



**HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 23, 2019**

The Commissioners' Court of Houston County met in a regular, called meeting on December 23, 2019 with the following members present, to wit:

Jim Lovell	County Judge
Gary Lovell	Commissioner, Precinct #1
Willie Kitchen	Commissioner, Precinct #2
Pat Perry	Commissioner, Precinct #3
Jimmy Henderson	Commissioner, Precinct #4

Also present:

Sharon Luker	Assistant to the County Commissioners
Janis Omelina	Treasurer
Melissa Jeter	Auditor
Randy Hargrove	DA Investigator
Justin Killough	Chief Deputy-S/O
Daphne Session	County Attorney
Terri Meadows	Houston County Clerk

Media:

Will Johnson	The Messenger
Alton Porter	Houston County Courier

Visitors: Balis Dailey (Mayor of City of Grapeland), Brandon Bridges (Grapeland Municipal Development District/Nucor), Billy "Hollywood" Groves (GSN),

(1) Welcome, Invocation and Pledges:

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

(2) Recognition and comments from guests:

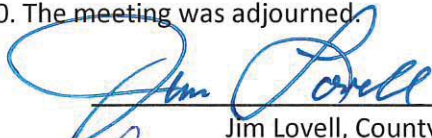
Judge Lovell recognized the guests and asked if there were any comments. Billy "Hollywood" Groves addressed Commissioners Court and ask that we all work in Unity.

- (3) Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve the Commissioners Court minutes from December 10, 2019. Commissioner Kitchen seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 to 0.
- (4) Consider approving Budget Amendments. There were none.
- (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 of 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 the Reports as Information. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.
- (7) Consider approving salaries for new and/or transfer employees:
 - (a) **Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to approve the promotion of Debbie Williamson as full time County Deputy Clerk I at bi-weekly rate of \$1179.20, effective January 2, 2020. Commissioner Lovell seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**
- (8) Discuss and consider approving payment of compensatory, vacation and holiday time for County employees and necessary budget amendments. None
- (9) Discuss and consider taking action with Intrensic for the purchase of Body Worn Cameras and media storage for the Houston County Sheriff's Department. Justin Killough, Chief Deputy, shared that there are problems with the current equipment and that it is no longer supported. He stated that the plus for the new equipment is that the video stores to the cloud, is the most secure, and most cost effective. **Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to approve the contract with Intrensic. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**
- (10) Receive as information Houston County's portion of FY 2015-2017 PILT underpayment judgment from Class Action Lawsuit Kane County, Utah vs. United States. Melissa Jeter, County Auditor, told Commissioners Court that they had previously agreed to become a part of this action. She said that Congress had underfunded PILT grant and Utah filed the suit and won. We got \$911.00. **Commissioner Lovell made a motion to receive this as information. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.**
- (11) Discuss and consider action on approving public employee surety blanket bonds for employees of the County Clerk, District Clerk, Auditor, Treasurer and Sheriff's Deputies as required. **This item was passed.**
- (12) Commissioner Lovell made a motion to approve the tax abatement or proposed expansion of existing manufacturing facility in Houston County. Commissioner Kitchen seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 to 0.

- (13) Commissioner Kitchen moved to adopt the Resolution to declare Houston County to be a second amendment Sanctuary county. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0.
- (14) Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$2000.00 from Kenley's Mustang Prairie Ranch for improvements to CR 3060 in Precinct #2. Commissioner Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 to 0.
- (15) Commissioner Lovell made a motion and Commissioner Kitchen seconded to award bids on the 2010 Chevy Silverado 1500 at the bid amount of \$1300.99 to Carey Minter (the only bidder) and the 30'X40' Portable Building to highest bidder (Bidder #2) Jerry Dykes for \$527.50. Motion carried 5 to 0.
- (16) Commissioner Kitchen made a motion to approve the Inmate Communications Addendum Agreement contract between Houston County and NCIC Inmate Communications, Inc. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Justin Killough from the S/O said that NCIC is expanding and updating and they ask us to do so, too. There is no cost to the county. This will keep track of all forms and accounts involving inmates. Motion carried 5 to 0.
- (17) Commissioner Kitchen made a motion and Commissioner Lovell seconded to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Leon County for housing inmates within the Houston County Jail. Justin Killough from the S/O said this is the same contract we had with Leon County in 2012 we just need to update since Leon County has started housing inmates in Houston County again. Motion carried 5 to 0.
- (18) Executive Session to discuss economic development project. The Commissioners Court entered into Executive Session at 10:42 a.m. and reconvened into regular Commissioners Court at 11:08 a.m.
- (19) Judge Lovell moved to adjourn the Meeting. Commissioner Henderson seconded. Motion carried 5 to 0. The meeting was adjourned.



Jim Lovell, County Judge



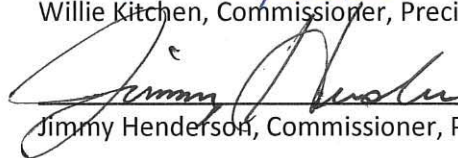
Gary Lovell, Commissioner, Precinct #1



Willie Kitchen, Commissioner, Precinct #2



Pat Perry, Commissioner, Precinct #3



Jimmy Henderson, Commissioner, Precinct #4

Attest:



Terri Meadows, County Clerk