

The Commissioner Court of Houston County met in a regular called meeting on September 9, 2014 with the following members present to wit:

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|----------------|--------------------------|
| Erin Ford | County Judge |
| Roger Dickey | Commissioner Precinct #1 |
| Willie Kitchen | Commissioner Precinct #2 |
| Pat Perry | Commissioner Precinct #3 |
| Kennon Kellum | Commissioner Precinct #4 |

Also present

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| Bridget Lamb | County Clerk |
| Melissa Mosley | County Auditor |
| Daphne Session | County Attorney |
| Clyde Black | Justice of the Peace Precinct #1 |
| Darrel Bobbitt | Houston County Sheriff |

Media:

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| Will Johnson | Grapeland Messenger |
| Robert Neel | Houston County Courier |

Visitors: Charles Arnold, Karen Rice, Paul Stringer, Patty Meyer, Donnita Patrick, Clayton Starr, Ruenette Starr, Laronica Smith, Sonny Tunstall, Joni Clonts, G. P. Shearer, Ashley Perry and Brandon Sheeley

County Judge Erin Ford called the meeting to order

Commissioner Kennon Kellum opened the meeting with a prayer

Pledge Allegiance

Recognition of guests

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Pat Perry to approve the minutes of the regular called meeting held on August 26, 2014. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Pat Perry to approve the minutes of the special called meeting held on September 2, 2014. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to approve budget amendment #14-06. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to approve payment of bills and expenses. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Pat Perry seconded by Kennon Kellum to accept as information the Environmental Control Report. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Judge Ford reported the County Energy Transportation Reinvestment Zone (CERTZ) grant had recently been reviewed by the State Attorney General's Office. He also addressed the Cornerstone issued about being temporarily close at the end of the month due to a lack of detainees.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Willie Kitchen to approve the salary for William Gardner as deputy for the Sheriff Department at a pay rate of \$1096.92 bi-weekly and \$18.46 bi-weekly for phone stipend, effective September 9, 2014. He is replacing Randy Hargrove. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to approve the six month salary increase for Forrest McClain, jailer from \$848.36 to \$873.81 bi-weekly effective September 11, 2014. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to approve the six month salary increase for Sean Williams, Jailer from \$848.36 to \$873.81 bi-weekly effective September 26, 2014. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to approve the promotion of Donya Collins as jail sergeant with a salary of \$890.78 bi-weekly. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Clayton Starr with the Sons of the American Revolution gave a brief presentation on Constitution Week.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Pat Perry to adopt a proclamation proclaiming the week of September 17, 2014 United State Constitution Week. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Karen Rice, Treasurer of the World Championship Fiddlers Festival addressed the court giving a brief history of the World Championship Fiddlers Festival and said they want to preserve a 78 year old tradition here in Crockett.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to approve an Interlocal Agreement and the application from the World Championship Fiddlers Festival and to allocate \$5,000.00 from the Hotel and Motel Occupancy Tax (HOT) initially, and to possibly add another \$5,000.00 after the festival depending on the event's attendance and report. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Pat Perry seconded by Kennon Kellum to award a contract to Statewide Materials for hauling limestone rock to County Road 3400. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Judge Ford opened the Public hearing on the proposed Houston County Budget for Fiscal Year 2015.

The Public hearing was closed at 10:38 am after hearing no comments from the public

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to set salaries for all officers and employees of Houston County for Fiscal Year 2015. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to receive as information the order setting annual salary of the Official Court Reporter of the 3rd Judicial District. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to receive as information the order setting annual salary of the Official Court Reporter of the 349th Judicial District. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Willie Kitchen to receive as information the order setting annual salary of the Official Court Reporter of the County Court at Law. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to receive as information the order setting annual salary of the County Auditor. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to receive as information the order setting annual salary of the Assistant County Auditors. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Pat Perry to adopt the Houston County Budget for Fiscal Year 2015. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Judge Ford seconded by Willie Kitchen to ratify the proposed 2014 tax rate of \$0.465 per \$100 valuation, which remains the same as 2013 tax rate, with increased property tax revenues. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to adopt an order setting the 2014 Ad Valorem Tax rate of \$0.46500 and levying taxes for Fiscal Year 2015 budget of (a) Maintenance and Operations Tax Rate: \$0.39931 and (b) Debt Service Tax Rate: \$.06569. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to renew and accept the Routine Airport Maintenance Program (RAMP) grant from the Texas Department of Transportation Aviation Division for the period of September 1, 2014-August 31, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 with a fifty percent match. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to approve the renewal of the County Clerk's contract with Texas Department of State Health Services for online remote birth certificates. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to receive as information the County Clerk's Records Management and Records Archive Written Plan for Fiscal year 2014/2015. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Willie Kitchen to approve the Modification of Grant or Agreement with Davy Crockett National Forest for Forest Road agreement number 10-RO-11081303-004 to maintain segments of National Forest Service Roads #527, 596 & 596A. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to approve the renewal contracts for online legal library services. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Pat Perry to approve a contract with Wave System for emergency notification system and installation in county offices and make the necessary budget amendments. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to renew the liability insurance coverage with Texas Association of Counties Risk Management Pool for Houston County Law Enforcement and Public Officials. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to accept as information the Fiscal Year 2015 adopted budget of the Houston County Appraisal District. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Pat Perry to table taking action on designating the future use of current Aging Services Offices located in the Old Justice of the Peace Building. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to receive as information resolution from the City of Crockett determining the non-renewal of Interlocal Agreement establishing Refuse/Environmental Control Officer with an effective date of September 30, 2014. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Pat Perry to accept County Environmental/Community Service Officer job description for Fiscal Year 2015 and to include it in Houston County Employee Manual, this is a new position. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to accept Administrative Assistant-County Judge's Office (from part-time to full-time) job description for Fiscal Year 2015 and to include it in Houston County Employee Manual. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to create a new position for Transport Deputy-sheriff's Office. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to create a new position for full time jailer-sheriff's Office. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to adopt order designating the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month as regular term during Fiscal Year 2014-2015. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Pat Perry seconded by Roger Dickey that this meeting be adjourn. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Erin Ford, County Judge

Roger Dickey, Comm. Pct. #1

Willie Kitchen, Comm. Pct. #2

Pat Perry, Comm. Pct. #3

Kennon Kellum, Comm. Pct. #4

Attest:

Bridget Lamb, County Clerk