

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Regular Session

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: County Judge James Yates, Commissioner Curry, Commissioner Johnny Wagner, Commissioner Ogle and Commissioner Clary. Judge Yates called the meeting to order and a quorum was established. Commissioner Ogle led the invocation and all followed with the pledges.

There were no Open Comments.

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

- a. \$500.00 from 010-400-4250, School & Conference to 0110-495-4250, Auditor School & Conference to cover shortage.***
- b. \$3,500.00 from 022-613-5720, Contingency to 022-613-5700, Capital for Irrigation Pump***
- c. \$175,000.00 from Contingency to 024-615-5700, Capital for the purchase of Precinct 4 Motor Grader***

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 March 11, 2025***
- b. Approve Departmental Reports***
- c. Approve Bills submitted for payment***
- d. Payroll in the amount of \$85,315.09***
- e. Expense Register in the amount of \$72,600.70***
- f. Approve Certificates of Continuing Education- See Departmental Reports***
- g. No Culvert Applications***

- h. ***Building and Use Requests – Hamilton Main Street Program requests use of the parking lot and electricity every second Saturday from April through December for Mainstreet Market.***

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

Hamilton County Personnel Update:

New Hire – Michael Cole, Pct. 2 Part Time

Resignations – Amelia Ruhmann, Communications

Tonya Cox provided the Hamilton County Treasurer's Report. Mrs. Cox stated the total cash on hand for the month of January was \$3,553,874.05 and Investments in the amount of \$1,763,638.84. Total cash on hand for the month of February was \$3,635,827.10 and Investments in the amount of \$1,769,726.46. Tonya requested the Courts permission to move a million dollars into a different account in order to gain a hirer yield.

Lacy Alexander provided the Communications Department update stating that as of 9:00am, Tuesday, March 25th they have already received 1,500 calls for service.

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Department update will be provided at the next Commissioners Court meeting.

Judge Yates made a motion to implement the Burn Ban. Commissioner Ogle seconded the motion and the Commissioners Court approved the Burn Ban by a 5-0 vote. The Burn Ban restricting Outdoor Burning takes effect immediately.

The Court discussed the Central Texas Council of Governments request for a Resolution authorizing the creation of the Central Texas Regional 911 emergency Communications District. The district is created by Legislation and the Resolution from Hamilton County would provide support in creating the Central Texas Regional 911 Emergency Communications District. Commissioner Clary made a motion, followed by Commissioner Wagner seconding

the motion. The Commissioners Court approved the Resolution authorizing the creation of the Central Texas Regional 911 Emergency Communications District with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

The Commissioners Court took action Proclaiming that April 2025 as Child Abuse Prevention month in Hamilton County. Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve followed by Commissioner Curry. The Commissioners Court declared the month of April Child Abuse Prevention month with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

The Commissioner Court accepted the County Child Welfare Services Non-Financial Agreement with a 4-0 vote. Commissioner Clary made the motion and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion; Judge Yates abstained.

Palo Pinto County Sheriff's Department will be loaning Hamilton County Motorola Quantar repeaters to serve Hamilton County as interim measures for Fire and EMS Operations for both Fair Park and Hico Towers. Commissioner Clary made a motion to approve the loaned equipment and Commissioner Ogle seconded the motion. The Commissioners Court accepted the loaned Motorola Quantar Repeaters as an interim with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

The Commissioners Court opened the sealed Bids received on Blasting Services. The one sealed Bid received is from Paul Charles Construction out of Clifton, TX. Commissioner Clary made a motion to accept the Bid and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The Commissioners Court accepted the bid from Paul Charles Construction for Blasting Services with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

The Commissioners Court opened the sealed Bids received for a Pre-Owned Motor Grader for Precinct 4. One sealed bid was received from Eddy H. Longley from Fort Worth, TX. The sealed bid was for a 2016 John Deere Motor grader that is about nine years old with roughly 800 used hours on it and only had one owner. Commissioner Clary made a motion to accept the bid and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The Commissioners accepted the bid for the 2016 John Deere Motor Grader for Precinct 4 with a 4-0 cote, Judge Yates abstained.

The Commissioners Court discussed the funding for the Precinct 4 Motor Grader. Commissioner Clary made a Budget Adjustment (L.I.T.) of \$175,000.00 from Contingency to Capital from existing funds. Commissioner Clary received a quote from Government Capital Services to fund \$150,000.00 over a 5-year term at a rate just under 6%. The annual payment would be \$35,606.55. Commissioner Clary is seeking approval for the funding agreement with Government Capital as well as approval to pay the annual payment. Commissioner Clary made a motion to approve the funding option and Commissioner Wagner seconded the motion. The Commissioners Court approved the funding for Precinct 4 Motor Grader with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

The Court discussed the Resolution for SB1754 which would prohibit the Counties ability to provide Tax Abatements for Renewable Energy projects such as Solar, Wind and Battery. Commissioner Clary made a motion to sign the Resolution and Commissioner Ogle seconded the motion. The Commissioners Court approved the Resolution of Support for SB1754 with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

Recess at 9:36 am

Reconvene in Executive Session at 9:45 am

End Executive Session at 10:22 am

Reconvene in Regular Session at 11:00 am

Commissioner Clary led the Hamilton County Phase II Communications Tower, Motorola Equipment purchase kick-off meeting. In attendance was Maxine Johnson, Motorola Project Manager; Steve Cousins with Bear Telecom; Kevin Lamb with Infinity and multiple other sub-contractors via virtual meeting. The project Team reviewed the physical and logistical elements of the project as well as providing a rough timeline. Commissioner Clary requested Insurance Certificates for all sub-contractors that will be involved in the project. Lacy Alexander, Judge Yates and a project team member will be physically inspecting both the Fair Park and the Hico site today.

Recess at 11:50 am

Reconvene at 12:00 pm

FEMA began at 12:00 pm

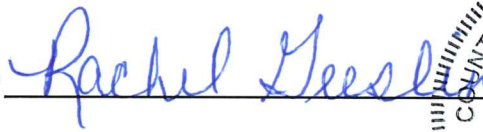
Mary Bonilla with FEMA and Brandi Masterson with TYDEM were in attendance. The first order of business was to determine a better date and time in which to hold the FEMA workshops. Future FEMA workshops will be held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 9:30 am. The Commissioners Court along with Mary and Brandi reviewed each project and consolidated where needed and made various corrections within the spreadsheet. The consolidation of projects does not affect the ability of the County to receive payments.

FEMA ended 12:51 pm

Adjourned at 12:51 pm



County Judge

Attest: 

County Clerk

