## Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

#### Regular Session

# Tuesday, September 23, 2025

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: County Judge James Yates, Commissioners Johnny Wagner, David Ogle, Keith Curry and Dickie Clary. Judge Yates called the meeting to order and a quorum was established. Judge Yates led the invocation and all followed with the pledges.

### Open Comments:

Charles Puff, Hamilton Community Center board member, thanked the Court for their continued support on the Community Center. Mr. Puff encouraged the Commissioner's Court to come help make sandwiches and see what all the center has to offer. He again thanked the Court for their support.

Trampus Chew approached the Commissioner's Court and provided a handout to each of the Commissioners. Mr. Chew discussed multiple personal details about an ongoing investigation and the conduct of the Sheriff. Mr. Chew stated "the people of Hamilton County deserve answers".

# Budget Adjustments (L.I.T.):

- \$7,500.00 from 010-561-4720, Software Maintenance to 010-561-4590, Service Contracts; to replace the transformer Sheriff's Department
- \$80.00 from 010-400-4260, Reimbursement Mileage to 010-400-4250, Schools & Conferences County Judge Fairmont Hotel
- \$1,000.00 from 010-455-4260 Travel to 010-455-3100, Supplies for Justice of the Peace office supplies
- \$6,340.00 from 010-495-1030, Personnel Salaries to 010-495-4000, Professional Services; to pay for the Professional Services in the Auditors Office
- \$65,000.00 from 010-680-5700, Capital to 010-560-4640, Repair & Maintenance; A/C for the Sheriff's Department
- \$1,000.00 from 010-409-4000, Professional Services to 010-409-4060, Appraisal District; to cover shortage on Appraisal in 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter
- \$520.27 from 010-560-4250, Schools & Conferences to 010-560-4635, Vehicle Purchase; Last Enterprise payment for FY 24-25
- \$3,500.00 from 010-561-4720, Software Maintenance to 010-561-4590 Service Contract

- \$200.25 from 010-450-4250, Schools & Conferences to 010-450-4510, Rental Equipment; District Clerks Office
- \$20,000.00 from 024-615-5720, Contingency to 024-615-3500, Road Materials & Supplies for the Low Water crossing concrete in Precinct 4
- \$1,082.74 from 010-560-1360, Sheriff to 010-560-1030, Sheriff Manual error employee did not receive pay raise in new budget.

Commissioner Clary 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 September 9, 2025
- b. Approve Departmental reports
- c. Approve Bills in the amount of \$15,920.88
- d. Expense Register in the amount of \$59,925.40
- e. Payroll in the amount of \$83,645.39
- f. No Culvert Applications to approve
- g. Building and Use Requests Ratify the use of the West side front porch for the MIA Flag display by the American Legion Post 222, Friday, September 19, 2025, all day event
- h. Bonds Hannah Powers, Lance Christian, Jamie Fry

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:**

New Hire:

Justin Elliot, Road Hand, Pct. 4

Jack Boulton, Road Hand, Pct. 2

Resignation/Terminations:

Randall Whiddon, Communications

Karla Badillo, Communications

No Hamilton County Treasurer's Report at this time.

No Hamilton County Investment Report at this time.

Hamilton County Infrastructure Update:

The stripes have been repainted in the Courthouse parking lot and the one-way arrows should be painted by later today or tomorrow. The County received a bid from Bullard Construction in the amount of \$18,000.00 to tear down the drive-thru building behind the Annex building. After the old drive-thru is torn down the parking lot will be getting repaired.

No discussion on the Burn Ban at this time.

Tonya Cox, Hamilton County Treasurer, introduced Nicole Clepper to the Commissioners Court. Nicole Clepper was appointed as the new Hamilton County Assistant Treasurer.

County Judge James Yates read aloud the resignation letter from Justice of the Peace Judge James Lively. The Commissioners Court gave Judge Lively words of appreciation and thanks for his years of service to Hamilton County.

The Commissioners discussed the need to fill Lloyd Huggins position on the Hamilton County Appraisal District Board. Ralph Lee accepted the nomination from the County. Commissioner Clary made a motion to approve the nomination followed by Commissioner Wagner seconding the motion. The Commissioners Court approved Ralph Lee to fill the vacancy on the Hamilton County Appraisal District with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

The Court took action on the approval of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services Interlocal contract for the funding of DFPS Staff. Commissioner Clary made the motion; Commissioner Wagner seconded the motion. The Court approved the Interlocal contract with DFPS with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

### FY 2025-2026-2027 Budget Workshop:

Commissioner Clary presented his concern to the Court in regards to late arriving bills still needing to be paid in the current budget cycle. Commissioner Clary discussed the possibility of retaining Kimberly a while longer after the dissolution of the Auditors office to ensure the remainder of outstanding bills are paid this fiscal year and do not roll into next fiscal year.

Workshop for Hamilton County Phase II Tower:

Lacy Alexander stated the equipment is still being delivered and housed at Bearcom and currently the project is still on track with the projected timeline.

# FEMA Workshop:

The regularly scheduled meeting with FEMA was cancelled because there were no FEMA representatives available to attend. Another FEMA meeting will be scheduled as soon as possible. The Commissioner's are concerned about a FEMA site inspector error and would like to discuss the issue with FEMA promptly.

9:25 Executive Session to discuss Personnel matters.

10:13 Regular Session reconvened

Adjourned at 10:15 am

Attest:

County Clerk