



**HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 28, 2020**

The Commissioners' Court of Houston County met in a regular, called meeting on January 28, 2020 with the following members present, to wit:

Jim Lovell	County Judge	
Gary Lovell	Commissioner, Precinct #1	
Willie Kitchen	Commissioner, Precinct #2	ABSENT 1/28/2020
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 County Commissioners
Melissa Jeter	Auditor
Justin Killough	Chief Deputy-S/O
Cynthia Lum	Elections Administrator
Roger Dickey	Emergency Management
Corey Hicks	PVAMU
Tasha Brent	AgriLife
Jo Smith	TAM AgriLife
Janis Omelina	Treasurer
Terri Meadows	Houston County Clerk

Media:

Alton Porter	Houston County Courier
Will Johnson	The Messenger

Visitors: Gwendolyn Scott, Denny Wheeler (Pineywood Sanitation), Thomas Gilson

(1) Welcome, Invocation and Pledges:

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

(2) Recognition and comments from guests:

Judge Lovell recognized the guests and asked if there were any comments. Gwendolyn Scott made a comment on the resolution passed previously by Commissioners Court where Houston County was adopted as a 2nd amendment sanctuary county. Judge Lovell thanked her for her comments and question, but advised her that the Court could not comment or take action. He did advise her to speak to Daphne Session, County Attorney, concerning her legal question.

- (3) Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve the Commissioners Court minutes from January 14, 2020. Commissioner Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- (4) Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve the Budget Amendments. Commissioner Perry seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- (5) Consider payment of bills and expenses:
 - a. Accounts payable
 - b. Fund transfers
 - c. Ratify Salary expenses

Commissioner Henderson 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 Perry. The motion carried 4 to 0.
- (6) Receive information, announcements and reports from County Departments:
 - a. County Treasurers Report
 - b. Compensatory Report

Commissioner Lovell made a motion to receive as information the County Treasurer's Report and the Compensatory Report. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- (7) Consider approving salaries for new and/or transfer employees: **There were none.**
- (8) Discuss and consider approving payment of compensatory, vacation and holiday time for County employees and necessary budget amendments. **There were none.**
- (9) Receive as information annual report of major programming activities for 2019 from Houston County Agrilife & Prairie View Extension Agents. Jo Smith, Houston County Agrilife Extension Director spoke about some of the programs they hold throughout the year in our community and our schools. Corey Hicks and Tasha Brent (also with Agrilife) added to her information with more information about the planting programs, and Healthy County Program that are facilitated in the county.
- (10) Discuss and consider action on approving an annual bond for the Elections Administrator as required under Texas Elections Code 31.040. **Commissioner Lovell moved to approve the annual bond for the Elections Administrator. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.**
- (11) Commissioner Henderson made a motion to receive as information the Continuing Education Hours for the County Clerk. Commissioner Perry seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(12) Houston County is seeking to develop an application to the Texas General Land Office for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CBDG-MIT) Funds for eligible activities associated to the Texas CDBG Mitigation Action Plan Grant Program. Discuss and consider action on advertising to accept:

- (a) Proposals from Administrative Consultants for Application Preparation and Project Administration
- (b) Qualifications from Texas-Registered Engineers to provide engineering services associated to Application preparation and Project implementation.

Commissioner Lovell made a motion and Commissioner Henderson seconded to advertise for and select a Grant Administrator and an Engineer to apply for grants and oversee the process. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(13) Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve the contract with H2O Partners to prepare the multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan and grant application. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(14) Commissioner Lovell made a motion and Commissioner Henderson seconded to approve the contract for eDiscovery services from iDocket for the County and District Attorney's Office and necessary budget amendments. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(15) Commissioner Henderson made a motion to receive as information the FY 2019 Texas County Lateral Road and Bridge Expenditure Yearly Report. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(16) Commissioner Henderson made a motion to approve application for Fiscal Year 2020 Emergency Management Performance Grant. Commissioner Perry seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(17) Commissioner Lovell made a motion to set March 3, 2020 for the Public Hearing concerning the tax abatement for Vulcraft and publish required notices. Commissioner Perry seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(18)Denny Wheeler was present to give an update from Pineywood Sanitation. He stated there are currently 1912 residential customers and 114 commercial dumpsters. He is pleased that numbers of customers is up from this time last year.

(19)Judge Lovell moved to adjourn the Meeting. Commissioner Perry seconded. Motion carried 4 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