



HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING

JUNE 13, 2025

The Commissioners' Court of Houston County met in a special called meeting on June 13, 2025, **in person and via zoom**, with the following members present, to wit:

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

County Officials/Employees in person:

Kris Dyches	Insurance Coordinator	Present
Kristina Massey	County Attorney	Present
Todd McConnell	IT	Present
Darrellyn Smith	Assistant to the County Commissioners	Present

Media

Public/Guests: Adam Friedman (Attorney)

- (1) Welcome, Invocation and Pledges:
Commissioner Kitchen called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Commissioner Kitchen led the Opening Prayer followed by leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and the Texas Flag.
- (2) Discuss and consider reviewing the "letter of engagement" from Adam Friedman with the law firm of McElroy, Sullivan, Miller & Weber, LLP, and hiring as council to contest the drilling of commercial groundwater wells on Redtown Ranch adversely affecting Houston County.

*****Adam Fried was available on Zoom. There was discussion between Mr. Friedman and the Commissioners. Commissioner Kitchen asked if Mr. Friedman could attend the upcoming meeting in Jacksonville on Thursday, June 19, 2025 to represent us. Mr. Friedman said he would move things around to be able to attend the meeting.***

*****Commissioner Kitchen said that he is not able to attend the meeting on June 19th due to a prior commitment, but Commissioner Stokes said he would be in attendance, and would be a spokesperson for us.***

*****Commissioner Kitchen asked Mr. Friedman if he could work on a letter for Commissioner Stokes to read so there would be a clear concise statement on where we stand as Houston County? Mr. Friedman said he would get on this right away.***

*****Mr. Friedman asked for a point of contact with us. Commissioner Kitchen said, that if it was involving legal matters then our County Attorney, Kristina Massey, should be the point of contact.***

*****Mr. Friedman told us he will begin right away to get us “effective party status” and a “seat at the table”. Commissioner Stokes will bring him up-to-date on our water companies, boards, maps, etc.***

*****The Commissioners asked Mr. Friedman about looking into establishing our area as a Groundwater Conservation District in the future. He said that he would.***

Commissioner Stokes made a motion to accept and sign the “letter of engagement” from Adam Friedman with the law firm of McElroy, Sullivan, Miller & Weber, LLP, and hire him as council to contest the drilling of commercial groundwater wells on Redtown Ranch adversely affecting Houston County . Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.

- (3) Discuss and consider designating the room known as the Bank Community room as the Commissioners Courtroom located at 315 East Goliad, Crockett, Texas. **Commissioner Stokes made a motion to designate the room known as the Bank Community room as the Commissioners Courtroom located at 315 East Goliad, Crockett, Texas. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (4) Adjourn **Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed by everyone standing up and leaving the meeting at 1:30 p.m.**
- (5)

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: June 24, 2025