

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court  
Regular Session

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: County Judge James Yates, Commissioners Johnny Wagner, Lloyd Huggins, Keith Curry and Dickie 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:

Danna Hurst, the Secretary for the Hamilton Public Library Board, invited Judge Yates and the Commissioners to come and tour the new Genealogy department as well as tour the Hamilton public library facility on Wednesday, February 28, 2024.

There were two Budget Adjustments.

- a. Defense Insurance in the amount of \$300.00
  - b. Statutory Probate Judge, Jury and Fees in the amount of \$3,440.00
- Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve the Budget Adjustments and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The court approved the budget adjustments with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

The court considered the following Consent Agenda:

- a. Minutes from January 23, 2024
- b. Approve Departmental Reports
- c. Payroll in the amount of \$68,500.32 and Expense register in the amount of \$182,568.04.
- d. Certificates of Continuing Education for the following personnel:  
Lacy Alexander – (3) Disaster Management for Electric Power Systems Certification, Texas Department of State Health Services Certificate of attendance at the National Transportation Safety Board Family Assistance Operations Workshop, Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service Completion in Infrastructure Disaster Management Certificate Program and Continuing Education for Attendance at the National Transportation Safety Board Family Assistance Operations Workshop.
- e. There were no Culvert Applications to consider
- f. Building and Use Request for Hamilton Chamber of Commerce to use the inside circle and lawn of the Courthouse on May 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm, All day on May 11<sup>th</sup> and until about noon on May 12<sup>th</sup> for clean-up.
- g. Bonds – Stephanie Brown, Deputy Sheriff

Commissioner Huggins made a motion and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The court approved the Consent Agenda with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

Treasurer, Tonya Cox, provided the court with an update stating the current cash on hand is \$1,621,881.05 and Investments in the amount of \$1,329,125.20. Tonya also spoke to the Commissioners about the ongoing issues with AFLAC and the budgeting nightmare it is creating due to the fact AFLAC continues to send payments back to the County because they are unsure how to apply the payments. The suggestion was made to change AFLAC from a payroll deduction to employee self-pay. Beginning April 1, 2024 employees will need to pay that cost instead of it being deducted from payroll. Commissioner Clary made a motion and Commissioner Huggins seconded the motion. The court approved removing AFLAC as a payroll deduction with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

Judge Yates provided the facilities update, stating that the Limestone molding at the top of the Courthouse is breaking off in certain areas. Commissioner Huggins mentioned that he had noticed that rock is also chipping off around some of the exterior columns.

Lacy Alexander provided the Communications Department update to the Commissioners court. The Communications department has a new part time employee that is already trained and able to work immediately. Lacy clarified a discrepancy in the call volume increase, discussed in a previous commissioner's court, and stated the reason for the spike in call volume from 2022 to 2023 is because before moving to their new location not all the calls were received through the Vesta 911 system, administrative calls were coming in through a land line, but once they moved to their current location all calls are received through the Vesta 911 system reflecting the spike in calls for service. The Eclipse is only 55 days away therefore, L. Alexander will be holding a Stakeholders meeting at the end of the month for all Emergency Service agencies. There will be three Solar Eclipse Public meetings held. The first meeting will be held in Hico at the Hico Community Center on March 12, 2024 at 6:00pm, the second meeting will be held in the Annex building in Hamilton on March 13, 2024 at 6:00pm and the third meeting will be held in Evant at the Evant City Hall on March 14, 2024 at 6:00pm.

The Commissioners court discussed the Interlocal Agreement between Hamilton County and Comanche County in order to house an inmate for Hamilton County for an upcoming trial. Commissioner Huggins made a motion to approve and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The court approved the Interlocal Agreement with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

David Williams is a disaster finance coordinator with the Texas Division of Emergency Management. Mr. Williams provided the court with information on emergency financial management and invited the court to attend the Emergency Financial meeting held on Thursday, February 15, 2024 from 9:00am-12:00 pm in the Annex building in Hamilton.

The court discussed the Interlocal Agreement between Coryell County and Hamilton County regarding Administration of the performance of Hamilton County's obligation to residents of Precinct 3 of Hamilton County and Hamilton County Jail inmates under the Texas Indigent

Health Care and treatment Act. Commissioner Huggins made a motion to approve and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The Commissioners court approved the Interlocal Agreement between Coryell County and Hamilton County with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

Precinct 3 requested to declare surplus and sell at Auction two vehicles, a 2004 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 VIN 1GCEC19V841395007 and a 2002 Ford F250 VIN 1FTNW21F42EB32932. Commissioner Huggins made a motion to approve and Commissioner Clary seconded the motion. The court approved to declare the vehicles surplus and sell them at Auction with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve the Interlocal Cooperation Contract Failure to Appear program between the Texas Department of Safety and Hamilton County. Commissioner Curry seconded the motion and the court approved the Interlocal Contract Failure to Appear program by a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

The Commissioners Court discussed the need to Ratify the execution of a Correction Instrument related to the 2023 Tax Abatement Agreement between Bogart Holdings, LLC and Hamilton County due to a Survey error. Commissioner Clary made a motion and Commissioner Huggins seconded the motion. The court approved the ratification of the agreement between Hamilton County and Bogart Holdings, LLC with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

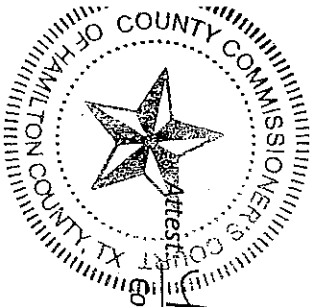
On October 26, 2023 the Commissioner's Court approved a quote from Kyle Norman to build the Records Storage Facility and Impound Vehicle area. Judge Yates stated he does not think it is wise to move forward at this time due to unforeseen financial issues. Judge Yates made a motion to discontinue the quote at this time and come back for another quote at a later time. Commissioner Clary seconded the motion. The court approved to discontinue with the quote at this time with a 5-0 vote.

Discussion on a Hamilton County representative to serve on the Hamilton Public Library board will be placed on a future agenda.

Rachel Geeslin, Hamilton County Clerk, presented a proposal to the Commissioners Court requesting to move Tyler Eagle Recorder to the Cloud. Commissioner Huggins made a motion and Commissioner Clary seconded the motion and the court approved the County Clerks office to move Eagle Recorder to the Cloud with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

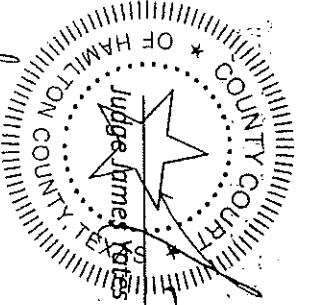
The Commissioners Court took a 10-minute recess and then went into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters at 9:55am. Court was out of Executive Session 10:22 am.

Adjourned at 10:23am.



Attest:  
County Clerk

Rachel J. Heekin



Judge James Yates

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