

The Commissioner Court of Houston County met in a regular called meeting held on December 9, 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
Daphne Session	County Attorney
Dina Herrera	County Treasurer

Media

Will Johnson	Grapeland Messenger
Lynda Jones	Houston County Courier

Visitors: Andres C. Herrera, Mandy Patrick, Carl Standley, Leslie Murillo, Nicole Hardin, Meghan Adams, Monique Abb, G. P. Shearer, Natalie Thornton, Darrell Smith, Melvis Wooten, Billy "Hollywood" Groves, Rebekah Turner, Victoria Martin, Monic Davila, Gary Graham, J. D. Martin, Ashley Perry

County Judge Erin Ford called the meeting to order

Carl Standley, Pastor of Porter Springs Baptist Church 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 last regular called meeting held on November 25, 2014. Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Roger Dickey to accept the Environment Control Report as information. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Billy Groves a Crockett resident addressed the court about the ongoing national demonstrations concerning the death of Michael Brown and Eric Garner. He asked the court to look into employing more African Americans with the Houston County Sheriff Department.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to declare a proclamation honoring the Crockett Future Farmers of America (FFA) Senior National Quiz Competition Team. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to declare a proclamation honoring the Grapeland Future Farmers of America (FFA) Junior and Senior National Quiz Competition Team. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Natalie Thornton, Executive Director for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) spoke about her organization on how a child is placed in foster care, judge appoints a certified guardian ad litem and the ad litem make reports to the court.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Kennon Kellum to approve the recommendation from the Houston County Human Resources Committee concerning the separation section in the county employee handbook. Motion was carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Judge Ford to deny payment in the amount of \$5,798.39 to the Texas County and District Retirement System to return employee-contributed retirement funds withdrawn due to voided application when the employee was rehired less than 30 days later. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to approve the salary for Tammy Steinbecker as a jailer at a pay rate of \$1,000.00 bi-weekly, effective November 25, 2014. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Willie Kitchen to approve the salary for Jeremy Hyatt as a part time jailer at a pay rate of \$12.20 per hour, effective December 9, 2014. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to designate the measurement administrative and stability periods as required under the Affordable Health Care Reform Act. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to accept donation of \$3,570.00 from EOG Resources, Inc. for improvement to County Road 3070. Motion carried 4 to 0 (Judge Ford abstain from voting)

Motion made by Pat Perry seconded by Kennon Kellum to accept donation of \$5,000.00 from Trivium Operating, LLC for improvement to County Road 3385. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to change the Christmas Holidays from Wednesday and Thursday, December 24 & 25, 2014 to Thursday and Friday, December 25 & 26, 2014. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to request the Texas Health and Human Services Commission to reimburse all expenses incurred until the end of the lease and authorizing Judge Ford to sign agreement. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Pat Perry 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