



**HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT  
MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 28, 2019**

The Commissioners' Court of Houston County met in a regular, called meeting on May 28, 2019 with the following members present, to wit:

Jim Lovell	County Judge
Willie Kitchen	Commissioner, Precinct #2
Pat Perry	Commissioner, Precinct #3
Jimmy Henderson	Commissioner, Precinct #4

Also present:

Adam Simison	Deputy, Sheriff's Office
Melissa Jeter	Houston County Auditor
Danette Millican	Houston County Tax Assessor/Collector
Sharon Luker	Assistant to the County Commissioners
Carolyn Rains	District Clerk
G.P. Shearer	Chief Deputy/Sheriff's Office
Justin Killough	Sheriff's Office
Terri Meadows	Houston County Clerk

Media:

Alton Porter	Houston County Courier
Will Johnson	The Grapeland Messenger

Visitors: Chad Fulgham (Clerk's Scholarship Recipient)

(1) Welcome, Invocation and Pledges:

Judge Lovell called the meeting to order. Commissioner Henderson gave the opening prayer. Judge Lovell led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and the Texas Flag.

(2) Recognition and comments from guests:

Judge Lovell recognized the guests and asked if there were any comments. There were none.

(3) Consider approval of prior Commissioners Court Minutes:

Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to approve the Commissioners Court minutes from May 10, 2019 with the correction of the meeting date in the first sentence from April 23, 2019 to May 10, 2019. Commissioner Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(4) Consider approving budget amendments:

There were no budget amendments.

(5) Consider payment of bills and expenses:

- a. Accounts payable
- b. Fund transfers
- c. Ratify Salary expenses

Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to pay the all of the bills and expenses for a, b, and c. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Henderson. The motion carried 4 to 0.

(6) Receive information, announcements and reports from County Departments:

- a. Compensatory Report

Commissioner Kitchen moved to receive the above referenced report. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

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

- a. Full-time Jailer – Zackary Reed at pay grade 15 and bi-weekly salary of \$1018.81.  
Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to approve the hiring of Zackary Reed and Commissioner Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- b. Full-time Deputy Bailiff – Joel Martin at pay grade 15 and bi-weekly salary of \$1018.81.  
Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to approve the hiring of Joel Martin and Commissioner Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.
- c. Volunteer Road Hand for Precinct 1 – Josh Castleberry.  
Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to approve the volunteer road hand – Josh Castleberry and Commissioner Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(8) Discuss and consider approving payment of compensatory, vacation and holiday time for previous County employees and necessary budget amendments.

Commissioner Kitchen moved to approve this request. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(9) Discuss and consider taking action to approve payment for emergency road reconstruction on County Road 2265 and County Road 3050 purchased out of county contract for protection of public health and safety per Texas Local Government Code §262.024 and necessary budget amendments. After some discussion on the problems of the roads being washed out and the bridge eroded Commissioner Kitchen made this decision for out of county contract for the safety of the citizens that live on those roads.

Commissioner Kitchen moved to approve the payment for out of county contract. Commissioner Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(10) Discuss and consider taking action to approve payment for hauling of limestone road base which is a purchase out of county contract for County Road 2130 for protection of public health and safety per Texas Local Government Code §262.024 and necessary budget amendments.

Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to approve the payment for hauling of limestone and Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

- (11) Discuss and consider action on approving a contract with a Houston County property owner to allow use of their property to dispose of and burn debris from County Roads caused by tornado damage.

Precinct 4 Commissioner Jimmy Henderson applied for and received the STARR Grant to help fund the debris removal by TXDot. The County must designate a site with access to the site. Commissioner Henderson found a site on private property and the owner is willing to sign a contract with their approval for their property to be used as a collection point for the debris. TCQ came out and approved the site. Once the County Attorney gets the contract drawn up Commissioner Henderson will get with the property owner for their signature.

Commissioner Henderson made a motion to approve this site as a temporary debris collection site. Commissioner Perry seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

- (12) Discuss and consider accepting a donation from Proline Energy Resources Inc. for improvements to CR 3070 in Precinct 2.

Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to accept the donation of \$184.72 for improvements to CR 3070 in Precinct 2. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

- (13) Discuss and consider accepting a donation from Outback Land & Timber, LLC for repairs to CR 2220 in Precinct 2.

Commissioner Kitchen moved to accept the donation of \$1000 from outback Land & Timber, LLC for repairs to CR 2220 in Precinct 2. Commissioner Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

- (14) Discuss and consider action on awarding a contract for the County Depository from received bids.

Melissa Jeter, Auditor for Houston County and as a member of the Investment Committee advised us that the Investment Committee had met and gone over the bids and that when they weighed all of the packages there was not a lot of difference between the packages. Danette Millican, Tax-Assessor Collector for the County said that it would be a hardship on her office with all of the different accounts they have to move depositories and requested that we remain with our current depository. Terri Meadows, County Clerk said that she was in agreement with Mrs. Millican.

Commissioner Kitchen moved for Houston County to remain with Citizens National Bank as the County Depository. Commissioner Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

- (15) Discuss and consider action on establishing the official inventory and capital asset listing as updated.

The County Auditor, Melissa Jeter, said that in the outside audit of 2016 we had 27 million in assets on the books. We had records consultants who are inventory experts in to go over our assets and found that there were errors. The past few months Brittani Womack, First Assistant County Auditor has been doing a lot of work herself and with all of the offices of the county to get our inventory updated. Melissa asked that the County approve Houston County, Depreciation – Combined Buildings and Inventory items Filtered by Date Range: From 01/01/1900 to 05/28/2019 as the Official Inventory List.

Commissioner Kitchen moved to approve the Official Inventory List and Commissioner Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 to 0.

(16)Accept as information waste report from Pineywoods Sanitation.

Denny Wheeler was not present so this item is passed to the next Commissioners Court.

(17)Discuss and consider planning a date for countywide trash pickup.

After a little discussion about dates this agenda item will be passed to the next Commissioners Court.

(18)Scholarship presentation by Terri Meadows, County Clerk and Carolyn Rains, District Clerk on behalf of Northeast Texas County & District Clerk's Region VI Association to Chad Fulgham, graduating senior from Lovelady High School.

Short speech and presentation was made to Chad Fulgham.

\*\*Judge Lovell recognized Chief Deputy Shearer and thanked him for his service to our county and congratulated him on his new job with Oilfield Service Company in Risk Management.

(19)Adjourn:

Commissioner Kitchen made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Perry seconded. Motion carried with everyone standing.

The meeting was adjourned.

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Jim Lovell, County Judge

**ABSENT**

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Gary Lovell, Commissioner, Precinct #1

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Willie Kitchen, Commissioner, Precinct #2

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Pat Perry, Commissioner, Precinct #3

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Jimmy Henderson, Commissioner, Precinct #4

**Attest:**

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Terri Meadows, County Clerk