

The Commissioner Court of Houston County met in a regular called meeting on October 14, 2014
With the following members present to wit:

Erin Ford	County Judge
Roger Dickey	Commissioner Precinct #1
Willie Kitchen	Commissioner Precinct #2
Pat Perry	Commissioner Precinct #3

Also present

Bridget Lamb	County Clerk
Melissa Mosley	County Auditor
Daphne Session	County Attorney
Danette Millican	County Tax Assessor-Collector
Darrel Bobbitt	Sheriff
Clyde Black	Justice of the Peace Precinct #1

Media:

Will Johnson	Grapeland Messenger
--------------	---------------------

Visitors: Don Patrick, Donnita Patrick, Ashley Perry and Rev. Hosea Dolphus

County Judge Erin Ford called the meeting to order

Judge Ford opened the meeting with a prayer

Pledge Allegiance

Recognition of guests

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Willie Kitchen to approve the minutes of the last regular called meeting held on September 23, 2014. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to approve payment of bills and expenses. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Willie Kitchen to receive as information the Environmental Control report. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Judge Ford gave a report, stating that his office had recently received a letter from the Texas Commission on Jail Standards who have found the Houston County Jail in non-compliance. There were two corrective action listed. The first item on the inspection report stated the inmates were not consistently receiving the tuberculosis test (TB) on or before the seventh day after the day of confinement as required by minimum jail standards. The second and final item was that at the time of inspection, the current TB plan expired in July 2014. He stated that the jail has already taken corrective measures.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Willie Kitchen to approve the salary for Joanie Tindall as a part time clerk in the County Clerk's Office at a salary of \$11.06 per hour . Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to approve the salary for Lisa Henderson as part time in the County Treasurer's Office at a salary of \$9.56 per hour. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to approve the salaries for Etta Lewis as a full time dispatcher at a pay rate of \$975.80 bi-weekly effective October 14, 2014, Colby McLeod and Courtney Kellum as full time jailers at a pay rate of \$975.80 bi-weekly effective November 14, 2014, William Ruland as a deputy/jailer transport deputy at a pay rate of \$1,186.10 bi-weekly effective October 14, 2014, pay raise for Ryan Martin to \$1,373.05 bi-weekly for promotion to Patrol Sergeant, effective November 14, 2014, and pay raise for Lorenzo Simpson to \$1,307.67 for promotion to Investigator. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Jan Pigford, Chairman of the Human Resource Committee, reported to the Commissioners about the progress the committee members were making and presented several recommendations to the court.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Pat Perry to approve the revision to Separation section of employee handbook as recommended by the Human Resource Committee. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to remove Dina Herrera from the Sick Leave Pool Policy Committee and add Jan Pigford the Human Resource Coordinator. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to approve the changes and updates to the County pay scale. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to set salaries for all Houston County Employees for Fiscal Year 2015. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Willie Kitchen to approve the contract with Texas Department of Criminal Justice for interior cleaning of marble and wood in Courthouse building. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to award to the highest bidder the tax sale properties:

Suit #03-0073- .60 acre A. E. Gossett Survey, Abstract 423 to Abrellia Walker, bid amount \$150.00

Suit#03-0109- Lots 7 & 8, Block 4 Cannon Addition to Abrellia Walker, bid amount \$150.00

Suit#04-0117- .50 acre J. Erwin Survey, Abstract 396 to George Pierson, bid amount \$1,101.00

Suit#05-0107- .56 acre Francis Johnson League Abstract 46 to James M. Harris, bid amount \$1,750.00

Suit#06-0169- 0.162 acre Frank Johnson Survey, Abstract 46 to Paul Ceasar, bid amount \$152.00

Suit#06-0190- 3.865 acres Bradford Davis Survey, Abstract to Sedrick Harris, bid amount \$3,800.00 only if he come current if not property will be awarded to the next highest bidder

Suit#07-0093- Portion of Lot 9, Aldrich and Crook Addition to Norvel Brown, bid amount \$2,700.00

Suit#07—0304- 0.42 acre W. H Jones Survey, Abstract 645 to Larry Beard, bid amount \$1,111.00

Suit#09-0101- 2.43 acres Z. Steadman Survey, Abstract 930 to Weldon Davis, bid amount \$2,430.00

Suit#10-0223- 0.10 acres Frank Johnson Survey, Abstract 46 to Paul Ceasar bid amount \$612.00

Suit#13-0110- Lot 3, Block 15 Smith Estate Addition to Paul Ceasar bid amount \$702.00. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to approve the Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund Application and award \$5,000.00 to the Lovelady Old Gym. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to amend the Prioritized Project List for the County Transportation infrastructure Fund Grant Program (CERTZ). Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Willie Kitchen to approve a lease purchase contract with Citizens National Bank for backhoe loader in the amount of \$105,877.00 for Road and Bridge Precinct 1 and authorizing Commissioner Roger Dickey and Judge Ford as signees. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to approve the Community Services Contract Amendment with Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services and Houston County Aging Services for the home delivered meal program. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Willie Kitchen to approve the Fiscal Year 2015 Title IV-E County Legal Services Annual Review Contract for the revised budget and federal funding accountability and transparency certification between Houston County and the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Pat Perry seconded by Willie Kitchen to concur with the road closure at Big Creek Tributary on County Road 3480. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Rev. Hosea Dolphus owner of Family Mortuary address the court concerning the transporting of deceased persons who had been designated to be sent for an autopsy. He stated there are five funeral homes in Crockett and he wanted to know why all funeral homes cannot be involved in the carrying bodies to autopsy, or pickup, when there is a tragic accident other than just one funeral home.

Justice of the Peace Judge Clyde Black stated that he mistakenly thought there was a contract between Houston County and Callaway Allee Funeral Home for transport. Judge Black said he had researched the issue and found, by statute, it is up to the discretion of the Justice of Peace or the official presiding at the scene to determine who to use for transport.

County Attorney Daphne Session stated based on the Criminal Procedure which states the decision on transport is at the discretion of the Justice of the Peace.

Judge Ford made a motion seconded by Pat Perry to table this item so that Judge Black and Judge Jordan could address the matter and meet with the different funeral homes in order to receive their input into this matter. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to adopt a Proclamation proclaiming Saturday October 25, 2014 as Texas Bison Day in Houston County. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Willie Kitchen to adopt a Proclamation proclaiming Saturday October 25, 2014 as World Championship Fiddlers Festival of Crockett, Texas. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Pat Perry seconded by Willie Kitchen that this meeting be adjourn.

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