

MINUTES

Montgomery County Bail Bond Board

Darin Bailey
Presiding Officer

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

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: 12:05 PM

II. ROLL CALL

Bail Bond Board Members present:

Tiffany Dupree, Designee for Melanie Bush, County Treasurer
Melisa Miller, District Clerk
Alexis van de Ven Seda, Surety Representative
Darin Bailey, Designee for Mark Turnbull, County Clerk
Jamie Meinkowsky, Designee for Mark Keough, County Judge
Vanessa Windham, Designee for Brett Ligon, District Attorney
Amanda Webb, Defense Attorney Representative

Bail Bond Board Members not present:

Judge Michael Davis, Conroe Municipal Judge, Representative for Municipal Courts
Judge Wayne Mack, Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1, Representative for Justice Courts
Judge Vince Santini, 457th District Court, Representative for District Courts
Judge Mary Ann Turner, County Court at Law # 4, Representative for County Courts
Lt. Jeremiah Richards, Designee for Sheriff Rand Henderson

Non Board Members present:

John McKinney, Asst. County Attorney, Legal Representative to the 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.)

Frank Powell gave public comment in opposition of Sandra Morris' application approval or requested that it was least tabled as there is a new complaint that will be filed by Tonya Smith. According to Mr. Powell the new complaint alleges that Sondra Morris is violating Texas Occupation Code 1704.252(9). Mr. Powell alleged that Ms. Morris pays her employees by splitting fees and paying commissions on her bonds.

Tonya Smith spoke in opposition to the Agenda item related to Sondra Morris' license. Ms. Smith stated that she has not seen Ms. Morris' application but that she could guarantee that the reference letters and everything in the application is not valid to begin with because she uses her employee's family members and friends as references. Ms. Smith states she will be filing an additional sworn complaint which pertains to the Texas Occupational Code Mr. Powell referenced.

IV. MINUTES

A. Approve the minutes for the meeting June 15, 2022.

Darin Bailey entertained a motion on the minutes from the June 15, 2022 meeting. Alexis van de Ven Seda motioned to approve the minutes from the June 15, 2022 meeting, Jamie Meinkowsky seconded.

Amanda Webb abstained, all other Board Members approved the minutes and the motion passed.

V. TREASURER

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

Darin Bailey entertained a motion on the Treasurer's report. Melisa Miller made a Motion to approve the Treasurer's report as reported, Amanda Webb seconded the motion. All Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

VI. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- A. Review funds received for the month of June 2022. Report attached.
- B. Consider:
 - 1. Updated list of Licensed Surety companies for posting, July 01, 2022.
 - 2. License Expiration Report – updated 06/30/2022.

There were no questions for the Administrator on the report. No action was required.

VII. COMPLAINT SUB-COMMITTEE

- A. Consider and take appropriate action after receiving update and recommendation from the Bail Bond Subcommittee relating to complaint received January 13, 2022 from Antiwan Lane against Alexis van de Ven Seda, dba Bustin Out Bail Bonds. The Bail Bond Subcommittee recommended dismissal as there are no actionable violations under the Bail Bond Board Local Rules.

Melisa Miller made a motion and it was seconded by Vanessa Windham. Alexis van de Ven Seda abstained, all other Board Members were in favor and the motion passed.

- B. Consider and take appropriate action after receiving update and recommendation from the Bail Bond Subcommittee relating to complaints received June 6, 2022 from Tonya Ramos Smith against Sondra Morris. The Bail Bond Subcommittee recommended dismissal on all claims as there was no actionable violations under the Bail Bond Board Local Rules.

Amanda Webb made a motion to dismiss the complaints and Tiffany Dupree seconded the motion.

Darin Bailey and Alexis van de Ven Seda were opposed, all other board members were in favor and the motion passed.

- C. Consider and take appropriate action after receiving update and recommendation from the Bail Bond Subcommittee relating to complaints received June 13, 2022 Katherine Curry against Sondra Morris. The Bail Bond Subcommittee recommended dismissal on all claims as there was no actionable violations under the Bail Bond Board Local Rules.

Amanda Webb made a motion to dismiss the complaints and a second by Jamie Meinkowsky.

Tiffany Dupree abstained, Darin Bailey was opposed and all others were in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. The Board recessed for Executive Session at 12:17pm regarding complaints A-C listed under the Sub-Committee agenda items.
- B. The Board reconvened at 12:40pm.
- C. Darin Bailey noted for the record that when the Board adjourned for executive session Alexis van de Ven Seda was not present for any conversation or discussion related to section VII, item 1 on July 20, 2022 agenda which pertains to a complaint filed against Alexis van de Ven Seda and Bustin' Out Bail Bonds.

IX. PRESIDING OFFICER

- A. Hearing on license application of Sondra Morris, agent for Banker's Insurance Company dba Bail Bonds by Renell.
 - 1. Conduct hearing on license application of Sandi Morris agent, Banker's Insurance Company dba Bail Bonds by Renell.
 - 2. 1704.159 – Enter an order on action taken on the license application of Sondra Morris, agent Bankers Insurance Company dba Bail Bonds by Renell.

Darin Bailey swore in Sondra Morris, Drew Johns, Attorney for Bankers insurance Company, and Randy Adler, General Counsel for Bankers insurance Company.

Jan Avery stated everything was in the packet and all documents appeared to be in order. She stated that she did request updated information from both Bankers' and Sondra Morris as it's been a couple months since the initial application was submitted. Both parties did supply the updated information.

Amanda Webb made a motion to dismiss the complaints and Tiffany Dupree seconded the motion.

Darin Bailey was opposed, all other board members were in favor, motion passed.

- B. Hearing on license renewal application of Sunya Claiborne, agent, Allegheny Casualty Company, dba All About Bail Bonds.
 - 1. Conduct hearing on license renewal application of Sunya Claiborne , agent Allegheny Casualty Company dba All About Bail Bonds
 - 2. 1704.159 – Enter an order on action taken on the license renewal application of Sunya Claiborne agent Allegheny Casualty Company dba All About Bail Bonds.

Darin Bailey swore in Sunya Claiborne and Leisha King, Counsel for Allegheny Casualty Company.

Jan Avery stated everything was in the packet and all documents appeared to be in order.

Alexis van de Ven Seda moved to approve the license for Sunya Claiborne, agent Allegheny Casualty Company, dba All About Bail Bonds, Amanda Webb seconded. Tiffany Dupree abstained, all other Board members were in favor, and the motion was passed.

- C. Consider, discuss and take action on holding a workshop presented by Roger Moore to take place immediately following the meeting on August 17, 2022. The workshop should be approximately 3 hours long.

Melisa Miller made a motion and Alexis van de Ven Seda seconded the motion, all board members were in favor and the motion passed.

X. ADJOURN

Darin Bailey entertained a motion to adjourn. Melisa Miller motioned to adjourn, Amanda Webb seconded. All Board members were in favor, the meeting adjourned at 12:47 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 House building at 210 West Davis, Conroe, TX 77301 and in the Commissioner's Courtroom on the day of the meeting.