

# Narrowed Down to One

## Commissioners Name Lone Finalist for Courthouse Exterior Project

By Dustin Wright  
Sentinel Managing Editor

With some questions still left unanswered, Gaines County Commissioners once again tabled approval of a proposal for a cleaning/restoration project for the exterior of the Gaines County Courthouse.

However, in their regular meeting Monday morning, Commissioners narrowed down their choices of candidates from three companies to one, after a two week review period of proposals submitted and opened by the Court in their Feb. 11 regular meeting.

"I still have some questions I'd like to have answered by a company representative about the project," said Lance Celander, Gaines County Judge, in Monday's meeting, which saw Commissioners request Gaines County Auditor Rick Dollahan to contact representatives with Mid-

Continental Restoration to plan a meeting with county leaders to go over their bid proposal and answer questions related to the project.

Mid-Continental presented a bid to Gaines County Commissioners of \$202,802 for the project for an exterior cleaning of the Courthouse,

located in the 100 block of S. Main St., as well as conducting minor exterior repairs such as mortar replacement and addressing possible areas of structural damage, which could lead to interior leaks inside the three-floor facility.

The Kansas-based company's bid was the second highest received by the County for the project, which also drew bids of \$116,060 by Vinton, Iowa-based Karr Tuckpointing and \$423,769 from Waxahachie-based Brazos Restoration Waterproofing, Inc.

Gaines County Commissioners, in Monday's meeting, sensibly agreed to disregard the bid from Brazos Restoration and disqualified the bid from Karr Tuckpointing because the bid did not properly address bid specifications, dealing primarily with whether the company could successfully remove the green tinted paint from terra cotta tiles fixed to the exterior of the Gaines County Courthouse, or a specific start date of when the project would begin.

"What threw me off about the whole (bid process) was the bid prices we received," said Celander. "The bids explained some of the process each company can do for the project, but there are still some questions I feel we need answered before we make a final decision."

No time table was offered in Monday's meeting of when Gaines County Commissioners will meet with Mid-Continental representatives from their Fort Worth regional office, to discuss the proposed project.

County leaders are looking at the exterior project in the wake of the completion of a \$6.98 million infrastructure renovation project at the three-floor courthouse facility, which was completed in late 2011 following a 13-month process.

The project saw improvements to the facility's heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, interior plumbing, electrical distribution and lighting systems. The installation of energy management and control systems, as well as new fire sprinklers and alarms were installed in the facility.

Other facility upgrades included the installation of new flooring in portions of the facility, and custom built cabinets, to name a few.

The Gaines County Courthouse also saw the installation of energy efficient windows and doors to the facility -- at a cost slightly over \$1 million -- as part of the project, which was conducted by NORESKO, a Massachusetts-based energy savings company which specializes in energy savings projects with governmental entities.

## Court Approves Treasurer's Report

By Dustin Wright  
Sentinel Managing Editor

Gaines County taxpayers only saw a roughly \$9,000 return in interest payments from investments for the first quarter of the 2013 fiscal year, according to figures provided by Gaines County Treasurer Michael Lord in his regular quarterly report to County Commissioners on Monday morning.

"It's a sad story when \$31 million dollars only makes \$9,000 in interest," said Lord to Commissioners on Monday, "But, it's better than the \$5,000 we saw last quarter."

"Interest rates are slowly getting better, but it's just a slow process."

As of Dec. 31, 2012, Gaines County possessed \$31.32 million on the books, according to Monday's report, which spanned the County's

first three months of their new fiscal year -- October, November and December.

Broken down, Gaines County's General Fund was quoted as having \$13.77 million on Dec. 31, while the County's Capital Projects Fund possessed \$2.01 million.

Gaines County's Farm to Market/Lateral Road fund totaled \$4.48 million, while the County's Pct. 1 through Pct. 4 funds ranged from \$1.94 million to \$3.10 million, according to County figures.

A full listing of the Treasurer's Report can be found inside Wednesday's (today's) issue of the *Seminole Sentinel*.

### Other Court Action

In other action on Monday, Gaines County Commissioners approved of a request from Gaines County Sheriff Ronny Pipkin to allow for the Gaines County Sheriff's Dept. to purchase a 2013 Dodge Quad Cab pick-up through a governmental buy-board.

The pick-up, according to Pipkin, will be used by the department as a test patrol unit, as the department is exploring the possibilities of moving away from their current Dodge Charger patrol-unit fleet.

A price of the purchase was not quoted during Monday's meeting of the Commissioners Court, but was stated to be within the department's financial budget for vehicle purchase.

Other action by the Court included:

- approval of the 2013 tournament schedule for the Gaines County Golf Course;
- approval of the donation of a six-yard dump truck from Pct. 1 to the City of Seagraves;
- the declaration of surplus/salvage equipment for the county, which will be placed on www.govdeals.com;
- the approval of a first reading of a subdivision request for Rodeo

Estates, located on 31 1/2 acres of land near the Seminole Rodeo Arena;

- approval of a second reading of a subdivision request for Camp No. 6, lots 20-75, located southwest of Seminole;
- road crossing requests from oilfield companies within Pct. 2 and Pct. 3, and;
- routine items pertaining to regular Gaines County business.

## SPD Receives No Racial Profiling Complaints in '12

The Seminole Police Dept. received no formal complaints in regard to racial profiling for the 2012 calendar year, according to a report given by police department officials to members of the Seminole City Council on Monday evening.

In accordance with Texas State Law, the SPD has filed their 2012 racial profiling statistics with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Education regarding motor vehicle stops in which a citation or arrest was made, along with if the vehicle was searched.

"We go well above what the state requires in our reporting," said Bernie Kraft, SPD Chief, who stated the department also submits information on racial profiling information in regard to traffic stops and searches in which no arrests were made, and where warnings were issued.

Seminole Police Officers, according to figures produced to members of the Seminole City Council, performed 1,543 motor vehicle stops in the 2012 calendar year, of which 1,128 were classified as "citation only" stops. The department conducted 415 "arrest only" stops.

Of those 1,543 stopped by SPD officers, 755 people were classified as being of Caucasian decent, while 731 were Hispanic.

"The numbers we have indicate the make up of the demographics of our community," said Kraft.

Beginning in 2002, the SPD, in accordance with the Texas Racial Profiling Law (S.B. No. 1074), has been collecting police contact data for the purpose of identifying and responding to concerns regarding racial profiling practices.

## Death Notice

FLEMING

Alvin "Dee" Fleming, 81 passed from this life on Sunday, February 24, 2013. The family gathered for fellowship and remembrance February 26 at Lake Ridge Chapel and Memorial Designers. A service to celebrate his life is scheduled for 2 p.m. Wednesday, February 27 at Lake Ridge Chapel and Memorial Designers.

Alvin was born on November 21, 1931 in Brownfield.

## Obituaries

### Ratliff Funeral Homes

Denver City 806-592-2321	Seminole 432-758-2431	Seagraves 806-387-3838
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### Doyle Dean Darby

Funeral services for Doyle Dean Darby, 77, of Seminole will be conducted on Thursday, February 28, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. in the First Baptist Church with the Rev. Gene Hawkins officiating assisted by Rev Ned Nugent. Interment will follow in the Gaines County Cemetery with services under the direction of Ratliff Funeral home. Mr. Darby passed away on February 24 in Lubbock.

Doyle Dean Darby was born on July 5, 1935 in Dallas to Preston Lee Darby and Viedna Dockery Darby. He grew up in Ropesville and graduated from Ropesville High School. Doyle married Betty Biggs on December 4, 1955 in Ropesville. They began farming in Gaines County in 1964 moving to Seminole in 1970 where he has owned and operated Doyle Darby Farm. He was a member of the First Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Betty Darby of Seminole; two sons, Rex Darby and wife Deborah and Kenny Darby and wife Jill all of Seminole; one daughter, Tamara Upton and husband Anderson of Seminole; seven grandchildren, Farron O'Mara, Ryan Darby, Bryce Darby, Crystal Darby, Kency Darby, Addison Upton and Bradley Upton; six great-grandchildren; two brothers, H.L. Darby of Shallowater and Charles Darby and wife Judy of Lubbock.

Family and friends will gather for a time of visitation on Wednesday February 27 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Ratliff Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Interim Hospice, 5224 75th Suite D, Lubbock, Texas 79424 or to the First Baptist Church Missions in Seminole.

### Roberta "Nanny Bert" Lee

ELDORADO--Funeral services for Roberta "Nanny Bert" Lee, age 92 of Eldorado were held Tuesday, February 26, 2013 at M.S. Doss Chapel at 2:00 p.m. with Pastor La Void Ford officiating. Burial followed at Gaines County Cemetery, and all services were under the direction of Boyer Funeral Home.



Born August 1, 1920 Mrs. Lee passed away Friday, February 22, 2013 at Schleicher County Medical Center in Eldorado. She was born in Graham to Maggie (Gray) and Thomas Lee Clark, and she married Henry Lee in Aspermont.

Roberta Lee was a very softhearted person who enjoyed joking with others and cooking for her family. She knew no strangers and loved everyone. She is preceded in death by her parents; her husband Henry Lee in 1972; one son, Donald

Lee; one daughter, Dovey Ray Looney; five brothers; four sisters and one great-great-granddaughter.

Roberta Lee is survived by one son, Benny Lee and wife Mary Alice of Seminole; one daughter, Sylvia Smith of Eldorado; one daughter-in-law, Joyce Lee of Seminole; 12 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren and 12 great-great-grandchildren.

### Jerry Rigdon

MIDLAND--Jerry Rigdon, 54, of Midland, died Saturday, February 23, 2013.

Jerry was born December 19, 1958, in Andrews, to Helen (Naciuk) and Robert Lee Rigdon. He worked as a welder and a truck driver.

Survivors include common law wife, Rebecca Sollars-Rigdon of Midland; son, Jimmy Lee Rigdon of Seminole; and daughter, Joretta Lynn Rigdon of Midland.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

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