



**HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2022**

The Commissioners' Court of Houston County met in a regular, called meeting on January 25, 2022 **in person and via zoom due to Covid**, with the following members present, to wit:

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

Also present:

Sharon Luker	Administrative Assistant to the Commissioners
Jan Pigford	Administrative Assistant to County Judge
Todd McConnell	IT
Gwen Womack	Chief Deputy Clerk
Janis Omelina	County Treasurer
Melissa Jeter	County Auditor
Lt. Jackson (Zoom)	Jail Administrator
Lt. Molnes (Zoom)	Jail
Randy Hargrove	Sheriff
Carl Johnson	Facilities Administrator
Roger Dickey (Zoom)	Chief Deputy Sheriff
Carolyn Rains (Zoom)	District Clerk
Cynthia Lum (Zoom)	Elections Administrator
Jennifer Kulms (Zoom)	9-1-1 Addressing

Media:

Will Johnson (Zoom)	The Messenger
Jan White (Zoom)	Houston County Courier

Visitors:

George Giesman

(1) Welcome, Invocation and Pledges:

Judge Lovell called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Lovell voiced the opening prayer 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.) **None**
- (3) **Commissioner Lovell moved to approve the Commissioners Court minutes from January 11, 2022 and January 14, 2022. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 5 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 Kitchen 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 Henderson. The motion carried 5 to 0.**
- (6) Receive information, announcements and reports from County Departments:
 - a. County Treasurers Report
 - b. Compensatory Report**Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to receive as information the County Treasurers Report and the Compensatory Report. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**
- (7) Consider approving salaries for new and/or transfer employees:
Commissioner Kitchen made a motion and Commissioner Henderson and Commissioner Lovell simultaneously seconded to approve the following:
 - a) **Approve hiring of Weston Reeves as Part Time Jailer thru 1/25/22 and then move to Full Time Jailer 1/26/22 in Pay Grade 15 with bi-weekly salary of \$1,509.56.**
 - b) **Approve hiring of Tyler Wilkerson as Part Time Jailer thru 1/25/22 and then move to Full Time Jailer 1/26/22 in Pay Grade 15 with bi-weekly salary of \$1,509.56.****Motion carried 5 to 0.**
- (8) Discuss and consider approving payment of compensatory, and vacation time for County employees and necessary budget amendments. **Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to approve payment to Automn Canton, Dispatcher, for vacation and comp time in the amount of \$558.56; Lynn Jansky, Deputy Clerk in Tax Assessor Office, vacation and comp time in the amount of \$989.43; Caleb Wood, Jailer, comp time in the amount of \$1158.61. Commissioner Stokes seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**
- (9) **Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to ratify the transfer of deeds between the City of Crockett and Houston County as follows:**
 - a) **To City undivided interest in Henry Masters Survey Abstract 53 containing 10 acres**
 - b) **From City 2.352 acres containing the Armory Building within Abstract 53**

c) To City all of Block 21 Abstract 423 known as Old Crockett Hotel Parking Lot
Commissioner Stokes seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 to 0.

10) Judge Lovell made a motion to approve the Sick Leave Policy and Military Duty Policy updates to the Employee Handbook as recommended by the Human Resource Committee. Commissioner Kitchen seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.

11) Commissioner Kitchen moved to receive as information the FY 2021 County Lateral Road and Bridge Expenditure annual report. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.

12) Commissioner Lovell made a motion that we register with the Texas Association of Counties to provide Cyber security training to all required county officials and employees as mandated under HB 3834 and designate Todd McConnell, Houston County IT, as the administrator. It is further noted that we have until June to take the training. Commissioner Kitchen seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.

13) Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to pay down compensatory time to 40 hours and pay down to 40 hours each quarter thereafter in March, June and September and necessary budget amendments. Commissioner Stokes seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 to 0.

14) Commissioner Kitchen made a motion and Commissioner Henderson seconded to receive as information required Continuing Education for Tax Assessor Collector.

15) Commissioner Henderson made a motion to renew lease agreement between Brenda Stubblefield and Houston County Road and Bridge Precinct #4. Commissioner Stokes seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.

16) Judge Lovell made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried by everyone standing and leaving the meeting

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