

The Commissioners' Court of Houston County met in a regular, called meeting on September 25, 2018 with the following members present, to wit:

Jim Lovell	County Judge
Gary Lovell	Commissioner, Precinct #1
Pat Perry	Commissioner, Precinct #3
Kennon Kellum	Commissioner, Precinct #4

Also present:

Melissa Jeter	Houston County Auditor
Danette Millican	Houston County Tax Assessor/Collector
Morris Luker	Houston County Constable, Precinct 1
Michael Molnes	Houston County Sheriff's Office
Cynthia Lum	Houston County Elections Administrator
Janice Turner	Chief Deputy County Clerk

Media:

Alton Porter	Houston County Courier
Will Johnson	Grapeland Messenger

Visitors: G. P. Shearer, Debbie Leland, Josie Ditoro, Lillian Ditoro, Dan Huggins, Dan McElhany, Jo Smith, Carrie Beaver, Amanda Sheppard, Bert Brewer, Thomas Mardik, Sonny Hubbard, Tami Barugh, Chris Bankhead, Jimmy Esparza, Blake Aulds, Jennie Ditoro, Ana Gore, Corey Hicks, Denny Wheeler, Lonnie Ellis, Sharon Luker and Jan Pigford

Judge Jim Lovell called the meeting to order and Kennon Kellum gave the opening prayer. Judge Lovell led the pledges of allegiance.

There were no comments from the audience.

Gary Lovell made a motion to approve the prior Commissioners Court minutes. Kennon Kellum seconded the motion and the motion carried 4 to 0.

There were no budget amendments

Kennon Kellum made a motion to pay the bills and expenses with the addition of utility invoices for Windstream and Center Point Energy. The motion was seconded by Gary Lovell. The motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Gary Lovell to accept as information the Houston County Treasurer's Report and Compensatory Report. Kennon Kellum seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Pat Perry made a motion to approve the hiring of Oscar Joseph Allemore as a full-time Equipment Operator for Precinct 3 at a bi-weekly salary of \$1,093.96. He is replacing Jason Brown. Kennon Kellum seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Gary Lovell and seconded by Kennon Kellum to approve the 5%, 6-month raise for Nathan Turner of the Information Technology Department. Motion carried 4 to 0.

The Homestead 4-H Club gave an informative presentation on the activities and goals of 4-H. They requested that the County Judge and County Commissioners issue a Proclamation designating October 7–13, 2018 as National 4-H Week in Texas. Kennon Kellum made a motion to issue the Proclamation and commend the 4-H Youth Development Program of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the many men and women who have made the program a success. Pat Perry made a second to the motion and the motion carried 4 to 0.

Gary Lovell made a motion to approve the affidavits and make any budget amendments necessary to reduce the salaries of the County Judge and District Court Judges so that the

salaries of the District Court Coordinator and the County Judge's Administrative Assistant can be increased. Kennon Kellum seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Morris Luker presented the Houston County Sheriff and Constable Fees to be effective October 1, 2018. There were no changes from the fees for Fiscal Year 2018. Kennon Kellum made a motion to approve those fees and Gary Lovell made a second to that motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Pat Perry, seconded by Gary Lovell, to approve the date of December 7, 2018, the first Friday in December, to award longevity benefits for Fiscal Year 2018 and enjoy a potluck lunch. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Kennon Kellum made a motion to change the date of the Commissioners Meeting scheduled for October 9th to Friday, October 5, 2018 at 10:00 am due to a scheduling conflict with a conference the County Judge and County Commissioners are to attend. Gary Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion was made by Gary Lovell, with a second by Kennon Kellum, to approve an Order Designating Day of Week on Which Commissioners Court Will Convene in Regular Term during Fiscal Year 2019. The Commissioners Court designated the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month as regular meeting dates for Fiscal Year 2019. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Kennon Kellum made a motion to approve the Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund Application of the Crockett Area Chamber of Commerce granting funds of \$2,000 for the 37th Annual Christmas in Crockett event to be held November 16–17, 2018. Gary Lovell made a second to the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Bert Brewer gave a short presentation on the upcoming Crockett Lion's Golf Tournament to be held October 18, 2018 at Spring Creek Country Club. Gary Lovell made a motion, seconded by Kennon Kellum, to approve the Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund Application in the amount of \$1,000 for that event. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Renewal of the Appriss Safety VINE Service \$5,431 grant contract with the Office of the Attorney General for September 1, 2017 through August 31, 2019 was approved by the Commissioners on a motion by Gary Lovell, seconded by Kennon Kellum. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Gary Lovell approving the purchase of a 2018 Chevrolet one-half ton truck for Precinct 1 for Fiscal Year 2019. Kennon Kellum seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Kennon Kellum made a motion to accept donations of \$1,110.00 from Houston County Emergency Services District 1 and \$4,440.00 from District 2 for the Emergency Management Mass Notification System. A second to the motion was made by Gary Lovell and the motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Kennon Kellum, seconded by Gary Lovell, to accept the donation of a printer/scanner/copier by Justin Killough to the Sheriff's Office for use in the patrol room. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Gary Lovell and seconded by Kennon Kellum to request quotes for a new telephone system for the County Courthouse, Courthouse Annex and Justice Center. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Gary Lovell made a motion to approve the purchase of a security camera system for the Courthouse and Annex from Full Armor Security & Technologies, LLC. Kennon Kellum seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Kennon Kellum, seconded by Gary Lovell, to award a contract to Piney Woods Sanitation for a franchise agreement for household and commercial garbage service in rural areas of the county, effective January 1, 2019. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Gary Lovell made a motion to approve a contract with the State Plan of Operation for 1033 Program with the U.S. Department of Justice for use of excess enforcement officer property/equipment (thermal optics) at no cost. Kennon Kellum made a second and the motion carried 4 to 0.

Kennon Kellum made a motion to table any action on approving the contract with the Texas Department of Transportation to contribute right-of-way funds for improvements on FM 227 at San Pedro Creek until receiving further information. Gary Lovell made a second and motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Kennon Kellum to adopt a resolution approving the application for the 2019 Indigent Defense Formulary Grant Program. The motion was seconded by Gary Lovell and motion carried 4 to 0.

Gary Lovell made a motion to accept as information the submittal of a local option liquor petition that requests a May 2019 election which would determine if breweries may sell beer and wine directly to the public without having to go through a retailer. Cynthia Lum, Houston County Elections Administrator, and Ana Gore, co-owner of Lovelady's Stesti Brewing Company addressed the commissioners on the matter. The motion received a second by Kennon Kellum. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Gary Lovell, seconded by Kennon Kellum, to approve the County Child Welfare Services Non-Financial Agreement with the Texas Department of Family & Protective Services which allows the establishment and maintenance of the Child Welfare Board for the period October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2025. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Kennon Kellum made a motion to which Pat Perry made a second, to approve a Houston County Premises Use Permit by St. Francis of the Tejas for the "Life Chain" event to be held on Sunday, September 30, 2018. Motion carried 4 to 0.

A motion was made by Kennon Kellum to adjourn. Gary Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0 and the meeting was adjourned

Jim L. Lovell, County Judge

Gary Lovell, Commissioner, Precinct #1

Pat Perry, Commissioner, Precinct #3

Kennon Kellum, Commissioner, Precinct #4

Attest:

Bridget Lamb, County Clerk