

*Hamilton County Commissioner's Court*

*Regular Session*

*Tuesday, October 8, 2024*

*9:00 a.m.*

*Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: County Judge James Yates, Commissioner Keith Curry, Commissioner Johnny Wagner, Commissioner Dickey Clary and Commissioner Loyd Huggins. Judge Yates called the meeting to order and a quorum was established. Commissioner Clary led the invocation and all followed with the pledges.*

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

- \$1,500.00 from 010-495-1010, Auditor to 010-409-4730, IT Software/Hardware for monitor, Adobe for County Judge, District Judge and the Judge's laptop*
- \$650.00 from 010-562-3300, Fuel & Oil to 010-562-3100, Supplies for paper supplies for Communications Department.*
- \$100.00 from 023-614-4250, Schools & Conferences to 023-614-4260, Reimbursement for milage for precinct 3, Jimmy Powers mileages reimbursement.*

*Commissioner Huggins made a motion to approve the Budget Adjustments (L.I.T.) and Commissioner Clary seconded the motion. The Commissioners 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 Minutes from September 10, 2024 & September 24, 2024*
- b. Approve Departmental Reports*
- c. Expense Register in the amount of \$90,427.77*
- d. Payroll in the amount of \$65,767.35*
- e. Continuing Education for: terry Short, Stephanie Guthrie & Jenny Chapman – Certificates of Completion for webDealer 101- Dealer Training webinar and webDealer 102- Working through an Application*
- f. 2 Culvert Applications – Precinct 3 – Gary Bates, CR 207 and Precinct 3 – Dawn Solis 628 CR 3230*

- g. Building and Use Requests - Leadership Hamilton County – District Courtroom at 7:00 pm on October 15, 2024 and Hamilton Ministerial Alliance – West Courthouse Steps on May 1, 2025 at 9:00 am.*
- h. Bonds: Jason Brad Boulton, Keith Kraatz, Ronald Schmidt, Madison Hailey, Micah Looke, Jamie Fry, Tiffany Bryant, Lance Christenson, Robert Eller William Hines IV and Matthew Vinson*

*Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The Commissioners Court approved the Consent Agenda as presented with a 4-0 vote; Judge Yates abstained.*

*Hamilton County Personnel Update:*

*Kimberly Kaczmarczyk – Part Time Assistant Auditor*

*Logan Wade – Full Time Precinct 3*

*Tiffany Bryant – Sheriff's Department – from Administrative Assistant to Jail Administrator*

*No Hamilton County Treasurer's Report at this time.*

*The Court discussed the need to change the language in the Employee Policy Handbook to reflect any action taken in regards to the split payment on Retiree's insurance policy. This policy change will go into effect on January 1, 2025. Commissioner Clary suggested a letter be sent to all Hamilton County Employees notifying them of the policy change. Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve the policy change and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The Commissioners Court approved the Hamilton County Retiree's Insurance policy change and the Hamilton County Employee Policy Handbook to reflect the changes needed by a vote of 4-0, Judge Yates abstained.*

*No Hamilton County Investment Report at this time.*

### *Hamilton County Facilities Update:*

- *Excell Roofing out of Hico repaired the roof at the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department at no charge.*
- *Ashmore Plumbing stated that the Hot Water Heater at the Sheriff's Department is on its last leg, it will need to be replaced eventually*
- *The A/C units at the Sheriff's Department have been serviced and all air filters replaced*
- *The Locksmith will be coming to the Sheriff's Department on Thursday*
- *Precinct 4 will have the area behind the Sheriff's Department shred by the end of this week*

*Lacy Alexander provided an update for the Communications Department stating that the call volume for September was 75 calls more than in September of 2023. The Communications Department currently has two employment positions available and currently two staff members in training. Currently with the staffing issues in the Communications Department, Compensation time is being accrued at a quick pace. Lacy feels that her staff should be compensated for the actual time spent in "the chair". Commissioner Clary made a motion to amend the personnel policy to allow Overtime pay in the Communications Department in lieu of Comp time. Commissioner Wagner seconded the motion. The Commissioners Court approved the amendment to the personnel policy to pay overtime instead of Comp time, in the Communications Department, effective October 12, 2024 with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.*

*Commissioner Wagner made a motion to Ratify the Order Appointing Jason Brad Boulton as Hamilton County Sheriff effective October 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 as approved by majority vote of the Commissioners Court on September 17, 2024 and effective October 1, 2024. Commissioner Huggins seconded the motion and the Court approved the ratification of the Order Appointing Jason Brad Boulton by a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.*

### *Hamilton County Law Enforcement Update:*

*Sheriff Boulton provided the Court with an update stating that the Sheriff's Department currently has 5 positions open for employment. Two employees will be sent to the Academy in January 2025. Sheriff Boulton stated that it has taken several days but the offices and portions of the Sheriff's department have been deep cleaned but it will take months to get the rest sorted out*

*and organized correctly. Currently there is a Property and Evidence Auditor performing an audit at the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department. The audit will be a several days process.*

*Commissioner Clary made a motion to accept the Transfer Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Hamilton and Hamilton County for the 2024 Ford Interceptor Police Unit. Commissioner Curry seconded the motion and the Court approved the action with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.*

*No action on the Burn Ban at this time.*

*The County Auditor's office is requesting the purchase of a new computer for the Assistant Auditor. Commissioner Huggins made a motion and Commissioner Clary seconded the motion. The Commissioners Court approved the purchase of a new computer with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.*

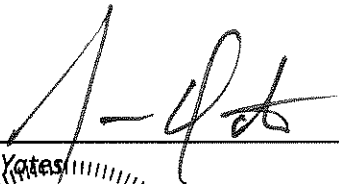
*Howard Pierson addressed the Court about his concern on the TXDOT Loop proposal of closing County Road 502. Mr. Howard is opposed to the closing of County Road 502 and is requesting either an Underpass or an Overpass be built instead of closing the road. Commissioner Clary presented a Resolution for Recommended changes to the US 281 Hamilton truck relief route requesting changes be made to TXDOT's original plans by reconsidering access to County Road 401 from Hwy 281 and constructing a median opening with dedicated turn lanes at that intersection, and to construct an Overpass/Underpass or provide a median opening at the intersection of the Bypass with CR 502 instead of installing dead end cul-de-sacs. The deadline to submit the Resolution is October 9, 2024. Commissioner Clary made the motion and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion and the Court approved the resolution with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.*

*Commissioner Huggins made a motion to approve the Rural Law Enforcement Salary Assistance (SB22) and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The Commissioners Court approved the Rural Law Enforcement Salary Assistance Program (SB22) with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.*

The Court discussed the need to Ratify the Amended contract for the Provisions of Police Services within the City limits of Hamilton with the effective date October 1, 2024. Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve and Commissioner Huggins seconded the motion. The Court approved to Ratify the Amended contract with a 4-0 vote, judge Yates abstained.

Commissioner Clary made a motion to Ratify the Interlocal Agreement between Lampasas County and Hamilton County for Jail services. Commissioner Huggins seconded the motion and the Commissioners Court ratified the Interlocal Agreement between Lampasas County and Hamilton County for Jail Servies with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

Adjourned at 10:07 am.

  
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Judge James Yates

Attest:   
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County Clerk

