

# MINUTES

## Montgomery County Bail Bond Board

Darin Bailey  
Presiding Officer

Wednesday, June 15, 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, 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: 12:00 NOON

### II. ROLL CALL

**Bail Bond Board members present:** Melisa Miller, District Clerk, Melanie Bush, County Treasurer, Judge Vince Santini, 457<sup>th</sup> District Court, Representative for District Courts and Judge, Darin Bailey, Designee for Mark Turnbull, County Clerk, Jamie Meinkowsky, Designee for Mark Keough, County Judge, Judge Mary Ann Turner, County Court at Law # 4, Representative for County Courts and Judges, Jamie Meinkowsky, Designee for Mark Keough County Judge, Vanessa Windham, Designee for Brett Ligon, District Attorney, Alexis van de Ven Seda, Surety Representative, and Lt. Jeremiah Richards, Designee for Sheriff Rand Henderson.

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

**Non Board members present:** John McKinney, Asst. County Attorney, Legal Representative to the Board, and 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 regards to the opposition of Sandra Morris' application approval. He stated that Tanya Smith and Katherine Curry have filed formal complaints with the Montgomery County Bail Bond Board in regards to Sondra Morris' license application. He suggested that Sondra's application should be either tabled or denied. Frank stated that since the complaints were filed Ms. Morris has knowledge of the complaints and has sent threatening text messages that appear to be "witness-tampering" in Mr. Powell's opinion. He encouraged the Board to have Ms. Morris and her Attorney, if present, to be Mirandized before speaking.

Tanya Smith spoke in regards to the Agenda item related to Sondra Morris's license. Ms. Smith stated she is in absolute opposition of any of her licenses whether currently withstanding or new because of her business practiced and the laws that she breaks. She also stated the board has her statement and sworn affidavit that she has filed with the board.

### **IV. MINUTES**

A. Approve the minutes for the meeting May 18, 2022.

Darin Bailey entertained a motion on the minutes from the May 18, 2022 meeting. Alexis van de Ven Seda motioned to approve the minutes from the May 18, 2022 meeting, Judge Vince Santini seconded.

Melanie Bush, County Treasurer, Judge Mary Ann Turner, and Lt. Jeremiah Richards 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. Jamie Meinkowsky made a Motion to approve the Treasurer's report as reported, Melisa Miller seconded the motion. All Board members were in favor, the motion passed.

### **VI. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

A. Review funds received for the month of May 2022. Report attached.

B. Consider:

1. Updated list of Licensed Surety companies for posting, June 02, 2022.

2. License Expiration Report – updated 05/31/2022.

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 April 22, 2022 from Bettyanne Moore against A-1 Bail Bonds. – Complaint withdrawn as of 05/25/22 the complaint was settled.

Melanie Bush stated that the complaint has been withdrawn effective May 25, 2022. It is completely dismissed and has been settled.

- B. Consider and take appropriate action after receiving update and recommendation from the Bail Bond Subcommittee relating to complaint received January 28, 2022 from Antiwan Lane against Alexis van de Ven Seda dba Bustin' Out Bail Bonds.

Melanie Bush stated the committee felt this complaint should be postponed, as the committee has requested some additional information and has given the complainant a couple of weeks to get that information back to the Board. So far, there has not been a response by the complainant. The committee is deferring the complaint until the next meeting.

**VIII. PRESIDING OFFICER**

- A. Hearing on license application of Sandi Morris, agent for Banker's Insurance Company dba Bail Bonds by Renell.

Drew Johnson requested that the hearing be tabled.

- 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 Sandi Morris, agent Bankers Insurance Company dba Bail Bonds by Renell.

- B. Hearing on license renewal application of Sharon McCleveland, agent, Financial Casualty Ins. Co., dba Set'em Free Bail Bonds.

Swear in Sharon McCleveland and Financial Casualty Insurance Co representative and proceed to a)

Darin Bailey swore in Sharon McCleveland

1. Conduct hearing on license renewal application of Sharon McClelland, agent Financial Casualty Insurance Co dba Set'em Free Bail Bonds.
2. 1704.159 – Enter an order on action taken on the license renewal application of Sharon McClelland, agent Financial Casualty & Surety, dba Set'em Free Bail Bonds.

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 Sharon McClelland, agent Financial Casualty Insurance Co dba Set'em Free Bail Bonds, Vanessa Windham seconded. All Board members were in favor, the motion was approved.

- C. Consider, discuss and take action on the request by Seneca Insurance Company (A subsidiary of Crum & Forster) to have CD# 010-007-3378390 for \$50,000.00 drawn on JP Morgan Chase Bank account for agent Jerry Steven Sondag, License 0077, to be released. The license has been confirmed to be clear of all liability.

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

- D. Consider, discuss and take action on the request by Jerry Steven Sondag to have the property at 505 Frazier released from collateral pledged. The property is currently valued at \$95,690.00, this will reduce collateral by 956,900.00. Current available liability for license 0022 is \$2,662,272.00, the release will leave a company limit of \$7,157,728.00 and an available balance of \$1,705,372.00.

Judge Vince Santini moved to approve the motion and Jamie Meinkowsky seconded. All Board members were in favor, the motion was approved.

## **IX. ADJOURN**

Darin Bailey entertained a motion to adjourn. Melisa Miller motioned to adjourn, Vanessa Windham seconded. All Board members were in favor, the meeting adjourned at 12:14 p.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 House building at 210 West Davis, Conroe, TX 77301 and in the Commissioner's Courtroom on the day of the meeting.**