

**Hamilton County Commissioner's Court****Regular Session****Tuesday, August 27, 2024****9:00 a.m.**

**Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, August 27, 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.**

**Open Comments:**

*Jim Kenton spoke to the Court requesting a geographical exemption to the Burn Ban. Mr. Kenton is a professional controlled burner. Mr. Kenton will provide a Prescribed Burn Plan to the Commissioners Court.*

*Charles Puff provided an updated on the Hamilton County Community Center. Mr. Puff stated it cost about \$67,200.00 in 2024 to feed roughly 100 people a day excluding the four holidays the Community Center is closed.*

**There were multiple Budget Adjustments (L.I.T.) to consider:**

- *\$700.00 from 010-400-4260, Reimbursement- Milage, to 010-400-3100, Supplies*
- *\$10,000.00 from 022-613-5720, Contingency, to 022-6131-4500, Road and Material Equipment, for Road Equipment Hems for Precinct 2.*
- *\$2,000.00 from 010-409-4740, IT Services, to 010-409-3110, Postage*
- *\$3,000.00 from 0110-510-4650, Repairs Maintenance at the Annex to 010-510-4422, Electricity at the Annex*
- *\$500.00 from 010-409-4740, IT Services, to 010-409-4310, Advertising and Publishing for Notices for Budget Hearing expense.*
- *\$1,100.00 from 010-560-4010, Investigation to 010-560-4540, \$600.00 vehicle repair and 010-560-3320, \$500.00, Janitorial Supplies*

*Commissioner Clary made a motion to approve the Budget Adjustments (L.I.T.) and Commissioner Huggins 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:

- Approve the Minutes from August 8, 2024, August 9, 2024 and August 12, 2024.
- Approve Departmental Reports
- Expense Register in the amount of \$129,593.25
- Payroll in the amount of \$68, 418.96
- Certificates of Continuing Education - Justice of the Peace, Stop the Bleed Certificate; County Clerk, Certificate of Training FY 2025 TX Cybersecurity Course HB 3824
- Culvert Application will be held for a future meeting per Commissioner Wagner.
- Building and Use request from Hamilton Volunteer Fire Department at the intersection of Henry and Rice Street to serve Chili to the public.
- Bonds – Brandon Wright, Deputy Sheriff

Commissioner Huggins made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the exception of the Culvert Application and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The Commissioners Court approved the Consent Agenda with exception to the Culvert Application by a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

Hamilton County Personnel Update:

*New Hire as of 08/23/2024– M. Vincent, Deputy Sheriff*

*Resignations:*

*M. Westfall – Sheriff's Department*

*A. Phillips – Communications Department as of 09/07/2024*

*L. Goodwin - Communications Department as of 09/07/2024*

*M. Wright - Communications Department as of 09/07/2024*

*Hamilton County Treasurer, Tonya Cox, provided the Treasurer's Report. Tonya stated that as of July 2024 the Cash on Hand is in the amount of \$2,224,969.12 and Investments in the amount of \$2,409,936.52.*

*No Investment Report provided at this time.*

*Hamilton County facilities update – the Mold remediation project in the County Clerks basement is still in progress but moving along nicely.*

*Lacy Alexander provided a Communications Department update and stated that she is once again hiring for Dispatchers.*

*The Court discussed the need to order the Burn Ban. Commissioner Huggins made a motion to approve the Burn Ban with a geographical exemption and Commissioner Wagner seconded the motion. The Court approved the Burn Ban with a geographical exemption with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained. The Burn Ban will go into effect Friday, August 30, 2024.*

*The Court Ratified the District Court Order Setting Public Hearing on the Hamilton County Auditor's Budget and Assistant Auditor due to a wording error in the publication. Commissioner Huggins made a motion and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The Court approved the ratification of the District Court Order by a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.*

*The Court recessed at 9:45 am*

*The Court reconvened at 9:53 am*

*FEMA talks began at 9:54 am*

*The Commissioners top priority is to complete the Damage Inventory and get them submitted to Lacy Alexander. Once Lacy Alexander has received all four Damage Inventory spreadsheets she will submit them to Mike Bell with FEMA. Mike Bell with FEMA will begin entering the information provided from Lacy into the grants portal and then create "projects". After the "projects" have been built in the grant portal, Debbie Rudolph will begin scanning and uploading receipts, invoices, time sheets, etc. in order for the reimbursement process to begin.*

*Commissioner Clary made a motion to utilize "in house" employees such as Debbie Rudolph, Lacy Alexander and Janie Stanosch to handle the administrative duties of FEMA. Commissioner Wagner seconded the motion. The Court approved utilizing "in-house" employees with a 4-0 vote, Commissioner Huggins abstained.*

*FEMA talks end at 10:07 am*

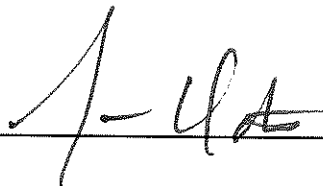
*Discussion on the FY2024-2025 Budget Workshop*

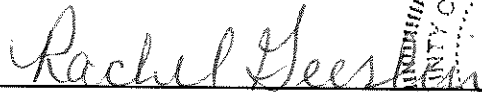
- Administrative allocations of FEMA funds*
- Kologick – software maintenance*

*After considerable discussion about which county personnel would be performing Administrative work on the FEMA Disaster Recovery project and how much each person should be compensated, Commissioner Clary made a motion to pay the County Judges Administrative Assistant a Salary Supplement of \$20,000 per year for her Administrative work associated with the FEMA Disaster Recovery project. Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The Court approved the motion with a 4-0 vote, Commissioner Huggins abstained.*

Judge Yates made a motion to allocate FEMA administrative funds as a Salary Supplement over twenty- six weeks of payroll pay periods for the County Auditor and Emergency Management Coordinator in the amount of \$5000.00 per year. Commissioner Clary seconded the motion. The Court approved the FEMA administrative funds allocations with a 4-0 vote, Commissioner Huggins abstained.

Adjourned at 11:50 am

  
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Judge James Yates

Attest:   
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County Clerk

