



**HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 12, 2021**

The Commissioners' Court of Houston County met in a regular, called meeting on January 12, 2021, via **Zoom due to Covid 19**, with the following members present, to wit:

Jim Lovell	*ABSENT County Judge
Gary Lovell	Commissioner, Precinct #1
Willie Kitchen	Commissioner, Precinct #2
Gene Stokes	*Absent Commissioner, Precinct #3
Jimmy Henderson	Commissioner, Precinct #4

Also present:

Jan Pigford	Administrative Assistant to the County Judge
Sharon Luker	Assistant to the Commissioners
Brittani Womack	First Assistant County Auditor
Donna Kaspar	District Attorney
Janis Omelina	Treasurer
Randy Hargrove	Sheriff
Roger Dickey	Chief Deputy
Daphne Session	County Attorney
Terri Meadows	County Clerk

Media:

Alton Porter	Houston County Courier
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Visitors:

None

(1) Welcome, Invocation and Pledges:
Commissioner Kitchen called the meeting to order at 11:00 o'clock a.m. Commissioner Henderson led the opening prayer.

(2) Recognition and comments from guests: **NONE**

- (3) **Commissioner Lovell moved to approve the Commissioners Court minutes from December 22, 2020 and January 5, 2021. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (4) Consider approving budget amendments. **None**
- (5) Consider payment of bills and expenses:
- a. Accounts payable
 - b. Fund transfers
 - c. Ratify Salary expenses
- Commissioner Lovell 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 3 to 0.**
- (6) Receive information, announcements and reports from County Departments:
- a. Environmental Report
 - b. Community Service (not provided)
- Commissioner Lovell made a motion to receive as information the Environmental Report. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (7) Consider approving salaries for new and/or transfer employees:
- (a) **Commissioner Henderson made a motion and Commissioner Lovell seconded to approve the salaries for the following new hires: Casey Olds Part-time Dispatcher at hourly pay of \$12.74 in pay grade 15, AND Breanna Morris part-time Dispatcher from 12/29/20 to 1/11/21 at hourly salary of \$12.74 in pay grade 15 then become full-time Dispatcher on 1/12/21 at bi-weekly salary of \$1181.81. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
 - (b) **Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve salaries for the following full-time Jailers: Dominic McKnight at bi-weekly salary of \$1018.81 in pay grade 15; Zackary Fields at bi-weekly salary of \$1018.81 in pay grade 15; Jordan Millican at bi-weekly salary of \$1018.81 in pay grade 15. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
 - (c) **Commissioner Henderson made a motion to approve an increased salary for the promotion of Heath Murff from part-time to full-time Emergency Management Coordinator at a bi-weekly salary of \$1817.58 in pay grade 24 plus a phone stipend of \$23.08. Commissioner Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (8) Discuss and consider approving payment of compensatory, and vacation time for County employees and necessary budget amendments. **Commissioner Lovell made a motion to pay the following employees of the Houston County Sheriff's Office for Vacation/Comp Time: R. Hutcherson \$482.79, R. Hargrove \$259.71, S. Foster-North \$1832.88, J. Kaelin \$914.76, R. Dickey \$2237.08, L. Smith \$1645.31, M. Jackson \$30.37, K. Cook \$31.22, and G. Sapaugh \$580.00. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (9) **Commissioner Henderson made a motion to accept a donation of \$1600.00 from Currie Flying Service, LLC for improvements to County Road 1075 in Precinct 4. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (10) **Commissioner Henderson made a motion to accept a donation of \$1400.00 from Jason and Sandra Currie for improvements to County Road 1075 in Precinct 4. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**

(11) Discuss and consider a resolution:

- (a) supporting the adoption and approval of the Texas Term Sheet in its entirety
- (b) finding there is a substantial need for repayment of opioid-related expenditures and payment to abate opioid-related harms in and about Houston County
- (c) that the Commissioners Court supports in its entirety the State of Texas and Texas Political Subdivisions' Opioid Abatement Fund Council and Settlement Allocation Term Sheet.
Daphne Session, County Attorney, advised this is old ongoing litigation and the Court must approve the above to continue to be considered to receive any settlement.
Commissioner Lovell moved to adopt the resolution with Commissioner Henderson giving the second. Motion carried 3 to 0.

(12) Discuss and consider action to amend the approved position classifications within the Houston County Sheriff's Department.

- (1) Commissioner Lovell made a motion and Commissioner Henderson seconded to approve Mike Molnes to position of Sergeant Investigator at a pay-rate of \$1618.53 bi-weekly in pay grade 23 with continued phone stipend. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (2) Commissioner Lovell moved to approve Billy Christian to Sergeant Investigator at a pay-rate of \$1614.83 bi-weekly in pay grade 23 with continued phone stipend. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (3) Commissioner Henderson made a motion and Commissioner Lovell seconded to approve Mike McCreight as Patrol Deputy at a pay-rate of \$1375.73 bi-weekly in pay grade 19 with continued phone stipend. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (4) Commissioner Henderson made a motion to approve Jerry Baker as Lieutenant at a pay-rate of \$1634.48 bi-weekly in pay grade 23 plus a phone stipend. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (5) Commissioner Henderson made a motion and Commissioner Lovell seconded to approve Martha Jackson as Jail Administrator at a pay-rate of \$1505.25 bi-weekly in pay grade 23 plus a phone stipend. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (6) Commissioner Henderson made a motion to approve Delman Orme as Civil Process Deputy at a pay-rate of \$1334.58 bi-weekly in pay grade 19 plus a phone stipend. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (7) Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve Mike Cochran as Patrol Deputy at a pay rate of \$1310.29 bi-weekly in pay grade 19 plus a phone stipend. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**

(13)Adjourn. **Commissioner Kitchen made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**

Jim Lovell, County Judge

Gary Lovell, Commissioner, Precinct #1

Willie Kitchen, Commissioner, Precinct #2

Gene Stokes, Commissioner, Precinct #3

Jimmy Henderson, Commissioner, Precinct #4

Attest:

Terri Meadows, County Clerk