



HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

COMMISSIONERS COURT

1001 Preston, Suite 938 · Houston, Texas 77002-1817 · (713) 755-5113

Robert Eckels
County Judge

El Franco Lee
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Jim Fonteno
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Steve Radack
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Jerry Eversole
Commissioner, Precinct 4

No. 01.21

AGENDA

October 9, 2001

1:45 p.m.

Opening prayer by Reverend W.C. Hall of Holy Trinity United Methodist Church in Houston.

1. Public Infrastructure Department
 - a. Public Infrastructure
 - b. Flood Control District
 - c. Engineering
2. Toll Road Authority
3. Management Services
4. Central Technology
5. Facilities & Property Management
6. Public Health Services
7. Social Services
8. Community Development Services
9. Youth & Family Services
10. Constables
11. Sheriff
12. Fire & Emergency Services
13. Medical Examiner
14. County Clerk
15. District Clerk
16. County Attorney
17. District Attorney
18. Justices of the Peace
19. Fiscal Services & Purchasing
 - a. Auditor
 - b. Treasurer
 - c. Tax Assessor-Collector
 - d. Purchasing
20. Commissioners Court
 - a. County Judge
 - b. Commissioner, Precinct 1
 - c. Commissioner, Precinct 2
 - d. Commissioner, Precinct 3
 - e. Commissioner, Precinct 4
21. Miscellaneous
22. Tax Rates
23. Emergency items
24. Appearances before court
25. Opening of bids and proposals

The Commissioners Court may go into executive session, if necessary, pursuant to chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, for one or more of the following reasons: (1) consultation with the County Attorney to seek or receive legal advice or consultation regarding pending or contemplated litigation; (2) discussion about the value or transfer of real property; (3) discussion about a prospective gift or donation; (4) consideration of specific personnel matters; (5) discussion about security personnel or devices; or (6) discussion of certain economic development matters. The Commissioners Court may announce that it will go into executive session on any item listed on this agenda if the subject matter is permitted for a closed session by provisions of chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

1. **Public Infrastructure Department**

a. **Public Infrastructure**

1. Recommendation that the Flood Control District be authorized to negotiate an agreement with TSC Engineering Company for consulting engineering services in support of a drainage and flood control study of Deer Park and adjacent areas in Precinct 2.
2. Recommendation that the County Judge be authorized to execute the lateral road account for the period of September 1, 2000-August 31, 2001 for the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts to allocate certain highway funds for construction and improvement of county roads.
3. Recommendation that the court approve a resolution and order authorizing the TSA-District Buyout project, decreeing the project a public necessity and convenience, and directing Right of Way to acquire on behalf of the district Tract 17-801.0 in Precinct 4, and for appropriate officials to take necessary actions to complete the transaction.
4. Recommendation that the court approve a resolution and order authorizing the Spring Cypress Road project, decreeing the project a public necessity and convenience, and directing Right of Way to acquire on behalf of the county Tract 054A in Precinct 4, and for appropriate officials to take necessary actions to complete the transaction.
5. Recommendation that the court approve a resolution and order authorizing Right of Way on behalf of the Flood Control District to sell Tract 15-605.0 of the Greens Bayou project in Precinct 1 by sealed bid for a minimum of \$3,990, and for appropriate officials to take necessary actions relating to the transaction.
6. Recommendation that the court approve a resolution and order authorizing the Flood Control District to issue a payment for landowner relocation assistance to Curtis Radick in the amount of \$240 for the Cypress Creek flood damage prevention project in Precinct 3, and for appropriate officials to take necessary actions to complete the transaction.
7. Recommendation that the court approve a resolution and order authorizing the general manager of Right of Way to execute a warranty deed and agreement for sale related to the purchase of property for the Flood Control District's HMGP-1041 project in Precincts 2 and 4.
8. Transmittal of notices of road and bridge log changes.

b. Flood Control District

1. Recommendation that the County Judge be authorized to execute agreements with:
 - a. City of Friendswood for acquisition and demolition of homes damaged by Tropical Storm Allison in Precinct 1 in the amount of \$1,111,964.
 - b. City of Houston for termination of an interlocal agreement for replacement of the Martin Luther King bridge over Sims Bayou in Precinct 1, and to refund \$2,888,726.
 - c. City of Houston for maintenance of Unit C120-00-00 channel extension from Carson Road to the Orem Drive extension and the city's dedication of an easement to the public to facilitate maintenance of channel improvements in Precinct 1.
 - d. D. R. Horton-Texas, Ltd., and Post Wood MUD to acknowledge a contribution for development of Postwood Green and to establish system capacity in the Cypress Creek watershed in Precinct 4.
 - e. HTS, Inc., for on-call geotechnical engineering services in the amount of \$50,000 for support of the district's engineering and maintenance programs.
 - f. Kimball Hill Texas Development, L.C., and Rankin Road MUD to acknowledge a contribution for development of Laurel Oaks, Section 6, and to establish system capacity in the Greens Bayou watershed in Precinct 4.
 - g. Reliant Energy HL&P for performance of work in right of way under transmission towers for Pearl Hall ditch channel rehabilitation from SH3 to South Shaver Street in Precinct 2.
 - h. TerraPoint, LLC, for topographic surveying services in the amount of \$1,535,756 in connection with obtaining digital elevation data for the county.
 - i. Texas Water Development Board to increase the fee to be paid by the district for a flood protection planning grant to address flooding in the Cypress Creek watershed in Precincts 3 and 4 (amendment).
2. Recommendation for approval of construction documents and authorization to seek bids for a three-week period for general repairs in Precincts 2 and 4 at an estimated cost of \$270,000.
3. Recommendation that the award for channel conveyance improvements and enclosure from Mile Drive to Marcia Drive in Precinct 3 be made to Hubco, Inc., in the amount of \$699,273.
4. Recommendation for authorization for two employees to attend a safety training course of Ecological Safety Services, Inc., November 6 in Houston at a cost of \$190.

c. Engineering

1. Recommendation for approval to seek bids for a two-week period for pavement and storm damage repairs to Grace Lane and Wallisville Road in Precinct 2 at an estimated cost of \$75,000.

2. Recommendation for approval of the following plats:
 - a. Clear Brook Meadows Section Two in Precinct 1; Van DeWiele Engineering Incorporated.
 - b. Meadows of Clear Creek Section Two in Precinct 1; Van DeWiele Engineering Incorporated.
 - c. Sheffield Estates Section Two in Precinct 3; Jones & Carter, Incorporated.
 - d. Primewest Section One partial replat in Precinct 3; Terra Associates, Incorporated.
 - e. Copper Lakes Section Nine in Precinct 3; Jones & Carter, Incorporated.
 - f. Pinecrest Forest Section Six in Precinct 4; Pate Engineers.
 - g. Henry Patel Subdivision in Precinct 4; AMC Engineers, Incorporated.
 - h. Cypresswood Glen Estates Section Two in Precinct 4; Alexander Engineering, Incorporated.
 - i. Coventry Meadows in Precinct 4; Jones & Carter, Incorporated.
 - j. Stables Town Center in Precinct 4; Texas Engineering and Mapping Company.
3. Recommendation that the court accept a bond in the amount of \$15,503 for Beyer Construction, LLP, and Houston Coventry, LLC, executed by Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Underwriters, Inc., for paving and drainage improvements for Coventry, Section Three Phase III in Precinct 4.
4. Recommendation for approval of changes in contracts for:
 - a. Angel Brothers Enterprises, Inc., for asphalt overlay and base repair in the Genoa Red Bluff Camp area in Precinct 2, resulting in a reduction of \$8,686 from the contract amount (27337).
 - b. Curb Planet, Inc., for drainage improvements for Vann Road in Precinct 2, resulting in an addition of \$4,915 to the contract amount (27316).
 - c. SCI Contractors, Inc., for refurbishing various roads by hot in-place recycling of existing asphalt surface and overlay in the Spring Camp area in Precinct 4, resulting in a reduction of \$13,841 from the contract amount (27338).
5. Recommendation for deposit of funds in the amount of \$5,040 received from Grant Sheet Metal for penalties for violation of prevailing wage rates at the Baker Street Jail project.
6. Recommendation that the award for Clear Lake Pavilion renovations in Precinct 2 be made to G & Z Contracting, best bid in the amount of \$133,500, and for appropriate officials to take necessary actions relating to the award.
7. Recommendation for approval of the preliminary engineering report prepared by Pepe Engineering, Inc., for construction of Will Clayton Parkway from west of South Houston Avenue to east of Wilson Road in Precinct 4.
8. Recommendation that the award for pool improvements and related work at Lincoln Park be made to T.G. Thomas, Inc., lowest and best bid in the amount of \$565,350, and for appropriate officials to take necessary actions relating to the award.

9. Request for authorization to delete three positions and create a new position for the Engineering Division effective October 13.

2. **Toll Road Authority**

Request for authorization to seek bids for an air conditioning unit for the computer room at the Meadowfern office building at an approximate cost of \$35,000.

3. **Management Services**

- a. Request for approval of orders authorizing acceptance of payments in connection with settlement of damages to county equipment and property in the total amount of \$8,746; settlement of five tort claims in the total amount of \$6,477; denial of two claims for damages; and transmittal of claims for damages received during the period which ended October 2.
- b. Request for authorization for the County Judge to execute a release in exchange for payment to the county in the amount of \$1,882 in connection with settlement of an accident claim.
- c. Request for authorization for two employees to attend a job fair of Houston Baptist University and the University of St. Thomas October 24 in Houston at a cost of \$100.
- d. Transmittal of investment transactions for the period of September 26-October 2 and maturities for October 3-9.
- e. Request for approval of interest payments for commercial paper issues, and for approval of commercial paper projects in amounts of:
 1. \$284,000 for the costs of issuance relating to expansion of the county's Flood Control commercial paper program, and authorization to obtain funds necessary to finance ongoing capital improvement needs of the district;
 2. \$2,150,000 for a virology lab and equipment and to relocate mosquito spraying fleet operations for Public Health & Environmental Services; and,
 3. \$1,262,515 to fund various projects for Animal Control, Purchasing, Medical Examiner, Treasurer, Annex 83, and the Stella Link Library.
- f. Request for approval of the total estimated cash flow projection of \$8,250,189 for payment of September invoices related to the Reliant Park Construction Project, subject to adjustments for actual payments.
- g. Request for approval of authorized budget appropriation transfers for flood control and county departments.

4. **Central Technology Center**

Request for approval of agreements with the cities of Bunker Hill Village, Piney Point, and Hunters Creek Village for use of the county's 800 MHz public radio system.

5. **Facilities & Property Management**

Request for authorization for the director to attend the annual convention and design products exposition of the Texas Society of Architects November 2-3 in Dallas at an approximate cost of \$500.

6. **Public Health & Environmental Services**

- a. Request for authorization for the interim director to attend a meeting of the Texas Association of Local Health Officers October 4 in Austin at a cost of \$162.
- b. Request for authorization for an employee to attend a symposium of the Texas Institute for Health Policy Research October 10-11 in Austin at a cost of \$360.
- c. Request for authorization for an employee to use a county vehicle for travel to Austin to attend a West Nile virus planning meeting of the Texas Department of Health October 18 at no cost to the county.
- d. Request for authorization for an employee to attend a crisis pregnancy workshop November 13 in Houston at a cost of \$20.
- e. Request for authorization for an employee to attend a computer software support skills class November 26-30 in Houston at a cost of \$1,275.
- f. Request for authorization to accept donations in the total amount of \$174 for the Animal Control Shelter.
- g. Request for authorization to renew an annual agreement with the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services for grant funds in the amount of \$4,200 for training of the Houston-Harris County Child Fatality Team.
- h. Request for authorization for an employee to attend a grants training seminar in connection with HIV prevention services October 15-19 in Los Angeles at an approximate cost of \$600.

7. **Social Services**

Request for authorization to extend a grant program of the U.S. Justice Department for the Aldine area through February 28, 2002.

8. Community Development Services

Request for approval of an agreement with the Harris County Hospital District to partially fund a program that provides services for homeless persons and those at risk of homelessness using Emergency Shelter Grant funds in the amount of \$52,500.

9. Youth & Family Services

- a. Request by Agricultural Extension for authorization for two employees to attend a 4H professional development workshop November 5-8 in Brownwood at a cost of \$1,000.
- b. Request by Agricultural Extension for authorization for an employee to attend a youth entrepreneurship workshop October 28-30 in Brownwood at a cost of \$335.
- c. Request by Agricultural Extension for authorization for two employees to attend a professional development seminar October 26 in Houston at a cost of \$350.
- d. Request by Agricultural Extension for authorization for an employee to attend a training seminar October 10-11 in Corpus Christi at an approximate cost of \$234.
- e. Request by Agricultural Extension for authorization for an employee to attend a leadership conference for women November 12-13 in Austin at a cost of \$421.
- f. Request by Juvenile Probation for approval of an agreement with the City of Houston for use of space at the George R. Brown Convention Center May 2-3 for the Youth & Family Services Division conference at a cost of \$6,100.
- g. Request by Juvenile Probation for authorization to submit an application to the Criminal Justice Division of the Office of the Governor for grant funds to continue the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program at Burnett-Bayland Center.
- h. Request by Children's Assessment Center for authorization for two employees to attend a conference of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children October 12-14 in New Orleans at an approximate cost of \$495.
- i. Request by CAC for authorization for an employee to attend a leadership committee meeting of the Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas October 13-14 in Conroe at no cost to the county.
- j. Request by CAC for authorization for an employee to travel to Kerrville October 24-25 to train CPS caseworkers and therapists at no cost to the county.
- k. Request by CAC for authorization for an employee to attend a conference of the National Association of Social Workers October 10-13 in Austin at a cost of \$210.

10. **Constables**

- a. Request by Constable Abercia, Precinct 1, for authorization for an employee to attend a conference of the Texas Criminal Justice Information Users Group October 16-19 in Austin at an approximate cost of \$600.
- b. Request by Constable Abercia for authorization for an employee to attend a TASER instructor class October 19 in Victoria at an approximate cost of \$200, with travel by county vehicle.
- c. Transmittal of notice by Constable Trevino, Precinct 6 of the addition of a reserve officer to the department's authorized list.
- d. Request by Constable Wooten, Precinct 7, for authorization for an employee to attend a regional training conference of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives October 19-20 in Austin at an approximate cost of \$500.
- e. Request by Constable Bailey, Precinct 8, for authorization for four employees to attend intoxilyzer operator certification classes November 5-9 in Houston at a total cost of \$500.

11. **Sheriff**

- a. Request for approval of pay and restoration of benefits for a deputy in connection with a rescinded disciplinary action.
- b. Request for authorization to purchase a memorial plaque for the 1200 Baker Street jail building to honor deputies killed in the line of duty at a cost of \$8,895.
- c. Request for authorization to reclassify five positions in the Technical Services Bureau for the automated fingerprint identification system.
- d. Request for authorization for an employee to attend a conference of the Local Emergency Planning Committee October 29-November 1 in Hot Springs at a cost of \$280, with travel by county vehicle.
- e. Request for authorization for three employees to attend defensive tactics training October through November in Houston at a cost of \$875.
- f. Request for authorization for two employees to take an exam for certified jail managers April 27 in Houston at a cost of \$435.

12. **Fire & Emergency Services**

- a. Request for authorization for an employee to attend a latent fingerprint removal class October 16-17 in Humble at a cost of \$25.

- b. Request for authorization for an employee to attend a field training officer certification course October 15-19 in Houston at a cost of \$50.
- c. Request for authorization for the County Judge to execute agreements with the McNair and Channelview Volunteer Fire Departments and the cities of Katy, Waller, Friendswood, Baytown, and Jersey Village for fire protection services in certain unincorporated areas.
- d. Transmittal of financial audits for Rural Fire Prevention Districts Nos. 17 and 48.
- e. Transmittal of the department's report on fires in unincorporated areas for 1999 and 2000.
- f. Request for authorization to submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for a hazard mitigation grant for flood-related emergency response boats, fire pumps, and radios.
- g. Request for authorization for an employee to attend a conference of the Texas Law Enforcement Intelligence Units Association November 5-6 in Austin at a cost of \$200, with travel by county vehicle.
- h. Request for approval of an agreement for state fire marshal field agents to use available office space and furniture at the Office of Harris County Fire & Emergency Services in exchange for assistance to the county with investigation of fires.

13. **Medical Examiner**

Request for approval of payment in the amount of \$980 for expenses incurred by an employee for travel to Ventura, Calif., to take a board examination for certification as a registered medicolegal death investigator.

14. **County Clerk**

- a. Transmittal of an affidavit of substantial interest filed by Commissioner Radack concerning items on the court's agenda of October 2.
- b. Request for approval of an agreement with the City of Houston, Houston Independent School District, and Houston Community College System for the November 6 and December 1 joint elections and runoff.
- c. Request for authorization for the County Clerk to travel to Austin October 10 for a meeting concerning public information and privacy issues at an approximate cost of \$275.

15. **District Clerk**

- a. Request for authorization for the District Clerk and 25 employees to attend the department's leadership retreat October 21-23 in Galveston at a cost of \$7,075.
- b. Request for approval of payments in amounts of \$101 and \$130 to reimburse two employees for county business calls made on personal cellular telephones during June, July, and August.

16. **County Attorney**

- a. Request for approval of an order authorizing settlement of a tort claim in the 113th District Court.
- b. Request for authorization for an employee to attend a seminar regarding the federal civil trial process October 27 in Houston at a cost of \$159.
- c. Request for approval of orders authorizing litigation expenses in connection with cases in the 127th and 234th District Courts, County Civil Courts Nos. 1 and 3, and a case involving the Harris County Deputies Organization, Local No. 154.
- d. Request for authorization for the County Judge to execute a release in exchange for payment to the county in the amount of \$250 in connection with settlement of a case in County Civil Court No. 1.
- e. Request for approval of an order authorizing an addendum to a supplemental environmental project agreement between the Harris County Pollution Control Division and the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission for funds in the additional amount of \$37,646 for the county to administer a citizen sampling program.

17. **District Attorney**

Request for authorization for an employee to travel to Austin for a case before the Court of Criminal Appeals October 31 at an estimated cost of \$275.

18. **Justices of the Peace**

- a. Request by Judge Delgado, JP 2.1, for authorization to reclassify two clerk positions.
- b. Request by Judge Parrott, JP 3.1, for authorization to reclassify a clerk position.
- c. Request by Judge Ditta, JP 8.2, for authorization to correct the payroll records of an employee.

19. **Fiscal Services & Purchasing**

a. **Auditor**

1. Request for approval of final payments to:
 - a. Nunn Constructors for water plant at George Bush youth soccer complex in Precinct 3.
 - b. Urettek USA, Inc., for concrete slab lifting and undersealing by injecting high density polyurethane at various locations throughout Precinct 4.
2. Transmittal of certification of supplemental estimates of revenue received for various funds and grants.
3. Transmittal of audited claims.

b. **Treasurer**

Transmittal of a report of monies received and disbursed for the month that ended August 31.

c. **Tax Assessor-Collector**

1. Request for approval for two employees to attend a computer software seminar November 6 in Houston at a total cost of \$99.
2. Request for authorization for the Tax Assessor-Collector and nine employees to attend the annual County Tax Assessor-Collectors' continuing education seminar November 12 in College Station at an approximate total cost of \$2,900.
3. Request for approval of tax refund payments.

d. **Purchasing**

1. Transmittal of projects scheduled for advertisement:
 - a. Purchase of vertical carousel storage unit for Justice of the Peace, 4.1.
 - b. Purchase of security equipment for Facilities & Property Management.
 - c. Office supplies for the county.
 - d. Periodical subscriptions for the County Library.
 - e. Letterhead and matching envelopes for the county and the Flood Control District.
2. Transmittal of a list of changes in contract with:
 - a. Century Business Equipment, for a fax machine for the Central Technology Center, resulting in no change to the contract amount (00551).
 - b. Century Business Equipment, for maintenance of a fax machine for the county and the Harris County Hospital District, resulting in no change to the contract amount (00552).

- c. Winn Lange Electric, for electric supplies and related items for the county and the Flood Control District, resulting in no change to the contract amount (00555).
3. Recommendation that the award for destruction and disposal of confiscated weapons for the county be made to Repo-Depo, Inc., in the amount of \$6,000 for the period beginning October 9.
4. Recommendation that the award for jacks and associated apparatus for the Central Technology Center be made to Graybar Electric, Litecomm/ADI, and Warren Electric Telecom for the period of October 9-September 30, 2002.
5. Recommendation that the award for purchase of vertical carousel storage units for Precinct 1 be made to Advanced Office Systems, Inc., low bid in the amount of \$53,396.
6. Recommendation that the award for a records management system for the Public Infrastructure Department/Engineering Division be made to Access Information Associates, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$98,385, and for the County Judge to take necessary actions relating to the award.
7. Request for approval of a renewal option with Eltex Chemical for cleanup of hazardous and non-hazardous waste for the county for the period of January 1-December 31, 2002.
8. Request for approval of a renewal option with The Groce Company, Inc., for vacuum trucks services for the county for the period of January 1-December 31, 2002.
9. Request for approval of a renewal option with Alanton Group for janitorial services at various locations in Region No. 5 for the county for the period of January 1-December 31, 2002.
10. Request for approval of a renewal option with Atricom Telecommunications, Inc., GAC Systems, Inc., dba Communications Specialty, and HTIS, Inc., for labor and/or parts for PBX, electronic key/hybrid telephone systems, 1A2 key systems, voice mail, call sequencers, elevator telephones, ACD, Comdial, circuit testing, and miscellaneous items and related equipment for the county for the period of January 1-December 31, 2002.
11. Request for approval of a renewal option with Southwestern Bell for integrated services digital network/protocol converter equipment, expansion, components, replacement parts, related equipment, and labor for the county for the period of October 10-October 31, 2002.

12. Request for approval of an order authorizing the County Judge to execute an agreement with Vivian Clark to provide counseling services for youth and their families for a truancy learning camp for Children's Protective Services at a cost not to exceed \$2,000 for the period ending August 31, 2002.
13. Request for approval of an order authorizing the County Judge to execute an agreement with Regenia Kerr for counseling services for youth and their families for a truancy learning camp for Children's Protective Services at a cost not to exceed \$2,000 for the period ending August 31, 2002.
14. Request for authorization for the County Judge to execute an interlocal agreement with Tarrant County for use of one or more of Harris County's commodity contracts.
15. Request for approval of an order authorizing the County Judge to execute an agreement with Sandra Rhea for counseling services for youth and their families for a truancy learning camp for Children's Protective Services at a cost not to exceed \$1,800 for the period ending December 31.
16. Request that IBM Corporation be granted a sole source exemption from the competitive bid process for purchase of software maintenance for software used for the IFAS system for the Auditor's Office at an approximate annual cost of \$111,696 for the period of July 1-June 30, 2002.
17. Request that Printrak International, Inc., be granted a sole source exemption from the competitive bid process for 37 Identiscan software licenses, 37 single finger scanners, and software development for interface with the Automated Fingerprint Identification System of the Sheriff's Department at an estimated cost of \$425,200, which will be funded by a Criminal Justice Policy Council agreement as approved by the court on June 5.
18. Request for authorization for county equipment numbers to be assigned to Harris County Hospital District vehicles to allow district vehicles to use the county's fuel system contract.
19. Request for authorization for a list of county surplus and/or confiscated property to be sold at Internet auction and for disposal of unsold surplus items.
20. Request that Dr. Kaminsky be granted a professional services exemption from the competitive bid process for radiological services, exclusive of chest radiological services, for detection of tuberculosis for the Sheriff's Department in the amount of \$24,000 for the period of November 1-October 31, 2002, and for the County Judge to take necessary actions relating to the agreement.

21. Request for approval of an order authorizing the County Judge to execute agreements with five physicians for medical services for Public Health Services to provide physical assessments and screening of refugees for the Texas Department of Health and the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service for the period of October 1-September 30, 2002.

20. **Commissioners Court**

a. **County Judge**

1. Consideration of a resolution designating October 7-13 as National 4-H Week.
2. Consideration of a resolution designating October 8-12 as Drug-Free Workplace Week.
3. Consideration of a resolution designating October 27 as National Multiple Sclerosis Walk Day.
4. Consideration of a resolution designating November 15 as The Lubrizol Corporation Day.
5. Consideration of a resolution endorsing, supporting, and encouraging passage of Proposition 3 on the November 6 ballot.
6. Request for approval for an employee to attend an annual vital statistics conference December 2-4 in Austin, at a cost not to exceed \$500.

b. **Commissioner, Precinct 1**

1. Request for approval for six employees to attend a writing and grammar skills seminar October 1-2 and 10-11 in Houston at a total cost of \$1,475.
2. Request for approval for an employee to attend a course of the Texas Safety Association October 16-18 in Austin at an approximate cost of \$950.

c. **Commissioner, Precinct 2**

Request for approval of additional funds in the amount of \$140,000 for operations at the Lynchburg Ferry.

d. **Commissioner, Precinct 3**

1. Request for approval of appointment, deletion or correction of election precinct judges and alternates.

2. Request for approval to accept the donation of a pot-bellied pig from Mike and Maggie Dailey to be housed in the Bear Creek Park Wildlife Habitat.
3. Transmittal of notice of a traffic sign installation.

e. **Commissioner, Precinct 4**

1. Transmittal of notice of receipt of funds in the amount of \$250 in connection with rent and concession fees for Lindsay Lyons Park.
2. Transmittal of notice of traffic sign installations.

21. **Miscellaneous**

- a. Transmittal of petitions filed with the 125th District Court and County Civil Court No. 2.
- b. Request for approval of an amended lease agreement between the Harris County Hospital District and South Loop Associates, L.P., for additional office space at 2636 South Loop West for the district and Community Health Choice, Incorporated.

22. **Tax Rates**

- a. Consideration of orders adopting 2001 tax rates for Harris County, Harris County Flood Control District, Port of Houston Authority, and Harris County Hospital District as proposed by the court on September 11 and as presented at a public hearing on September 25.

	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>Proposed 2001</u>
Harris County	.42768	.41866	.41660	.39483	.35902	.38568
Flood Control	.07424	.07967	.08000	.08000	.06173	.04758
Port of Houston	.01600	.01959	.02132	.02040	.01830	.01826
Hospital District	<u>.12381</u>	<u>.12381</u>	<u>.12381</u>	<u>.14650</u>	<u>.20268</u>	<u>.19021</u>
Total	\$.64173	\$.64173	\$.64173	\$.64173	\$.64173	\$.64173

- b. Consideration of an alternative proposal by Commissioner Eversole to reduce the county's proposed rate to \$.38393, and the total rate to \$.63998.

23. **Emergency items.**

24. **Appearances before court**

By court policy, speakers whose intended comments relate to an identifiable item of business on this agenda will be limited to three minutes (3). Speakers whose intended comments do not relate to an identifiable item of business on this agenda will be limited to three minutes (3) if they have not appeared at any of the four preceding court meetings, and to one minute (1) if they have appeared at any of the four preceding court meetings.

a. Charles Hixon (1)

b. Others

25. **Opening of bids and proposals.**

Bids and proposals will be opened by the Purchasing Agent and recommendations will be presented for action by the court.

Adjournment.