

The Commissioner Court of Houston County met in a special called meeting on August 8, 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
Kennon Kellum	Commissioner Precinct #4

Also present:

Bridget Lamb	County Clerk
Melissa Mosley	County Auditor

Media:

Will Johnson	Grapeland Messenger
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Judge Ford called the meeting to order

Commissioner Roger Dickey opened the meeting with a prayer

Pledge Allegiance

Judge Ford opened the budget workshop session to discuss the new County Budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2014.

Judge Ford asked everyone to keep the Parker and Bobbitt families in prayer.

The following elected officials and department heads appeared before the court to make their requests and answer questions about the proposed budgets for their department.

Darrell Deckard-Baliff  
Justin Killough-Sheriff Department  
Jerry Baker-Chief Jailer  
G. P. Shearer-Chief Deputy Sheriff  
David Lamb, Emergency Management and Fire Marshall  
Dina Herrea-County Treasurer  
Angela Cross-Juvenile Probation  
Loyce Netardus-Assistant County Auditor  
Judge Sarah Clark-County Court at Law Judge  
Amber Bewley-Assistant County Attorney  
Judge Pam Foster Fletcher-District Judge 349<sup>th</sup> Court  
Elizabeth McCoy-District Court Coordinator  
Donna Kaspar-County Attorney  
Ronnie Jordan- Justice of Peace Precinct #2

County Judge Erin Ford provided a recap of the previous budget workshop held on July 31, 2014. Judge Ford said the county have a healthy fund balance and is financially sound, and doesn't see any need to increase taxes

Judge Ford said the proposed two percent raise would cost approximately \$75,000.00 but he had heard several comments from county employees who indicated the increase was insufficient.

Commissioner Willie Kitchen asked if the judge would review the budget once again and see if there were any areas which could be amended or changed in order to bring the percentage or proposed salary increase to an adequate level.

Judge Ford said he is proposing a ten percent increase in salaries of jailers and bailiffs because they put themselves in harm way all the time.

District Judge Pam Fletcher addressed the court concerning creating the new position of District Court Administrator, replacing the position of District Court Coordinator and a raise of approximately 22.6 percent to current District Court Coordinator Elizabeth McCoy.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum that this meeting be adjourn

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Erin Ford, County Judge

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Roger Dickey, Comm. Pct. #1

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Willie Kitchen, Comm. Pct. #2

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Pat Perry, Comm. Pct. #3

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Kennon Kellum, Comm. Pct. #4

Attest:

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Bridget Lamb, County Clerk