

The Commissioners' Court of Houston County met in a regular, called meeting on January 22, 2019 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:

Sarah Tunnell Clark	County Court at Law Judge
Maria Lopez	CCL Coordinator
Sharon Luker	Assistant to the County Commissioners
Jan Pigford	Administrative Assistant to the County Judge
Melissa Jeter	Houston County Auditor
Danette Millican	Houston County Tax Assessor Collector
Janis Omelina	Houston County Treasurer
Cynthia Lum	Elections Administrator
Terri Meadows	Houston County Clerk

Media:

Alton Porter	Houston County Courier
Will Johnson	Grapeland Messenger

Visitors: Tab Beall, Patricia Lucas, Carey Minter, Joan Lucas, John Whitehead, Elvira Whitehead, Warren Taylor, Denny Wheeler, Judge R.C. "Chris" von Doenhoff, Joel Stockton, Dan Huggins, Gwendolyn Scott, Randall Bodme, Kevin Polansky, Scot Lucas, Dr. Ianthia Fisher

Judge Lovell called the meeting to order and Willie Kitchen gave the opening prayer. Judge Lovell led the pledges of allegiance.

Judge Lovell recognized the guests and asked if there were any comments.

Patricia Lucas and her son Scot Lucas brought information concerning the chicken farms in the area. They voiced their concerns about the horrible odor that comes out of the farms. Judge Lovell thanked them for coming and for their comments.

Willie Kitchen made a motion to approve the prior Commissioners Court minutes. Gary Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

There were no budget amendments.

Willie Kitchen made a motion to pay the bills and expenses. The motion was seconded by Gary Lovell. The motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen to accept as information the County Treasurers Report and the Compensatory Report. The motion was seconded by Gary Lovell. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Gary Lovell to approve the part-time salary for Fred Pyeatt as Road Hand for Precinct #1. Willie Kitchen seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen to approve the full-time salary for Maria Guadalupe Arvizu Lopez as County Court at Law Court Coordinator. Gary Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen to approve the full-time salary for Tristan Elem and Dehintia Maxey as Jailers. Jimmy Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen to approve the request for Fred Newtz - Veterans Services Officer, to move from full-time salary to part-time salary. Gary Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen to approve the full-time salary for Vicki Lovell as Dispatcher. Jimmy Henderson seconded the motion. Gary Lovell abstained from the vote. Motion carried 3 to 0.

Gary Lovell made a motion to approve payment of compensatory, vacation and holiday time for previous County employees and necessary budget amendments. Willie Kitchen seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Willie Kitchen made a motion to approve a budget amendment of \$20,000 in additional election department expenses to be incurred for the Local Option Liquor Election, JP Precinct 1 district to be held May 4, 2019. Gary Lovell seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Jimmy Henderson moved to renew the lease agreement between Brenda Stubblefield and Houston County Road and Bridge Precinct #4. Pat Perry seconded. Motion carried.

Tab Beall, Tax Attorney with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins and Mott, gave a presentation concerning the compressor lawsuits. The action item on the agenda to accept corrected certified tax rolls for 2012 and 2013 was tabled to allow the Tax-Assessor Collector and the Houston County Appraisal District to receive a couple of more additions. This will be put back on the agenda at a later date.

Willie Kitchen made a motion to approve payment of interest as ordered by final agreement on refunds of taxes previously paid on compressors located in Houston County and necessary budget amendments. Gary Lovell seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Gary Lovell moved to approve applying for the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) for FY 2019. Willie Kitchen seconded. The motion carried 4 to 0.

Gary Lovell made a motion to approve the budget allocation request and contract with Anderson-Houston Soil & Water Conservation District #421. Willie Kitchen seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Willie Kitchen moved for the approval of \$1000 for the Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund Application and Interlocal Agreement for Davy Crockett Festival to be held on March 30, 2019. Gary Lovell seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Willie Kitchen made a motion to approve the Interlocal agreement with the City of Crockett and Crockett Economic Development Corporation (CEIDC) for improvements to Edmiston Drive under LGC 381.004. Gary Lovell seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Pat Perry made a motion to approve Advanced Funding Agreement for the bridge replacement project proposed for CR 4180 at Tributary of White Rock Creek. Willie Kitchen seconded. The motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion to approve a three year contract with Todd, Hamaker & Johnson to perform the financial audit for Houston County beginning FY 2019 was made by Willie Kitchen and Gary Lovell seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Denny Wheeler with Pineywoods Sanitation gave a short waste report on the progress made in their first month. They have placed a total of 1784 trash carts in the county. There are still a few issues being worked out but overall it is going very well.

Gary Lovell made a motion to receive as information the FY 2018 County Road and Bridge Expenditure Lateral Road Report. Willie Kitchen seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

There was some discussion between Judge R. C. "Chris" von Doenhoff (representing CEIDC) and Commissioners Court on the action item on tax abatement for Midland Estate, LLC a manufacturer of recycled oil. After the discussion the item died for lack of a motion.

Judge Jim Lovell made the motion to adjourn which was seconded by the Court standing.

The motion carried 4 to 0 and 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