



HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING AUGUST 4, 2026

The Commissioners' Court of Houston County met in a special, called meeting on August 4, 2026 in **person and via zoom**, with the following members present, to wit:

The Court

Jim Lovell	County Judge	ABSENT
Gary Lovell	Commissioner, Precinct #1	PRESENT
Willie Kitchen	Commissioner, Precinct #2	PRESENT
Gene Stokes	Commissioner, Precinct #3	PRESENT
Jimmy Henderson	Commissioner, Precinct #4	ABSENT
Terri Meadows	County Clerk	PRESENT

County Officials/Employees in person:

Zak Bengé	HCSO	Present
Sarah Bergman	First Assistant Auditor	Zoom
Hugh Coleman	Assistant County Attorney	Zoom
Kris Dyches	Human Resources Administrator	Present
Melissa Jeter	County Auditor	Present
Carl Johnson	Facilities Administrator	Zoom
Sheila Johnson	Grants Administrator	Present
Kendall King	Assistant to County Judge	Present
Cynthia Lum	Elections Administrator	Present
Todd McConnell	IT	Present
Rita Rodriguez	Office Manager/DA	Zoom
Darrellyn Smith	Assistant to the County Commissioners	Present

Media:

Visitors: J J Weeks (1921 Consultant)

(1) Welcome, Invocation and Pledges:

On Tuesday, August 4, 2026, Judge Lovell called the special scheduled Houston County Commissioners Court meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Commissioner Stokes voiced the opening prayer followed by Judge Lovell leading the Pledge to the American Flag and the Texas Flag.

(2) Discuss and consider action on County Provided Insurance Policies for FY 2027:

- Health Insurance
- Group Life

Kris Dyches, Human Resources Administrator and J J Weeks with 1921 Consultant were available to explain the Curative Policy that was being presented as possible health insurance for County employees. Commissioner Lovell moved to go with Curative Insurance for health insurance and continue with MetLife for Life Insurance for the County Provided Insurance Policies for FY 2027. Commissioner Kitchen seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

- (3) Discuss and consider action on Employee paid Supplemental Insurance Policies (optional) for FY 2027

- a. Vision
- b. Voluntary Life & Dependent Life
- c. GAP Policy for Dependents
- d. Dental
- e. Accident
- f. Critical Illness/Cancer
- g. Hospital Indemnity
- h. Short Term & Long-Term Disability

Commissioner Kitchen moved to approve the employee paid supplemental insurance policies (optional) for FY 2027, with the removal of GAP Policy for Dependents (because that will no longer be necessary), and note that the other policies do not have a rate increase, but the Short Term & Long-Term Disability has a small increase. Commissioner Stokes seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

- (4) Discuss and consider action on recommendation from Selection Review Committee for the Renovation of Existing Bank Phase 1 and accept a contract with the selected company and Houston County. **No Action Taken**

- (5) Adjourn. **Judge Lovell made a motion for the Commissioners Court Meeting to Adjourn. The motion carried by everyone rising and leaving the meeting at 9:49 a.m.**

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

Date Approved: August 11, 2026