



## HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

### MINUTES

### SPECIAL MEETING

### AUGUST 5, 2025

The Commissioners' Court of Houston County met in a special called meeting on August 5, 2025, **in person and via zoom**, with the following members present, to wit:

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

County Officials/Employees in person:

James Angerstein	Tax Assessor-Collector	Present
Kris Dyches	Insurance Coordinator	Present
Laura Goolsby	District Clerk	Present
Cynthia Lum	Elections Administrator	Zoom
Kristina Massey	County Attorney	Present
Todd McConnell	IT	Present
Heath Murff	Emergency Management	Zoom
Jan Pigford	Assistant to the County Judge	Present
Darrellyn Smith	Assistant to the County Commissioners	Present
Brittani Womack	First Assistant County Auditor	Present

Media: Greg Ritchie                      Messenger                      Zoom

Public/Guests: Kelton Long (Groundwater), Clarissa Messinger (TAC – Insurance), Amber Stelly (Groundwater), Dr. John McCall (Groundwater), Barrett Riess (Groundwater), Adam Friedman (Groundwater Attorney – Zoom)

(1) Welcome, Invocation and Pledges:

Judge Lovell called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Judge Lovell led the Opening Prayer followed by him leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and the Texas Flag.

(2) Hear update from Houston County Groundwater Steering Committee. **Dr. John McCall spoke. He shared that the Groundwater Steering Committee looked at how we should proceed and**

concluded that we should form our own Groundwater Conservation District in Houston County and not partner with any other counties. He spoke about his discussions with Representative Cody Harris that has been leading out in our Texas Legislature concerning the groundwater issue. Things are moving along and sounding positive.

- (3) Discuss and consider taking action to approve Resolution in favor of legislation forming a groundwater district within the boundaries of Houston County. **Commissioner Lovell moved to approve Resolution in favor of legislation forming a groundwater district within the boundaries of Houston County. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**

- (4) Discuss and consider action on County Provided Insurance Policies for FY 2026:

- a. Health
- b. GAP Policy (reduces deductible)
- c. Group Life

**Commissioner Stokes moved to go with United Health Policy at \$863.25 for county employee provided insurance for FY2026. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0. Commissioner Stokes amended his motion to go with United Health Policy at \$863.25 for county employee provided insurance for FY2026 and approve the buy up GAP policy. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**

**Commissioner Henderson made the motion to approve moving the county employee provided life insurance to MetLife. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**

- (5) Discuss and consider action on renewing Supplemental Insurance with MetLife for FY2026. **Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve renewing Supplemental insurance with MetLife for FY2026 and include approving voluntary insurances for Vision and Voluntary Life and Dependent Life. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**

- (6) Discuss and consider action on Employee paid Supplemental Insurance Policies (optional) for FY2026.

- a. Vision
- b. Voluntary Life & Dependent Life

**These were approved in Agenda Item #5**

- (7) Consider approving salaries for new and/or transfer employees.

**Commissioner Stokes made a motion to amend new hire form for John S Simon Jr. to be full-time not part-time Heavy Equipment/CDL Driver in Precinct 3 at bi-weekly salary of \$1,469.56 in Pay Grade 17 effective August 5, 2025. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**

**Commissioner Henderson moved to approve the six-month pay raise of Antonia Slatter, Tax Clerk in the Tax Office, at \$1,349.80 bi-weekly in pay grade 15 effective August 5, 2025. Commissioner Stokes seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**

**Commissioner Lovell moved to approve the six-month pay raise of Twyla Musick, Tax Clerk in the Tax Office, at \$1,349.80 bi-weekly in pay grade 15 effective August 5, 2025. Commissioner Stokes seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**

- (8) Discuss and consider approving FY2026-2027 Interlocal Agreement with DETCOG for:

- a. GIS & Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) Automatic Location Information (ALI) Maintenance Services for the period September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2027
- b. Next Generation PSAP Services for the period of September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2027

**Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve the FY 2026-2027 Interlocal Agreement with DETCOG for (a) GIS & Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) Automatic Location Information (ALI) Maintenance Services for the period September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2027 and (b) Next Generation PSAP Services for the period of September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2027. Commissioner Stokes seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**

***\*\*At 9:35 a.m. the Commissioners Court entered into Closed Executive Session to discuss the Groundwater Issue. The Court came back into open court at 10:33 a.m.***

- (9) Adjourn **Judge Lovell made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed by everyone standing up and leaving the meeting at 10:34 a.m.**

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Jim Lovell, County Judge

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Gary Lovell, Commissioner, Precinct #1

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Willie Kitchen, Commissioner, Precinct #2

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Gene Stokes, Commissioner, Precinct #3

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Jimmy Henderson, Commissioner, Precinct #4

Attest:

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Terri Meadows, County Clerk

Date Approved: August 12, 2025