

The Commissioners' Court of Houston County met in a regular, called meeting on March 12, 2019 with the following members present, to wit:

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

Also present:

Sharon Luker	Assistant to the County Commissioners
Jan Pigford	Administrative Assistant to the County Judge
Melissa Jeter	Houston County Auditor
Janis Omelina	Houston County Treasurer
Roger Dickey	Emergency Management
Terri Meadows	Houston County Clerk
Tasha Brent	Agrilife Extension Agent
Elizabeth Brown	Agrilife Extension Office Administrative Assistant
Red Smith	Constable Precinct 2
Clyde Black	Justice of the Peace Precinct 1
G. P. Shearer	Chief Deputy (S/O)
Cynthia Lum	Elections Administrator
Daphne Session	County Attorney
Brittani Womack	First Assistant Auditor

Media:

Alton Porter	Houston County Courier
Will Johnson	Grapeland Messenger

Visitors: Glenda Roberts, Lori Bowlin, Paula Thomas-Gullo, Gail Thomas, Sally Nann, Terri Bobalik Daigle, Theresa Bobalik, Gerald Reichl, Robert Markham, Patsy Reichl, Gwendolyn Scott, Randy Dowdy, Walter Stewart, Cory Hicks, Bobby Bowlin, Erick Macha (not legible), OI MI (not legible)

Judge Lovell called the meeting to order and Commissioner 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. Gary Reichl voiced his concerns about the lack of an animal shelter in Houston County. Walter Stewart addressed his concerns for his road and violation of laws of how much of his property could be taken up for the road.

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

There were no budget amendments.

Willie Kitchen made a motion to pay the bills and expenses (5a, 5b, and 5c). The motion was seconded by Pat Perry. The motion carried 4 to 0.

Willie Kitchen moved to receive as information the Environmental Report. Jimmy Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0. Red Smith was present and gave an oral Community Service report. Jan Pigford encouraged us to all participate in the Healthy County Program. Judge Lovell addressed Gary Reichel's concern about the animal shelter and the need for one, and he stated the county does not currently have funding and made some possible suggestions to the signers of the petition.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen to approve the salary and promotion of William Gardner from full-time Sheriff Deputy to full-time Patrol Sergeant. Pat Perry seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen to approve the salary (with cell phone allowance) and promotion of Mark Simon from full-time Deputy Bailiff to full-time Deputy Sheriff. Pat Perry seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen to approve the salary and hiring of Billy Riemenschneider as part-time Truck Driver/Heavy Equipment Operator for Precinct #1. Pat Perry seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen to approve the salary and hiring of James Simon as part-time Road Hand for Precinct #2. Pat Perry seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen to approve the salary and hiring of Cathy Minchew as full-time 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Clerk in the Treasurer's Office. Jimmy Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen to approve the salary and promotion of Gwen Womack from full-time Senior Clerk (Deputy) to full-time Chief Deputy Clerk in the County Clerk's Office. Jimmy Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen to approve the salary and hiring of Elizabeth Brown as full-time Administrative Assistant/Office Manager for the County Extension Office. Jimmy Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

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

A motion was made by Pat Perry to appoint County Treasurer, Janis Omelina, as Authorized Official to request for County reimbursement of juror payments. Willie Kitchen seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Willie Kitchen made a motion to appoint Morris Luker as Houston County Representative for reporting to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Pat Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen designating one ballot box as surplus inventory and donating it to the City of Crockett as authorized by LGC 263.152 (a) (1). Jimmy Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Willie Kitchen made a motion to approve the Resolution to Adopt County Investment Policy & Fund Strategies. Jimmy Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen for the County to advertise to accept bids for the County Depository Contract. Pat Perry seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Willie Kitchen moved to approve a 2019 Joint Election Agreement contract between the County of Houston and the Houston County Hospital District AND Election Services Contract between the County Elections Administrator And the Political Subdivisions Listed Above Respectively to be held on Saturday, May 4, 2019. Jimmy Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Willie Kitchen made a motion to approve the Early Voting Ballot Board Judge for general/special election to be held on Saturday, May 4, 2019. Pat Perry seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Willie Kitchen made a motion to approve the Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund Application and Interlocal Agreement for Crockett Lions Club Rodeo to be held May 9, 10 and 11, 2019 in the amount of \$3000. Jimmy Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Item 17 on the agenda was passed to allow time to get additional information.

Willie Kitchen made a motion to approve the purchase and budget amendment for outfitting the Emergency Management Coordinator's pickup with light bar, antenna, console, etc. in the amount of \$4,100. Pat Perry seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen and seconded by Pat Perry to advertise for bids for the purchase of a 2019 Pickup for the Constable Precinct 2/Community Service Coordinator and for financing with Citizens Bank. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Willie Kitchen made a motion to consider entering into a contract with TechShare to provide case management and discovery software for the District Attorney's and County Attorney's offices. Jimmy Henderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 4 to 0.

Willie Kitchen made a motion to advertise and receive sealed bids for (a) Road Materials for Road & Bridge Departments, (b) Contract Hauling for Road & Bridge Departments, and (c,d) Fuel for County vehicles and AV Gas for Airport Fueling Station.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen to approve an Order Authorizing the Issuance of Houston County, Texas Tax Note Series, 2019. Pat Perry seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Judge Jim Lovell made the motion to adjourn. Willie Kitchen seconded. Motion carried with everyone standing. The meeting was adjourned.

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Jim Lovell, County Judge

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Gary Lovell, Commissioner, Precinct #1

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Willie Kitchen, Commissioner, Precinct #2

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Pat Perry, Commissioner, Precinct #3

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Jimmy Henderson, Commissioner, Precinct #4

Attest:

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Terri Meadows, County Clerk