

Friendswood Republican Women

Meeting October 26, 2017

Kathy commenced the meeting. Laurie said the invocation, and Judge Kathleen McCumber led the pledges.

Kathy introduced the Elected Officials and Candidates.

Deborah Introduced County Judge Mark Henry. Galveston County Judge Mark Henry spoke on the Galveston County Bond and Hurricane Harvey.

Hurricane Harvey

One of the strongest hurricanes in the Gulf. Rockport was hit hard. Ferry Service was shut, but highway 87 not flooded. Bolivar was voluntary evacuation. 7 fatalities (3 direct), the others indirect, including one this last weekend with flesh eating bacteria.

One of the most devastating \$ amount hurricanes.

Ike-21 Million cubic yards

Harvey 30 Million cubic yards of debris (77 times of Kyle field filled to top)

Homes affected: Galveston county about 20-25 thousand (we were second in Counties of homes flooded, Harris county first). 54 inches of rain (one year of annual rainfall in 48 hours).

No forecaster has ever forecasted 54 inches of rain. New color had to be added to weather service map for over 40 inches.

No exact number on amount \$ of damage yet.

Fees waived for building permits, over 500 homes in unincorporated Galveston County were damaged.

OEM was extremely busy, as 911 was so busy that they called OEM to get rescued. Not enough boats to accommodate rescue efforts (12 boats). Put out Facebook post (shared 1 million times) to get people with flat bottomed boats to help. 100's to 1000 voluntary helpers showed up. The largest volunteer civilian rescue effort in US. Cajun Navy helped as well. Only one complaint (family was separated for 5 minutes-had 6 people in family).

95% of mucking out was faith based communities helping out. Faith Communities have gotten together to see how else they can help. 19 thousand homes had water in them (Galveston County).

Short term rebuilding. 5 programs that help \$15-25,000. Those programs are not yet available. Not sure why. This is to help people get back in to their homes. Federally funded, state run.

80% of Dickinson residents were displaced.

2300 people in hotel rooms, and about 2000 people out of county in hotel rooms.

Lighthouse Christian Ministry, Calvary Church, TexSAR rescue effort, Salvation Army, many volunteer organizations helped immensely.

Creeks and Bayous should be cleaned out. Clear Creek is not navigable waterway. Dickinson Bayou used to be navigable. That will help but won't prevent it if we have another 54 inches.

Reappraisal: state function. Chief Appraisal- only for storm date forward, 4 months 2017 and all of 2018. Accepted free appraisal from CAD, and \$1 per parcel to reappraise. Can protest your taxes. Take receipts, etc.

If your home is over 50% damaged, they may determine not rebuildable.

Bond Issue:

Cities have been asking, and now we are upgraded to AAA bond rating. Every city is participating, and county has 3 buildings that need upgraded. Calder building needs expansion. City has transportation and drainage issues. Voters approve or disapprove the bond. Friendswood would get \$4.5 Million. Based on population and tax base. The county will match up to a million. Friendswood may expand League City Parkway.

Bond cost: prior to Harvey, it would be 0, because of growth in building. Hopefully will be same post-Harvey if building continues.

Money is distributed to Mayors and City councils, based on population and tax values. Projects in the city with bond money: Mud Gulley, Melody Lane are from 2008 Bond Issue. County manages the project as they have the responsibility if something goes wrong.

Secretary's Report: The minutes for September were e-mailed. Deborah moved they be approved, Michelle seconded. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: on the back table.

Announcements:

New board:

Kathy Rogers- President

Deborah Winter-Chaney-VP Programs
Leslie Brummer-VP Membership
Janis Lowe-Treasurer
Joanne Juren-Assistant Treasurer
Michelle Pray- Secretary
Laura Coulliard-Assistant Secretary

Traci Glanville moved to approve the board. Marlene Bunn seconded, and it was approved unanimously.

The next FRW meeting will be January 25, 2018. Dr. Greg Bonnen will be our speaker. We may be back at the Chamber, so watch for updates.

CCRW meeting on Friday, November 3 in League City at LaBrisa.

Make sure you vote. Early voting is going on now.

Information on the Constitutional Amendment and the Bond Issue is on the back table.

Lots of campaign events are coming up. See www.FriendswoodRW.org for updated information.

Candidates at the meeting who have websites:

www.randyweber.org

www.electkerrifoley.com

www.Billyenochs.com

www.BulgierForCommissioner.com

Kathy adjourned the meeting at 12:50

Attending Members of FRW:

Billie Brown

Betty Balough

Marlene Bunn

Robin Enochs

Cindy Bulgier

Tracy Glanville

Brenda Weber

Kathy Rogers

Janis Lowe

Michelle Pray

Deborah Winters-Chaney