

The Commissioner Court of Houston County met in a regular called meeting held on July 28, 2015 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
Amber Bewley	Assistant County Attorney
Donna Kaspar	District Attorney

Media

Will Johnson	Grapeland Messenger
Teresa Hewett	Houston County Courier

Visitors: Tom Lambert, R. C. von Doenhoff, Charles Arnold, Glenda Dowell, Paul Stringer, Karen Rice, Susie Hammond, Brian Townsend, Jan Pigford and Mary Lucas

County Judge Erin Ford called the meeting to order

Commissioner Willie Kitchen opened the meeting with a prayer

Pledge of Allegiance

Recognition of guests

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Pat Perry to approve the minutes of the last regular called meeting held on July 14, 2014. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Willie Kitchen to approve payment of bills and expenses. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen to accept as information the County Treasurers Report. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to accept as information the Compensatory time report. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Judge Ford announced that the Budget workshop will be August 11, 2015 at 9:00 am and regular commissioner court will follow at 10:00 am.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Pat Perry to approve the salary for Roger Rushing as full time equipment operator in Precinct #4 at the pay rate of \$12.50 per hour, effective August 3, 2015. He has been working part-time since July 6, 2015. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Willie Kitchen to approve a Retired Peace Officer Policy for Houston County to be administered by the Sheriff's Office. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Charlotte Collins, Texas Association of Counties Employee Benefits Consultant gave a presentation regarding renewing of the employee's health insurance plan, Affordable Care Act, and cost control.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to renew Plan 800 the increase to keep the same plan would be over \$50,000.00 in additional expenses. Motion died following a split vote. for - Kitchen and Dickey, against- Judge Ford, Perry and Kellum.

After reviewing how many employees would be affected to shift to the alternate plan, 75% of the total employees would not feel a major impact and would only cost the county an additional \$25,000.00 in expenses to provide health care to all full time county employees. This adjustment will be used to ensure other benefits provided could be fully funded.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Judge Ford to choose Plan 800G for the Employees Health Insurance Plan with Texas Association of Counties. Motion carried 3 to 2. (for - Kellum, Judge and Perry, against-Dickey and Kitchen).

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to renew the Public Officials and Law Enforcement Liability with the Texas Association of Counties. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Judge Ford seconded by Willie Kitchen to approve the application for use of Hotel and Motel Occupancy Tax and award \$7,500.00 to the World Championship Fiddlers Festival of Crockett, Texas. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to approve the Tax Abatement and Incentive Agreement for CP3 (TX), LLC. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to approve the subscription agreement with Lexis Nexis for user access for on-line law library. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Pat Perry to approve the Fiscal Year contract amendment with Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services for Home Delivered Meals Program. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to approve DETCOG 911 Interlocal Agreement for E9-1-1 public safety answering point services within the Sheriff's Office for Fiscal Year 2016-2017. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to approve DETCOG 911 Interlocal Agreement for E9-1-1 automatic location information maintenances services within Houston County Address Coordinator's Office for Fiscal year 2016-2017. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Willie Kitchen to approve Texas General Land Office Disaster Recovery Construction Contract Change Order Request Form. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Judge Ford reported that he and Trinity County Judge Doug Page sent a letter to East Texas Medical Center to make an offer for both communication towers for a total sum of \$300,000.00. This offer is contingent on both counties ability to obtain fund from the Deep East Texas Council of Governments (DETCOG) through their grant programs.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Willie Kitchen to apply for a joint grant with Trinity County for communication towers. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Pat Perry seconded by Willie Kitchen to authorize Lone Star NGL Pipeline, LP to install pipelines under CR 2080, 2210, 3020, 3365, 3395, 3420, 3525, 3540, 3555, 3575, 3610, 3605 & 3625. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Willie Kitchen to receive as information the certified values for Tax Year 2015 from Houston County Appraisal District and the Fiscal Year 2016 calculated effective and rollback tax rates from the County Tax Assessor Collector. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Judge Ford seconded by Roger Dickey to decline on participating in the Capital Murder Public Defender Program. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Pat Perry that this meeting be adjourn.

Erin Ford, County Judge

Roger Dickey, Comm. Pct. #1

Willie Kitchen, Comm. Pct. #2

Pat Perry, Comm. Pct. #3

Kennon Kellum, Comm. Pct. #4

Attest:

Bridget Lamb, County Clerk

