

**Montgomery County Bail Bond Board**

**Thursday, November 13, 2003**

**Minutes**

A special meeting of the Montgomery County Bail Bond Board was convened at 12:00 noon on Thursday, November 13, 2003, in the Commissioners Court room at the Montgomery County Administration Building located at 301 North Thompson Street, Conroe, Texas.

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Judge Edie Connelly, Presiding Officer, called the meeting to order at 12:17 p.m.

**B. ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Judge Edie Connelly, Presiding Officer, Justice of the Peace, Precinct Three

Judge Kathleen Hamilton, 359<sup>th</sup> District Court

Cynthia Benson-Guenther, Licensed Sureties' Representative

Judge James Cates, City of Conroe Municipal Court

Lt. Robert Green, Designee for Sheriff

Martha Gustavsen, County Treasurer

Cara Wood, Designee for District Attorney

Darin Bailey, Designee for County Clerk

Judge Mary Ann Turner, County Court at Law #4 (Present during 1<sup>st</sup> complaint hearing)

Benton Baker, Defense Attorney's Representative

**Members Absent:**

Vanita Buchanan, County Judge's Designee

Judge Mary Ann Turner, County Court at Law #4

Barbara Adamick, District Clerk

**Also Present:**

Robert Rosenquist, Assistant County Attorney, Legal Counsel

Matthew Thomas, Board Administrator

Presiding Officer Judge Edie Connelly declared a quorum was present.

### C. HEARING ON COMPLAINTS

Pursuant to the authority in the Texas Occupations Code 1704.254, a hearing was conducted by the Montgomery County Bail Bond Board regarding complaints against sureties.

#### 1. **Complaint against Cynthia Benson-Guenther (Montgomery County Bail Bond).**

The hearing was held regarding alleged violations of the Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 1704.252, Subsection (1), and Chapter 1704.0535, specifically the complaint concerned Ms. Cynthia Benson-Guenther's eligibility to serve on the Montgomery County Bail Bond Board.

*Arguments were presented by Attorney Dan Rice on behalf of his clients that Cynthia Benson-Guenther was not eligible to be elected as the Surety Representative to the Bail Bond Board during the time the election was held, therefore her election to the Board was invalid. Roger Moore, Attorney representing Cynthia Benson-Guenther made counter arguments that Ms. Benson Guenther was eligible to serve on the board. After significant discussion, a motion was made by Darin Bailey that Cynthia Benson-Guenther be removed from the board and hold a new election, the motion was seconded by Martha Gustavsen. The motion passed on a vote of 6 for and 3 against (Against – Baker, Green, and Connelly).*

#### 2. **Complaint against Bob Gold (AAAA Betterway Bail Bonds).** The hearing was limited to alleged violations of the Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 1704.252, Subsection (1), and Montgomery County Bail Bond Board Local Rules (Rule X), specifically the complaint concerned the writing of bonds without authority from the principals; as well as Chapter 1704.304, Subsection (c), and Montgomery County Bail Bond Board Local Rules (Rule XVII), specifically the complaint concerned soliciting bond business where prohibited.

*The Bail Bond Board heard the sworn complaints of Georgette Lucado, Cameron Otto, and Johnson Ashcroft against Bob Gold. After hearing the information presented by all parties, the Bail Bond Board took no action on the complaints.*

#### 3. **Complaint against Bob Gold (AAAA Betterway Bail Bonds).** The hearing was limited to alleged violations of the Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 1704.252, Subsection (1), and Montgomery County Bail Bond Board Local Rules (Rule X). Specifically the complaint concerned the writing of bonds without authority from the principals.

*The Bail Bond Board heard the sworn complaint of Raymond Stiltner against Bob Gold. After hearing the information presented by all parties, the Bail Bond Board took no action on the complaint.*

### D. ADJOURN

*Judge James Cates made the motion to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Lt. Robert Green. The motion passed and the hearing was adjourned at 2:42 pm.*