

The Commissioner Court of Houston County met in a regular called meeting on February 12, 2013 with the following members present to wit:

|                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| Erin Ford      | County Judge             |
| Roger Dickey   | Commissioner Precinct #1 |
| Willie Kitchen | Commissioner Precinct #2 |
| Pat Perry      | Commissioner Precinct #3 |
| Kennon Kellum  | Commissioner Precinct #4 |

Also present:

|                  |                                   |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Bridget Lamb     | County Clerk                      |
| Melissa Mosley   | County Auditor                    |
| Danette Millican | County Tax Assessor-Collector     |
| Clyde Black      | Justice of The Peace, Precinct #1 |
| Darrel Bobbitt   | Sheriff                           |

Media:

|              |                           |
|--------------|---------------------------|
| Will Johnson | Grapeland Messenger       |
| Jenna Duncan | Houston County Courier    |
| Penny Webb   | Houston County Life & Web |

Visitors: G. P. Shearer, Tim Allen, George R. Pierson, Jack Stoffregen, Jeffrey Higginbotham, Jeffrey Rightmire, Barbara LaRue, Wanda Nichols, James Hall, George Crowson, Jr. , Amber Bewley, Julia Conner, Jeff Parsons, Matt Raines.

County Judge Erin Ford called the meeting to order

Commissioner Kennon Kellum opened the meeting with a prayer

Pledge Allegiance

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Willie Kitchen to approve the minutes of the last regular called meeting held on January 22, 2013. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Kennon Kellum to approve the minutes of the special called meeting held on January 31, 2013. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to approve payments of bills and expenses and approval of related budget transfers. Motion carried 5 to 0.

The court heard a presentation from Clyde Black Justice of the Peace 1 and Danette Millican Tax Assessor Collector concerning their duties in office.

Judge Ford recognized all guests

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to approve the salary of Billy Christian and Sterling Cole Pemberton as part-time jailers with a pay rate of \$9.04 per hour, Austin Roberts and John Nathan Turner from part-time to full time jailers at a pay rate of \$848.36 bi-weekly and Rocky Hoch from jailer to deputy at a pay rate of \$1,031.19 bi-weekly. Motion carried 5 to 0.

The court discussed overweight road permits, former Crockett City Councilman James Hall said that more fees on overweight vehicle would negatively impact an already hurt logging industry. Hall serves on the legislative committee for the Texas Forestry Association, and he said that the road permits have been a point of debate because of its negative repercussions on the industry.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Willie Kitchen to add Frontier Camp to Juror donation list. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to table nominating a representative for the Houston County Appraisal District Board of Review for 2013-2014 until the next commissioner court meeting. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Pat Perry to advertise in the newspaper for bids for the sale of a 1988 Mack 16 yard dump truck for road and Bridge Precinct 4. Motion carried 5 to 0.

County Auditor Melissa Mosley reported that Houston County and its public school districts were shorted \$103,939.03 in funds under the timber funds over the past two fiscal years. The funds gradually have been decreasing since 2008. Melissa said she plans to fight for increased funding, noting that she knows there is still timber production in the Davy Crockett National Forest, so portion of the profit should come in locally. However, she said the court needs to prepare for a large budget shortfall in the case that the bill is not reauthorized for fiscal year 2013.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to approve the contracts and proposed budget with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services to be reimbursed through Title IV-E funding for certain legal services provided by the Houston County Attorney's Office and allowable foster care expenses by the Houston County Child Welfare Board. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to receive the annual racial profiling report from Law Enforcement Agencies as information. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Jeff Parsons, Vice President of Business Development and Facility Services Mel Brown and Associates addressed the court concerning the Crockett State School property. He stated that they would like to be able to help the county and represent the county's interests and try and find a suitable private vendor that would come in and operate the facility, see that being attractive for what it was initially intended for which is in the world of juvenile corrections. Commissioner Willie Kitchen asked Parsons to provide more information to the court about the company's work with this type of property and community.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to receive as information 2012 audit report from Emergency Services District 2. Motion carried 5 to 0.

The court heard a presentation on Capital Murder trial insurance from Jack Stoffregen, chief of the Regional Public Defender's Office for Capital Case. The office was founded in 2007 with funding from the Texas Indigent Defense Commission. When a person is charged with capital murder and the state is seeking the death sentence, the county is responsible for providing indigent defendants with two lawyers, a mitigation specialist and an investigator. If the county buys this insurance, the office would then take over these responsibilities on behalf of the county at no extra cost. The first year would be free as the fees will be paid by the state, and the payment schedule for each year after would be \$4,631.00, \$6,175.00, \$9,263.00, 12,350.00 and \$15,438.00 the second year would technically be paid for by the state, with the county paying the additional \$4,631.00 into a surplus fund.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Pat Perry that this meeting be adjourn.

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Erin Ford, County Judge

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Roger Dickey, Comm. Pct #1

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Willie Kitchen, Comm. Pct #2

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Pat Perry, Comm. Pct #3

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Kennon Kellum, Comm. Pct #4

Attest:

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Bridget Lamb, County Clerk