- c) Consider, discuss and take action on the complaint filed by Amy Lynn Gomez against Derrick Dixon dba 1<sup>st</sup> Choice Bail Bonds per recommendation from Complaint Subcommittee.

Melanie Bush representative of the Complaint Subcommittee moved to take no action on a and c. The motion was then amended by Melanie Bush to dismiss a and c. Judge Mack seconded, all Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

Melanie Bush motioned to defer Item b until additional research had been done by the Complaint Subcommittee, Jamie Meinkowsky seconded. All Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

- K. Local Rules Section X - Elect a Presiding Officer to the Bail Bond Board for 2021 to serve until a replacement is elected. The elected Presiding Officer will assume the position at the Wednesday, March 17, 2021 meeting.

Alexis van de Ven Seda nominated Darin Bailey as Presiding Officer, Paul Damico seconded. All Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

- L. Local Rules Section X - Elect a Vice Presiding Officer the Bail Bond Board for 2021 to serve until a replacement is elected. The elected Vice Presiding Officer will assume the position at the Wednesday, March 17, 2021 meeting.

Melanie Bush nominated Alexis van de Ven Seda as Vice Presiding Officer, Judge Wayne Mack seconded. All Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

- M. Local Rules Section XII (F) – Elect or appoint a Local Rules subcommittee for 2021.

John McKinney suggested asking if anyone wanted to volunteer. Darin Bailey, Alexis van de Ven Seda and Melissa Miller volunteered to be on the Local Rules Committee. Judge Wayne Mack moved to approve, Amanda Webb 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 12:43p.m.

**The Agenda is on this bulletin board and may be obtained in the County Clerk's office on the 1<sup>st</sup> 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.**