

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

Thursday, January 21, 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: 12:01p.m.
- II. ROLL CALL

Board members present: Melisa Miller, District Clerk, Melanie Bush, County Treasurer, Alexis van de Ven, Surety Representative and Vice Presiding Officer, Darin Bailey, designee for Mark Turnbull County Clerk and Presiding Officer, Vanessa Windham, designee for Brett Ligon, District Attorney, Amanda Webb, Criminal Defense Attorney Representative, Jamie Meinkowsky, designee for Mark Keough, County Judge, Lt. Jeremiah Richards, designee for Rand Henderson, Sheriff.

Board members not present: Paul Damico, designee for Phil Grant, 9th District Court, Representative for District Courts and Judges, Judge Claudia Laird, CCL#2, Representative for County Courts and Judges, Judge Wayne Mack, Justice of the Peace, Pct.1, Representative for Justice Courts and Judges. Judge Michael Davis, Conroe Municipal Court.

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.)

There were no public comments.

IV. MINUTES

- A. Approve the minutes for the meeting December 17, 2020.

Melanie Bush moved to approve the minutes for the December 17, 2020 meeting, Alexis van de Ven seconded. Darin Bailey and Lt. Richards abstained. All other board members were in favor, the motion passed.

V. TREASURER

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

Alexis van de Ven moved to approve the Treasurer's report as presented, Amanda Webb seconded. All Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

VI. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- A. Review funds received for the month of December 2020. Fees collected for the month of December 2020 was \$500.00 for a new agent license. Report attached.
- B. Consider:
 - 1. Updated list of Licensed Surety companies for posting, January 11, 2021 posting date.
 - 2. License Expiration Report – updated 12/31/2020.

No action was required on the Administrators report.

VII. PRESIDING OFFICER

- A. Hearing for license application: Mari van de Ven, agent Allegheny Casualty Insurance dba A-1 Discount Bail Bonds.

Swear in Mari van de Ven and Allegheny representative if present and proceed to a)

Melisa Miller swore in Mari van de Ven

- a) Conduct hearing on agent license application for Mari van de Ven as agent for Allegheny Casualty Insurance Company.
- b) 1704.159 – Enter an order on action taken on the agent license application of Mari van de Ven, agent for Allegheny Casualty.

Melanie Bush moved to approve the license application, Jamie Meinkowsky seconded. Alexis van de Ven abstained, all other Board members were in favor, the motion passed. The license application for Mari van de Ven, agent for Allegheny Casualty was approved. The license will go into effect the date the CD is received.

- B. Consider, discuss and take action to amend Section XI, A – Complaints against Sureties, to include authorizing a subcommittee to review complaints received by the Bail Bond Board Administrator.

Alexis van de Ven moved to approve the amendment to Section XI, A, which after posting for the required 10 days will be effective as of February 01, 2021, Melanie Bush seconded. All Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

- C. Consider, discuss and take action on appointing members to the subcommittee (if applicable)

Melisa Miller motioned to appoint Amanda Webb, Melanie Bush and Alexis van de Ven to the Complaint subcommittee effective February 01, 2021 with Jamie Meinkowsky as an alternate, Darin Bailey seconded. All were in favor the motioned passed.

- D. Consider, discuss and take action to amend Section XII, Procedural Rules, Subsection F, Composition and Rules for Local Rules Committee.

Lt. Jeremiah Richards moved to approve the amendment to Section XII, Procedural Rules, Subsection F, which after posting for the required 10 days will be effective February 01, 2021. Melanie Bush seconded, all were in favor the motion passed.

- E. Consider, discuss and take – Complaint filed by Mari van de Ven on behalf of two clients, Luke Dobrosky and Sarah Herring – This was deferred at the December meeting to see if the clients would come forward and submit individual complaints.

Melisa Miller moved to dismiss this complaint, Jamie Meinkowsky seconded, and Alexis van de Ven abstained. All other Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

- F. Consider, discuss and take action on any updates by John McKinney, Assistant County Attorney on the investigation of the complaint filed by Robby Lilly Johnson against Derrick Dixon and 1st Choice Bail Bonds.
- G. Consider, discuss and take action on any updates by John McKinney, Assistant County Attorney on the investigation of complaint filed by Robby Lilly Johnson against Jason Ayala and 1 Way out Bail Bonds.

John McKinney said due to the holidays and time off of himself and the investigators he had not completed the investigation on the complaints in F and G and suggested he could work with the Complaint subcommittee on this prior to the February meeting.

- H. Consider, discuss and take action, if any on the complaint filed by Amy Gomez against Derrick Dixon and 1st Choice Bail Bonds.

After discussion Alexis van de Ven moved to refer F, G and H to the complaint subcommittee to complete the investigation as of February 1, 2021 when the complaint subcommittee goes into effect, Vanessa Windham seconded. All Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

- I. Consider, discuss and take action on the request by Johnnie Dishongh to add collateral known as 1824 Porter RD, Conroe, Texas 77301. The property has an appraised value by the 2020 Assessed value of the MCAD and Tax office of \$185,000.00. Research summary and documents attached.

Melanie Bush moved to approve the pledge of collateral for Johnnie Dishongh known as 1824 Porter Rd, Conroe, Texas, Alexis van de Ven seconded. All Board members were in favor, the motion passed. The administrator will have the Deed of Trust pledging to the Montgomery County Bail Bond Board executed by Johnnie Dishongh and send it for recording.

- J. Announce the results from the election for the Surety Representative to the Board for 2021. Per the Local Rules the Surety Representative to the Board shall be announced at the Board meeting immediately following the election. The Surety Representative shall assume the position on the Board at the first meeting that follows the announcement.

Alexis van de Ven is the Surety Representative to the Board for 2021 and until a replacement is elected.

- K. Announce results received from the election office for the Defense Attorney Representative to the Board for 2021. – Per the Local Rules the Criminal Defense Attorney Representative shall be announced at the Board meeting immediately following the election. The Defense Attorney Representative shall assume the position on the Board at the first meeting following the announcement.

Amanda Webb is the Criminal Defense Attorney Representative to the Board for 2021 and until a replacement is elected.

- L. Read the results from the election ballots for Justice of the Peace Representative to the Board for 2021. The Justice of the Peace

representative shall be announced at the meeting following the election and shall assume the position on the Board at the first meeting following the announcement.

Judge Wayne Mack, Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1 is the Justice of the Peace representative to the Board for 2021 and until a replacement is elected.

- M. Reminder – Local Rules – Section X – The Board shall annually elect one of its members as Presiding Officer at the first February Board meeting and shall assume the position on the Board at the first meeting following the February election.
- N. Reminder – Local Rules – Section X – The Board shall also annually elect one of its members as Vice Presiding Officer at the first February Board meeting, and shall assume the position on the Board at the first meeting following the February election.

VIII. ADJOURN

Melisa Miller moved to adjourn the meeting, Amanda Webb seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:19 p.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.