



**HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
May 12, 2020**

The Commissioners' Court of Houston County met in a regular, called meeting on May 12, 2020, **via Zoom due to Covid 19**, with the following members present, to wit:

Jim Lovell	County Judge
Gary Lovell	Commissioner, Precinct #1
Willie Kitchen	Commissioner, Precinct #2
Pat Perry	Commissioner, Precinct #3
Jimmy Henderson	Commissioner, Precinct #4

Also present:

Jan Pigford	Administrative Assistant to the County Judge
Sharon Luker	Assistant to the Commissioners
Melissa Jeter	Auditor
Justin Killough	Sheriff
Roger Dickey	Emergency Management Coordinator
Bonita Newman	9-1-1 Addressing
Janis Omelina	Treasurer
Daphne Session	County Attorney
Paul Schobert	IT (remote)
Ryan Martin	Sheriff's Office
Nathan Turner	IT (local)
Terri Meadows	County Clerk

Media:

Will Johnson	The Messenger
Alton Porter	Houston County Courier

Visitors:

None

(1) Welcome, Invocation and Pledges:

Judge Lovell called the meeting to order. Commissioner Kitchen led the opening prayer. Judge Lovell led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and the Texas Flag.

- (2) Recognition and comments from guests:
None
- (3) **Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve Commissioners Court minutes from April 28, 2020. Commissioner Kitchen seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**
- (4) **Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to approve Budget Amendments. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**
- (5) Consider payment of bills and expenses:
- a. Accounts payable
 - b. Fund transfers
 - c. Ratify Salary expenses
- Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to pay all of the bills and expenses for a. (Accounts payable), b. (Fund transfers), and c. (Ratify Salary expenses). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Henderson. The motion carried 5 to 0.**
- (6) Receive information, announcements and reports from County Departments:
- a. Environmental Report
 - b. Community Service Report (not available)
- Commissioner Lovell made a motion to receive as information the Environmental Report. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**
- Other Oral Reports from County Departments:
- c. Commissioner Kitchen said he had received some calls about the condition of the airport. There are lights burned out and striping on the runway has faded. Jude Lovell advised that we have received a grant that will repair the airport.
 - d. Auditor Melissa Jeter gave some numbers on FEMA monies that have been approved. Precinct 1 is approved for \$330,399.00 and Precinct 3 is approved for \$157,957.00.
- (7) Consider approving salaries for new and/or transfer employees: NONE
- (8) Discuss and consider approving payment of compensatory, vacation and holiday time for County employees and necessary budget amendments. NONE
- (9) **Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to adopt a proclamation declaring May as Elder Abuse Prevention Awareness Month. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**
- (10) **Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$324.00 for reimbursement for a culvert for CR 2780 in Precinct 2. Commissioner Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 to 0.**
- (11) **Commissioner Kitchen moved to accept and approve renewing the property insurance policy with Texas Association of Counties for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 with the premium amount of \$57,313.00. Commissioner Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 to 0.**

- (12) Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve the orders allowing retail fireworks permit holders to sell fireworks to the public for the Memorial Day and 4th of July, 2020 holiday celebrations and Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.
- (13) Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to advertise to accept bids for the purchase of two patrol pickups for the Houston County Sheriff's Office through a Lease Purchase agreement with Citizens National Bank. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.
- (14) Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to appoint Judge Lovell, Auditor Melissa Jeter and Emergency Management Director Roger Dickey as the three-person scoring committee to review prequalified grant administrators eligible under the Texas Community Development Block Grant. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.
- (15) Commissioner Perry moved to designate the County Judge, Precinct 3 Commissioner or Road Supervisor to negotiate with property owners for necessary easements for current TXDOT bridge projects on CR 3365. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.
- (16) Judge Lovell moved to adjourn the Meeting. Commissioner Kitchen seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0. The meeting was adjourned.

Jim Lovell, County Judge

Gary Lovell, Commissioner, Precinct #1

Willie Kitchen, Commissioner, Precinct #2

Pat Perry, Commissioner, Precinct #3

Jimmy Henderson, Commissioner, Precinct #4

Attest:

Terri Meadows, County Clerk