

BAIL BOND BOARD MEETING

THOSE PRESENT:            Judge Branick  
                             Judge Woods  
                             Judge West  
                             Judge Lively  
                             Lt. Mills  
                             Pat Knauth  
                             Casi DeLaTorre  
                             Theresa Goodness  
                             Tim Funchess  
                             Keith Day  
                             Mary Godina  
                             Liz Parks  
                             Glenda Segura  
                             Rhonda Brode

TIM FUNCHESS: Judge Dollinger had a jury trial starting at 12:30; so he asked me to chair this meeting. I'm going to call the meeting to order; and the first thing on the agenda is the review of the minutes from last meeting. Those have been posted on the website. If anybody has had a chance to read those, I did. I'll take a motion to accept the minutes?

JUDGE WEST: So moved.

TIM FUNCHESS: Moved.

1 PAT KNAUTH: Seconded.

2 TIM FUNCHESS: Seconded. All in favor?

3 (RESPONSE.)

4 TIM FUNCHESS: Opposed?

5 (NONE.)

6 TIM FUNCHESS: Next, we have a report from  
7 the district attorney's office regarding the status of  
8 collections and judgments. Any comments or questions on  
9 that?

10 (NONE.)

11 TIM FUNCHESS: We'll enter that into the  
12 record.

13 We also have consideration and approval of  
14 applications to become bondsmen for agents and renewals.  
15 I know we have one application here. Anybody want to --  
16 Theresa, you going to speak on this?

17 THERESA GOODNESS: Well, I was going to  
18 point out a couple of things. Becky, I think, sent  
19 everybody an e-mail with the copy of the application. A  
20 couple of her points on this e-mail is that an  
21 exhibit -- Exhibit B -- 5 -- the business address listed  
22 in the DBA is different than the business address  
23 provided in Exhibit 8 located in the personal financial  
24 statement. On Exhibit 8 she lists an account, checking  
25 account with her mom; and there's an amount in there;

1 but that -- that account went down to as low as \$4.87.  
2 And my understanding after reading through the  
3 application is that there is some property that she's  
4 saying she wants to put up as collateral, but I don't  
5 really see any other -- you know, it doesn't look to me  
6 like Ms. Francois has a lot of money in the bank to pay  
7 for any judgments that might come due. I know we can  
8 always take the property if we have to.

9           When I look at the personal financial  
10 statement, most everything has and N/A on here. Even --  
11 it doesn't even -- says she doesn't have a car. So, I'm  
12 not sure if it's a problem understanding how to fill out  
13 the form or -- or what it is. But basically she's got  
14 cash on hand in banks is \$7791.61. Doesn't show any  
15 debts. It doesn't show any other moneys; and that the  
16 bank statement we got basically showed that that account  
17 went down to \$4.87 at some point during the month; and  
18 it's jointly held with her mother.

19           So, I have some concerns that this applicant  
20 has the financial resources to pay any judgments that  
21 might come due.

22           TIM FUNCHESS: Is the property listed in her  
23 name?

24           THERESA GOODNESS: The property's listed in  
25 her name. She has one piece of property.

1                   RHONDA BRODE:   What's the value of it?

2                   THERESA GOODNESS:   I think it was like  
3   \$66,000, one piece of property in Port Arthur, Lot 9,  
4   Block 24, Park Place, Port Arthur.

5                   JUDGE LIVELY:   For what it's worth, too,  
6   didn't Becky say in the e-mail that whenever that first  
7   financial was filled out, she left it blank; and Becky  
8   had to go back and tell her to fill it in; and that's  
9   when the N/A's came in.   So she had some guidance, even,  
10   on that; and still chose to put "not applicable" to her.

11                  THERESA GOODNESS:   Right.

12                  TIM FUNCHESS:   Well, Theresa, what's you-all  
13   recommendation?

14                  THERESA GOODNESS:   Well, I would have to  
15   vote no because I feel like we would not be doing this  
16   applicant a favor by approving this application.   And I  
17   feel like we would -- she would be upside down in a  
18   hurry.

19                  TIM FUNCHESS:   Any other comments?

20                  RHONDA BRODE:   Just to clarify, a new bail  
21   bondsman would get what, five times the collateral?

22                  JUDGE BRANICK:   Looks like it's ten times.

23                  RHONDA BRODE:   Ten times once --

24                  THERESA GOODNESS:   After renewal.

25                  RHONDA BRODE:   Yeah -- after the first --

1 JUDGE BRANICK: After renewal?

2 RHONDA BRODE: -- renewal. I think it's  
3 only five times.

4 KEITH DAY: Five to one on property.

5 RHONDA BRODE: Okay. So -- we're looking at  
6 \$300,000 potential debt to the county.

7 THERESA GOODNESS: Right. That's my concern  
8 as well.

9 RHONDA BRODE: It concerns me.

10 JUDGE WEST: It's a concern to me, too.

11 TIM FUNCHESS: I'll entertain a motion one  
12 way or the other.

13 THERESA GOODNESS: I move to reject the  
14 application because there's not enough -- there's not  
15 enough financial backing here for this applicant to pay  
16 any judgments that come due.

17 JUDGE LIVELY: I second that.

18 TIM FUNCHESS: Okay. All in favor to  
19 reject?

20 (RESPONSE.)

21 TIM FUNCHESS: Opposed?

22 (NONE.)

23 TIM FUNCHESS: Okay. The application is  
24 rejected.

25 JUDGE BRANICK: I had a question on this

1 Steven Wohr on the attorneys. He's over his bond limit.  
2 What do we do about that?

3 RHONDA BRODE: I'm sorry, let me look at  
4 that, Judge.

5 JUDGE BRANICK: W-O-H-R.

6 RHONDA BRODE: I don't know. I don't know.

7 JUDGE BRANICK: I know the other man is  
8 deceased.

9 RHONDA BRODE: Uh-huh. Michael Lindsey is  
10 also over on the unpaid forfeitures. The report that I  
11 get, I also like to come into this meeting and question  
12 the county clerk and the district clerk and have Tina  
13 look it up, kind of ask the others to look at this  
14 report and say, can you look at my concerns and see if  
15 that's what you're seeing in the computer? Could my  
16 report be off, what I'm pulling from the computer?

17 But it's been like that for a while on  
18 these.

19 MARY GODINA: I'll look him up, that Steven.

20 RHONDA BRODE: It's all the highlighted ones  
21 on the attorneys.

22 MARY GODINA: Okay.

23 RHONDA BRODE: Steven Wohr, Michael Lindsey.  
24 I'm going to go ahead and skip -- go ahead and address  
25 the one other concern?

1                   TIM FUNCHESS:   That's fine.

2                   RHONDA BRODE:   Audwin Samuel, his status  
3   says over; but he doesn't have any open balances on my  
4   report.   Can you check to see if there's a reason?

5                   MARY GODINA:   And that status comes from the  
6   computer?

7                   RHONDA BRODE:   Uh-huh.

8                   MARY GODINA:   I don't know if that's a real  
9   status.

10                  RHONDA BRODE:   I've had it before, when they  
11   were over their limit.   I've seen it before.

12                  MARY GODINA:   I'll check it.

13                  RHONDA BRODE:   Okay.   Thank you, Judge.  
14   We'll get back with you once I find out.

15                  JUDGE BRANICK:   Thank you.

16                  TIM FUNCHESS:   All right.   We've got to  
17   consider complaints against bondsmen?

18                  MARY GODINA:   Well, I had the complaint  
19   Becky had filed against Gary Leach from last time.   I  
20   tried to get ahold of Mr. Roebuck, which has been very  
21   unsuccessful, because we all know why.   But he has a  
22   copy of the complaint.   I have not been able to get  
23   ahold of him.   So Gary Leach has not been contacted,  
24   because Mr. Roebuck is usually the one that sends the  
25   letter.   So, I don't know what we as the board want to

1 do; if we want to go ahead and draft a letter, or -- I  
2 don't know when we'll get ahold of Roebuck.

3 KEITH DAY: Leave a message telling him  
4 you've got a check for him, maybe he'll call you back.

5 TIM FUNCHESS: He'll be in Saratoga Saturday  
6 night.

7 What's the board's consensus? You want to  
8 wait until next month's meeting and see if we can get  
9 ahold of Roebuck?

10 MARY GODINA: I have left probably 15  
11 messages for him; and -- I e-mailed him.

12 JUDGE WEST: It's kind of a form letter that  
13 goes out? Do we have that?

14 MARY GODINA: No, he usually just does the  
15 letter. I have left messages with his secretary. I've  
16 called her two or three times, told her what the concern  
17 was; that we had a complaint. We need for him to give  
18 us some guidance one way or the other. I have talked to  
19 her and told her, but I haven't heard from him at all.

20 JUDGE WEST: But doesn't the letter just  
21 say: You're notified that there's a complaint?

22 MARY GODINA: Well, he puts all this legal  
23 mumbo-jumbo stuff in there, so.

24 JUDGE WEST: Do you have a copy of what was  
25 filed previously on other complaints?



1                   MARY GODINA: I have the one from Barbara  
2 Hart, that he did to Barbara Hart.

3                   JUDGE WEST: Like the very initial one that  
4 he did maybe?

5                   MARY GODINA: Uh-huh.

6                   JUDGE BRANICK: If you'll get me a copy of  
7 the complaint and the previous letter he's done, I'll do  
8 it.

9                   MARY GODINA: Okay.

10                  TIM FUNCHESS: All right. I have passed out  
11 my treasurer's report. I'll -- I don't think there were  
12 any changes from last month regarding collateral.

13                  And we've heard from the auditor's office.  
14 Anything else to add to that, Rhonda?

15                  RHONDA BRODE: No, sir.

16                  TIM FUNCHESS: Anybody have any old business  
17 they'd like to bring up? New business.

18                  (NONE.)

19                  TIM FUNCHESS: If not, I hear a motion to  
20 adjourn?

21                  JUDGE LIVELY: I make said motion.

22                  TIM FUNCHESS: Second?

23                  JUDGE BRANICK: Second.

24                  TIM FUNCHESS: We're adjourned.

25                                (END OF HEARING)