

The Commissioner Court of Houston County held a budget workshop and a regular called meeting held on August 9, 2016 with the following members present to wit:

Erin Ford	County Judge
Gary Lovell	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
Danette Millican	County Tax Assessor-Collector
Judge Pam Fletcher	349 th District Judge
Darrel Bobbitt	Sheriff
Ronnie Jordan	Justice of the Peace, Precinct #2
Morris Luker	Constable Precinct #1
Red Smith	Constable Precinct #2

Media

Alton Porter	Houston County Courier
Lynda Jones	Houston County Courier
Will Smith	Grapeland Messenger

Visitors: Roy Hill, Wanda Jordan, Jan Pigford, Mary Lucas, Randy Worsham, James Meecham , Sharon Berry and Flint Brent

Judge Ford called the meeting to order

Kennon Kellum opened the meeting with a prayer

Pledge Allegiance

Recognition of guests

Judge Ford opened the budget workshop to discuss the new county budget for fiscal year beginning October 1, 2016.

Judge Ford presented the proposed budget for fiscal year 2017 which includes a 3 % cola and longevity pay.

After a lengthy discussion with department heads Judge Ford schedule the second budget workshop on Monday, August 15, 2016 at 9:00 am.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Pat Perry to approve the minutes of the last meeting held on July 26, 2016. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Gary Lovell to approve the budget amendment. Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to accept the recommendation from the Human Resource Committee for changes in the longevity policy in the Employee Handbook. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Gary Lovell to accept the recommendation from the Human Resource Committee the changes and additions in the Sick Leave Policy in the Employee Handbook. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to table the recommendations from the Human Resource Committee concerning the Retirement Policy and the Tenured Employee Insurance Continuation for Retirement Eligible Employees. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Gary Lovell to approve the salary for Timothy Lowery as a part-time jailer at a salary of \$12.49 per hour effective August 19, 2016. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Pat Perry to approve salary for Woodow Jones as a jailer at a bi-weekly salary of \$998.83 effective August 10, 2016. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to table the adoption of the tax rate for fiscal year 2017. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Judge Ford seconded by Willie Kitchen to continue the burn ban for unincorporated areas of Houston County. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Kennon Kellum to adopt the revised Houston County Historical Commission Bylaws pending the County Attorney Review. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Pat Perry to award the contract for the hauling of road material for County Road 4740 to Womack Trucking. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Pat Perry seconded by Willie Kitchen to reappoint Dr. Willia Wooten as Houston County Representative to the Board of Trustees of Burke Center for a two year term. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Judge Ford seconded by Willie Kitchen to approve the 2017-2018 computer system lease and license agreement with Pritchard & Abbott, Inc for the Tax Collection software. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum seconded by Pat Perry to accept the donation of a weed eater and ten fluorescent orange safety vests for Environmental/Community Service Officer Department to be used by probation workers. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Judge Ford seconded by Pat Perry to approve the contract amendments with Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services. Motion carried 5 to 0.

The Court heard a presentation from Flint Brent, Crockett Economic Development Corporation regarding future plans.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen seconded by Pat Perry to rescind the Interlocal Agreement with City of Crockett for common Emergency Management Coordinator. Motion carried 5 to 0.

James Meecham, Post Commander of the American Legion of Crockett discussed the construction of a wall for First Responders.

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

Erin Ford, County Judge

Gary Lovell, Comm. Pct. #1

Willie Kitchen, Comm. Pct. #2

Pat Perry, Comm. Pct. #3

Kennon Kellum, Comm. Pct. #4

Attest:

Bridget Lamb, County Clerk