



HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

MAY 28, 2024

The Commissioners' Court of Houston County met in a regular, called meeting on May 28, 2024 in **person and via zoom**, with the following members present, to wit:

The Court

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

County Officials/Employees in person:

Kris Dyches	Insurance Coordinator
Melissa Jeter	County Auditor
Sharon Luker	Administrative Assistant to the Commissioners
Todd McConnell	IT
Terri Meadows	County Clerk
Jan Pigford	Administrative Assistant to the County Judge
Daphne Session	County Attorney

County Officials/Employees by Zoom:

Meagan Frizzell	9-1-1 Addressing
Carl Johnson	Facilities Administrator
Sheila Johnson	Grants Administrator
Heath Murff	Emergency Management
Gail Thompson	Elections
Brittani Womack	1 st Assistant Auditor

Media:

Greg Ritchie – The Messenger - Zoom

Visitors: Hannah Ortego, David Adams, James Angerstein, William Pemberton, PC, Randy Worsham, Warren Joe Evans

(1) Welcome, Invocation and Pledges:

Judge Lovell called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Commissioner Lovell gave the Invocation followed by Judge Lovell leading the Pledge to the American Flag and the Texas Flag.

- (2) Recognition and comments from guests. (For informational purposes only, with no deliberation and no action taken, except that the Court may discuss whether to include any matter on a future agenda for deliberation and/or action.) **Public Participation Participants will be heard during Item 10 on this Agenda.**
- (3) Consider approval of prior Commissioners Court minutes. **Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve the Commissioners Court minutes for May 14, 2024. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.**
- (4) Consider approving budget amendments. **NONE**
- (5) Consider payment of bills and expenses:
- a. Accounts payable
 - b. Fund transfers
 - c. Ratify Salary expenses
- Commissioner Stokes made a motion to pay all the bills and expenses for a. (Accounts payable), b. (Fund transfers), and c. (Ratify Salary expenses). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lovell. The Motion carried 4 to 0.**
- (6) Receive information, announcements and reports from County Departments:
- a. County Treasurer's Report **(n/a)**
 - b. Compensatory Report
 - c. Financial Report **(n/a)**
- Commissioner Henderson moved to receive the Compensatory Report as information. Commissioner Stokes seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.**
- *Terri Meadows, County Clerk, advised that the LGS Conversion will be complete by the end of this week, and that all offices scheduled to go live with them will be live.***
- (7) Consider approving salaries for new and/or transfer employees.
- a. Part-time Court Coordinator – County Court at Law **Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve the salary of Sandra Powell as Part-time Court Coordinator in the County Court at Law (and continue as part-time as District Court Coordinator) at the hourly rate of \$22.05 in Pay Grade 20, effective May 28, 2024. Commissioner Stokes seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**
- (8) Discuss and consider approving payment of compensatory, and vacation time for County employees and necessary budget amendments. **Commissioner Henderson made a motion and Commissioner Stokes seconded to approve compensatory payment to Jerrod Vickers, Comm Supervisor, in the amount of \$270.84; Rocky Hoch, Transport Deputy, in the amount of \$623.40; Jennefer Cruz, Dispatcher, in the amount of \$189.24; and Dustin Brown, Jailer, in the amount of \$283.00 because they are over the accrued compensatory limit. Melissa Jeter reminded the Commissioners Court that these payments are not budgeted and are coming out of our salary line item. Motion carried 4 to 0.**
- (9) Discuss and consider declaring received information as surplus inventory and approving transfers between departments. **Commissioner Lovell made a motion to receive as information surplus inventory and approving transfers between departments. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.**

(10) Discuss and consider taking action to authorize the removal of gate on County Road 4260 located in Precinct 3. *The Commissioners Court heard from several people concerning the history of this gate. The Court heard from William Pemberton, Attorney at Law for Anna Ortego, David Adams, Randy Worsham, and Warren Joe Evans.* **Commissioner Stokes made a motion to authorize removal of obstruction (gate) on County Road 4260 located in Precinct 3, pursuant to Transportation Code Sections 251.003, 251.008, and 251.016, and the obstruction must be removed no later than June 7, 2024. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.**

(11) Discuss and consider a financial donation from Friends of Houston County Child Welfare Board to the Houston County Child Welfare Board. **Commissioner Henderson made a motion to approve a donation of \$3,000 from Friends of Houston County Child Welfare Board to the Houston County Child Welfare Board. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.**

(12) Discuss and consider action to approve installation of pole-mounted power supply cabinets as part of the deployment of fiber based broadband service offered by Spectrum brand to be located in Precinct 4 Houston County on CR 1050 East of SH-21. **Commissioner Henderson made a motion to approve installation of pole-mounted power supply cabinets as part of the deployment of fiber based broadband service offered by Spectrum brand to be located in Precinct 4 Houston County on CR 1050 East of SH-21. Commissioner Stokes seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.**

(13) Discuss and consider action to approve installation of pole-mounted power supply cabinets as part of the deployment of fiber based broadband service offered by Spectrum brand to be located in Precinct 1 Houston County:

- a. CR 1545 East of FM 2022
- b. CR 1645 North of FM 2423
- c. CR 1890 North of CR 1880
- d. CR 1890 East of CR 1895
- e. CR 1895 North of CR 1890
- f. CR 1725 South of CR 1720

Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve installation of pole-mounted power supply cabinets as part of the deployment of fiber based broadband service offered by Spectrum brand to be located in Precinct 1 Houston County:

- g. CR 1545 East of FM 2022
- h. CR 1645 North of FM 2423
- i. CR 1890 North of CR 1880
- j. CR 1890 East of CR 1895
- k. CR 1895 North of CR 1890
- l. CR 1725 South of CR 1720

Commissioner Stokes seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0

(14) Receive as information the addition of roads for Southfield Ranch to be added to the Houston County's map as Private Roads:

- a. Southfield Trail
- b. Southfield Court
- c. Ranchside Court

Commissioner Stokes made a motion to receive as information the addition of roads for Southfield Ranch to be added to the Houston County's map as Private Roads:

- d. Southfield Trail**
- e. Southfield Court**
- f. Ranchside Court**

Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(15)To receive as information from Texas Department of Transportation.

- a. The proposed overlay of SL 304 from 0.1 miles west of SH 21 W to 0.1 miles east of SH 19.**
- b. The proposed overlay of SH 19 from SL 304 to 5.5 miles south of SL 304.**

Commissioner Lovell made a motion to receive as information from Texas Department of Transportation (a)The proposed overlay of SL 304 from 0.1 miles west of SH 21 W to 0.1 miles east of SH 19. And (b)The proposed overlay of SH 19 from SL 304 to 5.5 miles south of SL 304. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(16)Adjourn. Judge Lovell made a motion for the Commissioners Court Meeting to Adjourn.

Commissioner Henderson seconded. The motion carried by everyone rising and leaving the meeting at 9:34 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: June 11, 2024