



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

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

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

County Officials/Employees in person:

Todd McConnell	Information Technology
Jan Pigford	Administrative Assistant to County Judge
Terri Meadows	County Clerk
Sharon Luker	Administrative Assistant to the Commissioners
Cynthia Lum	Elections Administrator
Janis Omelina	Treasurer
Joel Martin	Bailiff
Melissa Jeter	County Auditor
Albert Kreger	Historical Commission

County Officials/Employees by Zoom:

Brittani Womack	First Assistant County Auditor
Laronica Wooten-Smith	Tax Assessor Collector
Carolyn Rains	District Clerk
Sheila Johnson	Grants Administrator

Media:

Visitors: Gwen (no last name provided) by Zoom, Candace Brown (Downtown Crockett Association)

(1) Welcome, Invocation and Pledges:

Commissioner Kitchen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Lovell led the opening prayer followed by Commissioner Kitchen 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.) **Candace Brown was present to address Item 11 concerning the Christmas Lighting for Downtown.**
- (3) Consider approval of prior Commissioners Court minutes.
Commissioner Lovell moved to approve the Commissioners Court Minutes from October 11, 2022. Commissioner Stokes seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.
- (4) Consider approving budget amendments. **Commissioner Lovell moved to approve the Budget Amendments as presented. Commissioner Stokes seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (5) Consider payment of bills and expenses:
 - a. Accounts payable
 - b. Fund transfers
 - c. Ratify Salary expenses**Commissioner Lovell 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 Stokes. The Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (6) Receive information, announcements and reports from County Departments:
 - a. County Treasurers Report (not available)
 - b. Compensatory Report**Commissioner Lovell moved to receive the Compensatory Report as information. Commissioner Stokes seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (7) Consider approving salaries for new and/or transfer employees:
 - a. **Commissioner Stokes made a motion to approve Stephanie Angerstein as Part-time Deputy Clerk in the County Clerk's Office at \$12.73 per hour, pay grade 13. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (8) Discuss and consider approving payment of compensatory, and vacation time for County employees and necessary budget amendments. **Commissioner Stokes made a motion to approve payment of compensatory, and vacation time for Alexis Blane, Dispatcher, in the amount of \$176.40. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (9) Review current drought and fire danger and consider continuing burn ban for unincorporated areas of Houston County. **Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to continue the burn ban for unincorporated areas of Houston County. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (10) Discuss and consider appointing members for Houston County Historical Commission for a two-year term of service. **Commissioner Lovell made a motion to appoint members for Houston**

County Historical Commission for a two-year term of service as presented. Commissioner Stokes seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.

- (11) Discuss and consider an interlocal agreement with Downtown Crockett Association for Courthouse, Annex and surrounding area Businesses Christmas lighting project and necessary budget amendments. **Commissioner Stokes made a motion to enter into an interlocal agreement with Downtown Crockett Association for Courthouse, Annex and surrounding area Businesses Christmas lighting project with necessary budget amendments, and to take the \$17,696 for the project from Community Development Budget. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (12) Discuss and consider action on a contract and data use agreement with DETCOG for the Home Delivered Meal program and the Senior Center Operations under the Older Americans Act for the period of October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023. **Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve the contract and data use agreement with DETCOG for the Home Delivered Meal program and the Senior Center Operations under the Older Americans Act for the period of October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023. Commissioner Stokes seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (13) Discuss and consider action on an application request and possible budget amendments for the Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund and Interlocal Agreement with:
- a. The Loft of Crockett Jack Nelson Concert to be held on December 31, 2022. **There was some discussion on interpretation of Interlocal Agreements, and Commissioner Kitchen passed this item to allow time to request an opinion from the County Attorney.**
- (14) Discuss and consider action declaring the 2003 Caterpillar 140H Motorgrader under Precinct 2 as surplus and authorizing the sale to the City of Crockett under LGC 263.152(a) for \$60,000. **Commissioner Stokes made a motion declaring the 2003 Caterpillar 140H Motorgrader under Precinct 2 as surplus and authorizing the sale to the City of Crockett under LGC 263.152(a) for \$60,000. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (15) Discuss and consider approving date for awarding longevity for Fiscal Year 2022. **Commissioner Lovell made a motion to set December 2, 2022 as the date for awarding longevity for Fiscal Year 2022. Commissioner Stokes seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**
- (16) Discuss and consider action on electing to use and applying the de minimis rate of 10% for indirect costs towards program administration costs for all projects under the American Rescue Plan Act Grant. **Commissioner Stokes moved to table any action on electing to use and applying the de minimis rate of 10% for indirect costs towards program administration costs for all projects under the American Rescue Plan Act Grant. Commissioner Lovell seconded to table item 16. Motion carried 3 to 0.**

(17)Adjourn. **Commissioner Kitchen made a motion for the Commissioners Court Meeting to Adjourn at 10:39 a.m. Commissioner Stokes seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.**

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