



**HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 26, 2019**

The Commissioners' Court of Houston County met in a regular, called meeting on March 26, 2019 with the following members present, to wit:

Jim Lovell	County Judge
Gary Lovell	Commissioner, Precinct #1
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
Cathy Minchew	Houston County Treasurer's Office
Doug King	Houston County Sheriff's Office
Daphne Session	Houston County Attorney
LaToya Jones	Senior Citizens Center
Jenna Hollingsworth	Houston County Clerk Office
Terri Meadows	Houston County Clerk

Media:

None were present

Visitors: Gwendolyn Scott, Denny Wheeler (PWS), Wanda Nichols, Tim Allen, Wanda Jordan (Historical Commission), Patricia Hill, Sally Brannen, Steve Meadows, Jo Smith

(1) Welcome, Invocation and Pledges:

Judge Lovell called the meeting to order and he called on Reverend Steve Meadows to give 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. There were none.

- (3) Consider approval of prior Commissioners Court Minutes:
Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve the Commissioners Court minutes from March 12, 2019. Commissioner Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- (4) Consider approving budget amendments:
There were no budget amendments.
- (5) Consider payment of bills and expenses:
a. Accounts payable
b. Fund transfers
c. Ratify Salary expenses
Commissioner Lovell made a motion to pay the bills and expenses. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Henderson. The motion carried 4 to 0.
- (6) Receive information, announcements and reports from County Departments:
a. County Treasurer's Report will be presented at the next meeting
b. County Treasurer presented the Compensatory Report
Commissioner Lovell moved to receive as information, Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- (7) Consider approving salaries for new and/or transfer employees:
a. Bailiff Deputy
A motion was made by Commissioner Perry to approve the salary and hiring of Joel Martin to Full-Time Bailiff Deputy at a bi-weekly salary of \$1018.81 in pay grade 15. Commissioner Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.
b. Senior County Clerk
A motion was made by Commissioner Lovell and seconded by Commissioner Henderson to approve the salary and hiring of Jenna Hollingsworth as Full-Time Senior Clerk in the County Clerk Office at pay grade 17 and a bi-weekly salary of \$1,123.24. The motion carried 4 to 0.
c. Custodian Senior Center
Commissioner Lovell moved to approve the salary and hiring of LaToya Jones as Part-Time Custodian at the Senior Center at pay grade 10 and hourly pay at \$10.24. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- (8) Discuss and consider approving payment of compensatory, vacation and holiday time for previous County employees and necessary budget amendments.
There were none at this time.
- (9) Receive as information 2018 Annual Report from Houston County Historical Commission:
The report was given by Wanda Jordan. She reported that the commission currently consists of 23 appointed members and that they had 100 registered visitors in the office in 2018. They Historical Commission participated in several activities in our town to promote Heritage Tourism in 2018.
- (10) Discuss and consider taking action to accept donation to Precinct 2 for improvements to CR 2080.

Commissioner Perry moved to accept a donation from Currie Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$1,545.04 to be used for improvements to County Road 2080 in Precinct 2. Commissioner Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

- (11) Discuss and consider action on declaring Precinct 3 John Deere Tractor and Alamo Boom Mower as surplus inventory and approving sale to another municipality authorized under LGC 263.006.

Commissioner Perry made a motion to declare Precinct 3 John Deere Tractor and Alamo boom mower as surplus inventory and approving the sale to another municipality (LGC §263.006). Commissioner Lovell seconded the motion. The motion carried 4 to 0.

- (12) Discuss and consider approving renewal of Affordable Care Act Reporting and Tracking Service through Texas Association of Counties for 2019.

Motion made by Commissioner Lovell to approve, Commissioner Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

- (13) Discuss and consider action on reimbursing Angelina County for mental commitment hearing court costs incurred on July, 2018:

On July 2, 2018, Angelina County Sheriff's Deputy transported a resident of Houston County to Brazos County for mental health proceedings. The statute states the county who initiates the Emergency Detention Order is responsible for the court costs. The individual had originally appeared for treatment at the Burke Center Crockett Clinic but was later taken to Lufkin. Commissioner Lovell moved to approve the payment of \$637.00 for court costs incurred in Angelina County for Case #9566-M. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

- (14) Discuss and consider action on designating items removed and updated by Johnson Controls as salvage and authorize disposal:

AHU Split Systems – 1 at Sr. Citizens Center and 5 at the Courthouse Annex; AHU-RTUs – 3 at Old Jail Facility.

Motion made by Commissioner Lovell, Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

- (15) Discuss and consider adopting a resolution approving the County Attorney's Office submission of a grant application to the Office of the Attorney General Crime Victim Services and designation of the County Judge as the Authorized Official for the grant.

Commissioner Lovell made a motion to. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

- (16) AND approve the County Attorney's Office request to apply for the FY2020-2021 Crime Victim Services Grant through the Office of the Attorney General of Texas.

Commissioner Lovell made a motion, Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

- (17) Discuss and consider approving Houston County Event and display permit for Houston County Welfare Board and Kalin's Center for Child Abuse Prevention Month Program.

Reverend Tim Allen of the Houston County Child Welfare Board gave a brief talk on child abuse awareness and what the local and state board is doing to promote awareness. April is the month set aside to bring awareness to child abuse.

Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve the event and display permit to be held on April 3, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. on the Courthouse steps. Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(18) Discuss and consider taking action to appoint new members to the Child Welfare Board:
Wanda Nichols spoke briefly about the need to appoint 3 new members to the Houston County Child Welfare Board. New members: Cathy Minchew, Mike Molnes, and Sally Brannen.
Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve the appointment, Commissioner Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(19) Discuss and consider appointing elected Official from Houston County to serve on Board of Directors for Deep East Texas Council of Governments:
Commissioner Lovell made a motion that we re-appoint Judge Lovell. Commissioner Perry seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(20) Consider adopting Proclamation designating the month of April as "County Government Month":
Jan Pigford spoke about County Government Month and asks that the Court set the County Appreciation Lunch at the Park on April 26, 2019. Commissioner Lovell made a motion to adopt and set the date, Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(21) Consider adopting Proclamation designating April as "Fair Housing Month."
Commissioner Lovell made a motion and Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(22) Accept as information waste report from Pineywoods Sanitation:
Denny Wheeler of Pineywoods Sanitation gave a short report informing us there are 1735 residential customers and 76 commercial dumpsters. No action was taken.

(23) Adjourn:
Judge Jim Lovell made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Perry seconded. Motion carried with everyone standing.
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