

The Commissioner Court of Houston County met in a regular called meeting on January 13, 2015 with the following members present to wit:

Erin Ford	County Judge
Roger Dickey	Commissioner Precinct #1
Willie Kitchen	Commissioner Precinct #2
Kennon Kellum	Commissioner Precinct #3

Also present

Bridget Lamb	County Clerk
Melissa Mosley	County Auditor

Media

Will Johnson	Grapeland Messenger
Kelly McChesney	Houston County Courier

Visitors: G. P. Shearer, Ashley Perry, Steven Athey

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 Roger Dickey to approve the minutes of the last regular called meeting held on December 23, 2014. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Roger Dickey to approve the minutes of the special called meeting held on January 5, 2015. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Kennon Kellum to approve Budget amendment #15-02. 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 accept as information Environmental Control Report. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Judge Ford addressed the court about the statutory obligation to provide ambulance services to the resident of Houston County. The Judge read a memo from County Attorney Daphne Session which states that after reviewing the Attorney General opinions there is not a statute that requires Houston County, the hospital district or any city within Houston County or Emergency Services District #2 to provide EMS ambulance services. The statutes provide the spending of money for EMS ambulance

services but there is no obligation for an entity to do so. The statutes allow an entity to use its discretion.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Willie Kitchen to approve the hiring of Carl McMullen to full time road hand in Road and Bridge Precinct 4 at the pay rate of \$12.50 per hour. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Steve Athey, consultant with Health Care Visions presented a proposal to the court for EMS System Evaluation and Recommendations. He stated that Health Care Visions will provide a plan to ensure the County has ongoing emergency services after ETMC contract expires. Health Care Visions will provide an evaluation of the current EMS system and environment and a feasibility study providing recommendations to the county.

Motion made by Judge Ford seconded by Willie Kitchen to retain the services of Health Care Visions in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00 until clarification that the City and Hospital District would cover the remaining balance and also approval of a budget amendment for this amount from the Contingency Fund. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to accept donation of \$5,755.35 from Cabot Oil and Gas Corporation for improvement to County Road 3200 in Road and Bridge Precinct 2. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to accept donation in the amount of \$8,854.14 from EOG for improvement to County Road 4035 in Road and Bridge Precinct 3. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey to approve the continuation of the Crime Victim Deputy Grant with a 20% match. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Kennon Kellum to approve the grant application for Juvenile Deputy with no match required. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Roger Dickey seconded by Kennon Kennon to approve the grant application for body video system and cloud storage with no match required. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Roger Dickey 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