

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Regular Session

Tuesday, June 23, 2026

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, June 23, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: County Judge James Yates, Commissioners Johnny Wagner, Keith Curry, David Ogle and Dicky Clary. Judge Yates called the meeting to order and a quorum was established. Commissioner Wagner led the invocation and all followed with the pledges.

Open Comments:

Lucy Lee spoke on behalf of the Hamilton Community Center. The Community Center delivers meals five days a week to 70-80 elderly and homebound residents and anywhere from 15-30 guests share a meal each day in person. The delivery routes run every weekday and is powered by 25+ volunteers that cover their own travel expenses. The Community Center is currently funded as follows; Hamilton County provides \$20,000.00; City of Hamilton provides \$5,000.00; annual community vegetable sales provide \$5,000.00; annual hamburger lunch provides \$2,500.00; additional individual donations in the amount of \$63,000.00 which can vary annually. The Hamilton Community Center is requesting \$40,000 - \$50,000 of support from Hamilton County this budget cycle and provided thanks for the continuing financial support of Hamilton County.

Budget Adjustment (L.I.T.) to consider:

- *\$10,000.00 from 023-614-1510, Road Hand #1 to 023-614-1090, Temporary Employee. Precinct Three – payroll*

Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve the Budget Adjustments (L.I.T.) as presented and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The Court approved the Budget Adjustments (L.I.T.) with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

The Court considered the following Consent Agenda:

- a. Approve the Minutes from June 9, 2026*
- b. Approve Departmental Reports*
- c. Payroll in the amount of \$84,572.00*
- d. Expenses in the amount of \$58,295.89*
- e. In-Between Bills in the amount of \$103,049.85*

- f. No Culvert Applications to consider*
- g. No Building and Use Requests to consider*
- h. No Bonds to consider*

Commissioner Clary made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and Commissioner Ogle seconded the motion. The Court approved the Consent Agenda with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

Hamilton County Personnel Update:

Resignations: Jack Boulton, Precinct 2

Hamilton County Treasurer's Report:

Tonya Cox updated the Commissioners Court that the fee for Cybersecurity Training has increased from \$5.00 to \$8.00 per employee. Mrs. Cox will be moving money from the General Fund and Logic into higher yield CD's because the interest rates are about 4.25-4.5%.

No Hamilton County Investment Report at this time.

No Hamilton County Infrastructure update at this time.

Communications Update:

Lacy Alexander provided a handout from CTCOG comparing call volumes from other counties within the region. Hamilton County has the highest call volume in comparison to all other counties within the region. Due to the voluminous call volume, the Communications Department can add another 911 call station if a request is made by a member of the Executive Committee. Mrs. Alexander stated she was disappointed in the community's attendance at both the Hico and Hamilton Fire Protection Grant Public meetings. The new rain gauges are working properly and the Communications Department was properly notified last week when the heavy rains came through the county. The Communications Department and the Sheriff's Office will be working together to find and install a new CAD system; the current system is not efficient, does not communicate accurately with law enforcement.

Law Enforcement Update:

Sheriff Boulton stated he supports and will assist Lacy Alexander is obtaining a new CAD system. The Sheriff's Department has applied for the Jail Ice Grant. The Jail Ice Grant is a zero cost to the County or the tax payers grant and if the grant is awarded the Sheriffs Department will receive \$100,000.00 per quarter. The monies from the Jail Ice grant can be used for equipment in the jail, an inmate transport van and a new camera system. The

Sheriff's Department I currently waiting on the cages to be installed in the new patrol vehicles and stated the scales for DOT compliance should be ready any day. Commissioner Clary stated they are currently gathering the financial information in order to build a fuel depot behind the Sherriif's Department.

No Financial Director's Report at this time.

No discussion on the Burn Ban at this time.

Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve an update to the Hamilton County Employee Handbook followed by Commissioner Curry seconding the motion. The change to the handbook is changing the word "will" to "may" in regards to employee drug testing, along with that change being made the cover page of the handbook will also be updated to the new revision date. The Commissioners approved the change to the Hamilton County Employee Handbook with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

The Court discussed Hamilton County's Title VI/Nondiscrimination Plan FY2026. In order for the Commissioners to receive funds from TXDOT into their precincts the County must select a coordinator as well as submit a plan for approval. Commissioner Clary made the motion to select Judge Yates as the coordinator followed by Commissioner Curry seconding the motion. Judge Yates was approved by a 4-0 vote, Judge yates abstained. Commissioner Clary made a motion to approve the plan to be approved followed by Commissioner Curry seconding the motion. The Commissioner's Court approved the plan with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

Commissioner Clary made the motion to table the Master Agreement for Professional Engineering and Consulting Services followed by Commissioner Curry seconding the motion. The Court approved tabling the Master Agreement with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

Phase II Communications Tower Update:

- *Lacy Alexander had a conference call with Bearcom and Motorola on June 17, 2026*
- *Microwave has been installed and tested*
- *The tower crew had to pull off one of Hamilton's tower sites to complete a project in another County before their funding ended; the crew will return to the Hamilton site at the completion of the other project*
- *Within the next 2-3 weeks the antenna crew will be here getting them online and tested*
- *An Engineer from Motorola has requested the Hico Tower site be placed 10 feet higher than originally planned*

- *DPS normally does not remove their old equipment unless requested to do so by the County or Agency holder of the Tower.*
- *The Tower "Go Live" date is still planned for the end of July or beginning of August.*

FEMA (TDEM) – DR4781 & DR4879:

- *All funds have been turned over from FEMA to TDEM. The Commissioner's Court is getting increasingly frustrated due to not receiving the funds in the County yet. The County has fulfilled all requirements and has submitted all required paperwork.*

Recess at 10:10 am

Reconvene at 10:22 am

FY 2025-2026-2027 Budget Workshop:

- *Move I&S taxes to Special and Dedicated Funds*
- *Create new GL's for the Sheriffs Department in order to keep grant monies separate for easy tracking and reporting purposes*
- *Sheriff's Department is to provide the Court with a detailed list of potential purchases using the grant monies received*
- *The Cost of Health Insurance has increased to \$92.85 per employee, per month*
- *Need to create new GL number for County cell phones in an effort to separate landlines from cell phone billing confusion*

Recess at 12:10 pm

Reconvene at 1:45 pm

The Commissioners Court continued the Budget workshop by reviewing each department line by line and discussing possible budget increases or decreases.

Adjourned at 3:37 pm

County Judge

Attest: _____

County Clerk

