

The Commissioners' Court of Houston County met in a regular called meeting on July 25, 2017 with the following members present, to wit:

Jim Lovell	County Judge
Gary Lovell	Commissioner, Precinct #1
Willie Kitchen	Commissioner, Precinct #2
Pat Perry	Commissioner, Precinct #3
Kennon Kellum	Commissioner, Precinct #4

Also present:

Melissa Mosley	County Auditor
Dina Herrera	County Treasurer
Danette Millican	County Tax Assessor/Collector
Carolyn Rains	District Clerk
Daphne Session	County Attorney
Donna Kaspar	District Attorney
Darrel Bobbitt	County Sheriff
Janis Omelina	Chief Deputy, County Treasurer
Janice Turner	Chief Deputy County Clerk

Media:

Lynda Jones	Houston County Courier
Will Johnson	Grapeland Messenger

Visitors: Jan Pigford, Mary Lucas, G. P. Shearer, Carlton Jones, and Paul White

The meeting was called to order by County Judge Jim Lovell.

Gary Lovell opened the meeting with a prayer.

Judge Lovell led the Pledges of Allegiance.

Motion made by Kennon Kellum to approve the minutes from the July 7, 2017 meeting and seconded by Pat Perry. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Willie Kitchen made a motion to approve line-item budget amendments. The motion was seconded by Kennon Kellum. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Willie Kitchen to approve payment of bills. The motion was seconded by Gary Lovell. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Willie Kitchen made a motion to accept as information the County Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Gary Lovell. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion was made by Willie Kitchen and seconded by Pat Perry to accept as information the Compensatory Report. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion was made by Willie Kitchen and seconded by Kennon Kellum to approve the salary of Jacob Hancock as a jailer replacing Woodrow Jones at a pay rate of \$998.83 bi-weekly. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Gary Lovell made a motion to approve the salary of Pam Pugh as a temporary, part-time deputy clerk in the County Clerk's office at a rate of \$15.00 per hour. Willie Kitchen seconded the motion and it carried 5 to 0.

Motion was made by Gary Lovell and seconded by Willie Kitchen to accept two volunteer road hands for Precinct 1. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Willie Kitchen made a motion to approve a new position and salary for IT Support Technician and the necessary budget amendments. The motion was seconded by Gary Lovell. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Jan Pigford explained the options for the Employee Health Insurance Plan with the Texas Association of Counties Health and Employee Benefits Pool and recommended Option 2. Willie Kitchen made a motion to accept the recommendation. Kennon Kellum seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion was made by Willie Kitchen and seconded by Gary Lovell to approve renewal of plan assessment with Texas County and District Retirement System for Plan Year 2018. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Willie Kitchen made a motion which was seconded by Kennon Kellum to approve the Interlocal Agreement for a three-year period with Deep East Texas Self Insurance Fund for Workers' Compensation insurance. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion was made by Gary Lovell and seconded by Willie Kitchen to accept the SAVNS/VINE grant contract renewal for one year with the Office of the Attorney General for \$5,431.48. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Kennon Kellum made a motion to approve the purchase of a replacement recorder for 9-1-1 Emergency system with a reimbursement of \$15,000.00 as a 2-position PSAP from Deep East Texas Regional 9-1-1 Network and necessary budget amendments. Gary Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Gary Lovell made a motion to declare as surplus and advertise for bids to sell Bomag MP 100 Asphalt Reclaimer for Precinct 2. The motion was seconded by Willie Kitchen. Motion carried 5 to 0.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen and seconded by Judge Lovell to consider Texas Department of Motor Vehicles imposition or removal of optional fees for Calendar Year 2018 §502 Transportation Code. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Willie Kitchen made a motion which was seconded by Gary Lovell to update the Interlocal Agreement with Houston County Hospital District. Motion carried 5 to 0.

A motion was made by Kennon Kellum and seconded by Gary Lovell to authorize an emergency expenditure as an amendment to the 2017 Budget to fund the Lifeguard Ambulance Service contract through 9-30-2017 per LGC §111.010(c). Motion carried 5 to 0.

A presentation was given by Carlton Jones and Paul White of Crockett Insurance Service on making supplemental insurance available to county employees.

Kennon Kellum made a motion to approve the proposal by Crockett Insurance Service. Gary Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 to 0.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen and seconded by Kennon Kellum to accept as information the 2017 Certified Roll from the Houston County Appraisal District for Fiscal Year 2018. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Kennon Kellum made a motion to accept as information the 2018 Effective Tax Rate as presented by Danette Millican, Houston County Tax Assessor/Collector. Gary Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 to 0.

A Budget Workshop was held to discuss the proposed County budget for fiscal year 2018.

A motion was made by Willie Kitchen and seconded by Gary Lovell to table the discussion and action on a proposed tax rate for the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Willie Kitchen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gary Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Jim L. Lovell, County Judge

Gary Lovell, Commissioner, Precinct #1

Willie Kitchen, Commissioner, Precinct #2

Pat Perry, Commissioner, Precinct #3

Kennon Kellum, Commissioner, Precinct #4

Attest:

Bridget Lamb, County Clerk