



HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

COMMISSIONERS COURT

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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. 01.20

AGENDA

October 2, 2001

1:45 p.m.

Opening prayer by Pastor Max Hickerson of First Christian Church of 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. Community Development Services
8. Library 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. Probate Courts
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. Emergency items
23. Appearances before court
24. Opening of bids and proposals
25. Executive Session

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 county continue membership and representation in the TEX-21 Coalition, a statewide transportation coalition of local governments dedicated to improving the state's transportation infrastructure.
2. Recommendation that the Flood Control District be authorized to negotiate an agreement with TerraPoint, LLC, for consulting survey services to obtain digital elevation data for the county in support of the Tropical Storm Allison recovery project.
3. Recommendation that an employee be authorized to travel to Arlington October 10-12 to attend a TNRCC water quality seminar at an approximate cost of \$600.
4. Recommendation that the court authorize payment of \$100 to reimburse an employee who attended an eminent domain seminar in San Marcos.
5. Recommendation that the court approve a resolution and order authorizing Right of Way on behalf of the county to purchase Tract KK of the Hardy Toll Road extension project in Precinct 1 for the negotiated purchase price of \$43,862, and for the appropriate officials to take necessary actions to complete the transaction.
6. Recommendation that the court approve a resolution and order authorizing the county to issue a rental expense payment of \$5,250 to Santiago Flores for landowner relocation assistance provided in the Hardy Toll Road extension project, Tract 1 in Precinct 1, and for appropriate officials to take necessary actions to complete the transaction.
7. Transmittal of notices of road and bridge log changes.

b. **Flood Control District**

1. Recommendation for authorization for:
 - a. Two employees to attend a seminar of the American Concrete Institute October 4-5 in Houston at a total cost of \$1,258.
 - b. An employee to attend a board meeting of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center October 4-5 in Santa Fe, N.M., at an approximate cost of \$1,544.
2. Recommendation that the court acknowledge approval of four grant applications in connection with the Tropical Storm Allison hazard mitigation grant program, and authorize the district to proceed with voluntary acquisition and demolition of 421 flood-prone homes.

3. Recommendation for approval of a change in contract for J. J. Contracting, Inc., for Brookhollow renovations in Precinct 4, resulting in an addition of \$2,538 to the contract amount (00/0271-04).
4. Recommendation for adoption of a court order for abandonment of a casting easement, Unit H110-00-00, Tract 01-533.0 in Precinct 1.
5. Recommendation for approval of construction documents and authorization to take bids for a three-week period for general repairs in the Horsepen Creek watershed in Precincts 3 and 4 at an estimated cost of \$330,000.
6. Recommendation for approval of repairs to a Cypress Creek channel, K165-00-00-X003 in Precinct 4, at an estimated cost of \$55,615.
7. Recommendation to authorize payment in the amount of \$235 to renew an electrical contractor and master electrician license.
8. Recommendation that the County Judge be authorized to execute an agreement with Melvin D. Newsom for landscape maintenance at Unit K100-00-00, Tract 24-069.0 in Precinct 4.

c. **Engineering**

1. Recommendation for approval of the following plats:
 - a. Clear Brook Crossing Section One in Precinct 1; Van DeWiele Engineering, Incorporated.
 - b. Westfield Terra Section Four in Precinct 3; Van DeWiele Engineering Incorporated.
 - c. Northwest Park Place Section Three in Precinct 4; Edminster, Hinshaw, Russ & Associates.
 - d. Champions Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses in Precinct 4; Van DeWiele Engineering Incorporated.
2. Recommendation for approval of changes in contracts for:
 - a. Angel Brothers Enterprises, Inc., for Spears Road from Antoine Drive to Spears-Gears Road at Rankin Road in Precinct 4, resulting in an addition of \$108,668 to the contract amount (27325).
 - b. Batterson, Inc., for paint striping various roads in the Humble Camp area in Precinct 4, resulting in no change to the contract amount (27323).
 - c. Creacom, Inc., for installation of advanced warning flashers or school zone flashers and related improvements for various locations in Precinct 4, resulting in an addition of \$6,285 to the contract amount (26340).
 - d. Texas Sterling Construction, Inc., for Brittmoore Road paving and drainage improvements from Tanner Road to north of West Little York Road in Precinct 4, resulting in a reduction of \$118,464 from the contract amount (27346).

3. Recommendation for authorization for the County Judge to execute engineering services agreements with:
 - a. Pate Engineers, Inc., in connection with construction of Orem Drive from SH 288 to Martin Luther King Boulevard in Precinct 1 in the amount of \$515,074.
 - b. Busch, Hutchison & Associates, Inc., in connection with construction of Nadolney Park in Precinct 2 in the amount of \$89,152.
 - c. Busch, Hutchison & Associates, Inc., in connection with construction of Rio Villa Park in Precinct 2 in the amount of \$88,507.
4. Recommendation that the award for 600 cubic yards of ready mix concrete for any plant or jobsite in Precinct 3 be made to Hanson Concrete, only bid in the amount of \$36,000, and for appropriate officials to take necessary actions relating to the award.
5. Recommendation for authorization for an employee to attend a board meeting of the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials October 3-4 in Denver at an approximate cost of \$350.

2. **Toll Road Authority**

- a. Request for authorization to advertise for bids for construction of Westpark Tollway from west of Old Westheimer Road to east of Old Westheimer Road at an approximate cost of \$9 million.
- b. Request for authorization to extend the time of performance for engineering service agreements with Quadrant Consultants, Inc., and Pate Engineers, Inc., for additional capacity lanes for the Sam Houston Tollway plazas at no additional cost for the extensions, and for appropriate officials to take necessary actions relating to the amendments.
- c. Request for approval of an agreement with Dannenbaum Engineering Corporation for engineering services in connection with the Beltway 8 East project in the amount of \$4,485,000, and for appropriate officials to take necessary actions relating to the agreement.

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 \$150; settlement of two tort claims in the total amount of \$5,488; denial of three claims for damages; and transmittal of claims for damages received during the period which ended September 25.
- b. Request for authorization for the County Judge to execute a release in exchange for payment to the county in the amount of \$506 in connection with settlement of an accident claim.

- c. Request for authorization to accept \$25,000 from Cramer, Johnson, Wiggins & Associates for partial payment of property losses sustained as a result of Tropical Storm Allison.
- d. Consideration of an initial brief concerning supplemental pay and benefits for employees who are military reservists called to active duty, and recommendation that the subject be referred to the County Attorney, Auditor, and Office of Human Resources & Risk Management for review and recommendation.
- e. Request for approval of payment in the amount of \$45 for expenses incurred by three employees to attend a workshop of the Texas Economic & Demographic Association.
- f. Request for approval of guidelines for the expenditure of TIRZ-generated affordable housing funds.
- g. Transmittal of investment transactions for the period of September 19-25 and maturities for September 26-October 2, and request for approval of changes in securities pledged for county funds.
- h. Request for approval of a commercial paper project in the amount of \$350,000 to fund training room hardware for JIMS2 for the Central Technology Center; and for authorization to transfer funds in increments as necessary from the county's pay-as-you-go fund to the commercial paper Flood Control debt service account to pay interest and principal for funding of the district's capital improvement program.
- i. Request for approval of authorized budget appropriation transfers for flood control and county departments.

4. **Central Technology Center**

- a. Request for authorization for the executive director to attend a meeting of the Harvard Policy Group November 2 in Boston at an approximate cost of \$358.
- b. Request for approval of an agreement with the City of Mont Belvieu for use of the county's 800 MHz public radio system.
- c. Request for approval of a temporary position for support of projects that are part of the county's geographic information system.
- d. Request for approval of payment in the amount of \$1,800 for a management training seminar for 35-40 managers and supervisors October 15 in Houston.

5. **Facilities & Property Management**

Recommendation that Judge Adams, JP 4.1, be authorized to rent space at 6911 Louetta Road in Spring to store court records for approximately six months at a cost of \$147 per month.

6. **Public Health & Environmental Services**

- a. Request for approval of payment in the amount of \$1,373 for a consultant to train health educators October 2 in Houston.
- b. Request for authorization to accept a donation in the amount of \$250 for the Abstinence Education Program.
- c. Request for approval of payment in the amount of \$250 for expenses incurred by an employee to attend a lead poisoning prevention conference in Austin.
- d. Request for authorization for an employee to attend a meeting of the Texas Department of Health concerning childhood lead poisoning prevention October 9 in Austin at a cost of \$250.
- e. Request for authorization for the County Judge to execute an agreement with the City of Houston to implement a program to collect household hazardous waste from residents in connection with the joint regional NPDES permit.
- f. Request for authorization for two employees to attend a Texas Department of Health health education conference October 18-19 in San Antonio at an approximate cost of \$460.

7. **Community Development Services**

- a. Request for approval of an agreement with the Harris County Mental Health & Mental Retardation Authority for renewal of the 1993 MHMRA-Shelter Plus Care for the Homeless Project to provide housing and supportive services for disabled homeless persons using Shelter Plus Care funds in the amount of \$356,400.
- b. Request for approval of an agreement with Service of the Emergency Aid Resource Center for the Homeless, Inc., for a tenant-based rental assistance program to provide housing and supportive services for disabled homeless persons using Shelter Plus Care Program funds in the amount of \$210,000.
- c. Request for approval of an agreement with Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County, Inc., for partial funding of a program that provides job skills training in web design for homeless or low-and moderate-income individuals using Community Development Block Grant funds in the amount of \$60,734.

- d. Request for approval of loans and grants for low-and moderate-income persons to assist them in freeing their homes of lead-based paint and to provide relocation assistance to approved applicants as may be necessary.

8. **Library Services**

- a. Request for authorization for the County Library to submit an application to the Strake Foundation for grant funds in the amount of \$15,000 to support summer reading and educational activities in branch libraries.
- b. Request for authorization for an employee of the County Library to attend a conference of the Institute of Museum and Library Services November 7-9 in Washington, D.C., at an approximate cost of \$1,200.
- c. Request for authorization for the County Judge to execute agreements with the cities of Hedwig Village and Bunker Hill Village to accept funds in the total amount of \$6,500 for the purchase of library materials and other items for the Spring Branch Memorial Library.

9. **Youth & Family Services**

- a. Request by Juvenile Probation for authorization to accept funds in the amount of \$660,000 from the Criminal Justice Division of the Office of the Governor for the Project Spotlight Grant Program to provide intensive supervision to youths and young adults who are on probation in a high crime area in cooperation with Community Supervision & Corrections and the Sheriff's Department.
- b. Request by Juvenile Probation for authorization to accept a television donated by Bay Area TV & Video Service & Repair in Seabrook.
- c. Request by Children's Protective Services for authorization for an employee to attend a meeting of State Basic Skills Development Coordinators October 17-18 in Austin at an approximate cost of \$390.
- d. Request by CPS for authorization for two employees to attend the annual Prevention and Early Intervention Provider Conference of the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services October 17-19 in Austin at an approximate cost of \$525.

10. **Constables**

- a. Transmittal of notice by Constable Freeman, Precinct 2, of the deletion of 11 reserve officers from the department's authorized list.
- b. Request by Constable Trevino, Precinct 6, for approval of an agreement with the Houston Independent School District for the Absent Student Assistance Project in the amount of \$47,170 for the period of October 6-December 31, 2001.

- c. Request by Constable Wooten, Precinct 7, for authorization for an employee to attend a gang investigators course October 18-19 in Odessa at an approximate cost of \$525.
- d. Request by Constable Wooten for authorization for the County Judge to execute an agreement with the Houston Independent School District for the Absent Student Assistance Program in the amount of \$65,268 for the period of October 6-December 31, 2001.

11. **Sheriff**

- a. Request for authorization to submit an application to the Criminal Justice Division of the Office of the Governor for renewal of the Residential Substance Abuse Grant in the amount of \$432,642.
- b. Request for approval of an agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation for grant funds in the amount of \$375,000 for participation in the Safe and Sober Selective Traffic Enforcement Program.
- c. Request for authorization to renew interlocal agreements with the U.S. Department of Justice, Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force, for reimbursement to the county for overtime, travel, and per diem expenses in the amount of \$9,858 during the period of October 1-September 30, 2002.
- d. Request for authorization for nine employees to attend the Spectrum 2001 Conference October 4-7 in Houston at a total cost of \$1,863.

12. **Fire & Emergency Services**

- a. Request for approval of a refund in the amount of \$25 to the Beginning Tree for overpayment of a fire inspection fee.
- b. Transmittal of the annual financial report and treasurer's bond for Emergency Services District No. 28.

13. **Medical Examiner**

- a. Request for authorization to increase the maximum salary for a toxicologist position.
- b. Request for approval of payment in the amount of \$2,250 for five employees to take a national board examination for certification as registered medicolegal death investigators.

14. **County Clerk**

- a. Transmittal of an affidavit of substantial interest filed by Commissioner Radack concerning items on the court's agenda of September 25.

- b. Request for approval of early voting branch locations, installation of telephone service, and payment for security services in connection with the early voting period for the November 6 elections.
- c. Request for approval of a policy and amounts for charging political subdivisions for rental of eSlate voting equipment.

15. **District Clerk**

Request for approval of agreements for use of the county's Subscriber Access Program.

16. **County Attorney**

- a. Request for approval of an order authorizing settlement of a tort claim in the 133rd District Court.
- b. Request for authorization for an employee to attend a personal injury law course October 24-26 in Houston at a cost of \$350.
- c. Request for approval of orders authorizing litigation expenses in connection with cases in the 234th District Court and County Civil Court No. 2.

17. **District Attorney**

Request for authorization for an employee of the Family Criminal Law Division to attend seminars October 12 and November 3 in Houston at a total cost of \$113.

18. **Probate Courts**

Request by Judge Wood, Court No. 2, for authorization to attend a conference of the National College of Probate Judges November 7-10 in Hawaii at an approximate cost of \$2,250.

19. **Fiscal Services & Purchasing**

a. **Auditor**

- 1. Request for approval of final payment to Hubco, Inc., for reconstruction of Deussen Parkway from West Lake Houston Parkway to the Alexander Deussen Park entrance in Precinct 1.
- 2. Request for approval of a refund in connection with overpayment by Lidell, Sapp, Zivly, Hill & Laboon for a Subscriber Access account in the amount of \$378.
- 3. Transmittal of certification of supplemental estimates of revenue received for various funds and grants.

4. Request for authorization for an employee to attend an auditing seminar November 28-29 in New Orleans at an approximate cost of \$1,984.

5. Transmittal of audited claims.

b. **Treasurer**

Request for authorization to participate in a certification program of the Texas Association of Counties October 7-13 in Fort Worth at an approximate cost of \$1,100, with travel by county vehicle.

c. **Tax Assessor-Collector**

Request for approval of tax refund payments.

d. **Purchasing**

1. Transmittal of projects scheduled for advertisement:

- a. Fabricate, furnish, deliver, and erect structure steel and miscellaneous metal work at Lincoln Park for Facilities & Property Management.
- b. Furnish, deliver, and install glazed and unglazed concrete masonry lintels, bond beams, and related work at Lincoln Park for Facilities & Property Management.
- c. Furnish and deliver portable variable message signs for the Toll Road Authority.
- d. Library detection system for the County Library.
- e. Janitorial services for the Doss, May, and Crosby Community Centers.
- f. Psychological services for the Chimney Rock Center for Children's Protective Services.

2. Transmittal of a list of computer-related equipment obtained through the State of Texas vendor program for the Central Technology Center and the District Clerk.

3. Recommendation that contracts for Ryan White Title I Services for the county be made to St. Hope Foundation for transportation services in the amount of \$50,000, and Donald R. Watkins Foundation for case management AA/MSM in the amount of \$25,998.

4. Transmittal of notice of an award to The Turning Point, Inc., for domestic violence outpatient treatment services for Community Supervision & Corrections Department for the period of September 1-August 31, 2002.

5. Transmittal of notice of an award to The Turning Point, Inc., for anger management treatment services for Community Supervision & Corrections Department for the period of September 1-August 31, 2002.

6. Transmittal of notice of an award to Deloitte & Touche LLP, for an annual audit for Community Supervision & Corrections Department for the period of September 1-August 31, 2002.
7. Request for approval of a renewal option with Teletrac, Inc., for a fleet information system for Public Infrastructure, Engineering Division, for the period of December 8-December 7, 2002 at an annual amount of \$11,736, and a five-year term of \$58,682 with a one dollar buy-out option.
8. Request for approval of a renewal option with Proler Southwest, Inc., for the sale of scrap metal materials for the county and the Flood Control District for the period of January 1-December 31, 2002.
9. Request for approval of a renewal option with Pro Tire Recycling for the sale of surplus tires and the disposal of scrap tires for the county for the period of January 1-December 31, 2002.
10. Request for approval of a renewal option with C. R. Kirkpatrick for the sale of surplus, worn out, and damaged books, audio, and video tapes for the county for the period of January 1-December 31, 2002.
11. Request for approval of a renewal option with Elevator Maintenance Company for maintenance and repair of elevators for the county for the period of January 1-December 31, 2002.
12. Request for approval of an extension to October 23 of a request for proposal for professional liability insurance for judges.
13. Request for approval of an order reallocating funds from the Community Development Department to the Social Services Department for urban transportation program services for Ryan White Title I for Public Health/HIV Services in the amount of \$295,234 for the period ending February 28, 2002.
14. Request for approval of an order authorizing the County Judge to execute an agreement with the San Jacinto YMCA for programs to prevent and reduce juvenile crime for Children's Protective Services for the period of September 1-October 31, 2002 in the amount of \$11,912.
15. 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. **Commissioners Court**

a. **County Judge**

1. Consideration of a resolution designating the month of October as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
2. Consideration of a resolution endorsing, supporting, and encouraging passage of Proposition No. 2 on the November 6 ballot.
3. Consideration of a resolution endorsing, supporting, and encouraging passage of Proposition No. 15 on the November 6 ballot.
4. Transmittal of Houston-Galveston Area Council's financial review of the Community Development Department's workforce programs, and request for the Budget Office to provide a response to the court and HGAC within 45 days.

b. **Commissioner, Precinct 1**

1. Request for approval to renew a notary bond and seal at a total cost of \$89.
2. Request for approval for The Black Professional Cowboys & Cowgirls Association to conduct fund-raising activities November 1-2 at Tom Bass Park.
3. Request for approval for the County Judge to execute an agreement with the City of Houston for construction of the Stella Link Library and to provide \$300,000 as the county's portion of the project.
4. Request for approval for two employees to attend a customer service seminar November 27 in Houston at a total cost of \$318.
5. Request for approval for an employee to attend the annual Texas Chapter, Public Risk Management Assn., Conference November 14-16 in San Antonio at an approximate cost of \$550.
6. Request for approval to create a part-time consultant position at a rate of \$75 per hour, not to exceed 899 hours, and to terminate a management services agreement effective September 29.

c. **Commissioner, Precinct 2**

1. Request for approval for four employees to attend the Houston Creativity Camp seminar November 5 in Houston at a total cost of \$756.
2. Request for approval of appointment of certain election precinct judges and alternates.

d. **Commissioner, Precinct 3**

1. Request for approval to accept a donation of an antique tractor from Thornwell Kleb for the proposed Living History Farm in Kleb Woods Park.
2. Request for authorization for three employees to attend the TACERA 2001 Conference October 31-November 1 in San Antonio at an approximate cost of \$1,100, with travel by county vehicle.
3. Request for authorization for the County Judge to execute an agreement with the Tom Miller Family for cleanup along the roadsides of Huffmeister Road from Spring Cypress Road to Barklea Road in connection with the Adopt a County Road program.

e. **Commissioner, Precinct 4**

1. Request for authorization for an employee to attend a computer software seminar November 8 in Houston at a cost of \$99.
2. Request for authorization for the County Judge to execute an agreement with the Boy Scouts of America Troop No. 1987 for cleanup along the roadsides of Eldridge Parkway North from Spring Cypress to Louetta Road in connection with the Adopt a County Road program.
3. Transmittal of notice of traffic sign installations.

21. **Miscellaneous**

Transmittal of a petition filed with the 234th District Court.

22. **Emergency items.**

23. **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. Warren Driver (3)
- b. Charles Hixon (1)
- c. Steve Williams (1)
- d. Others

24. **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.

25. **Executive Session**

Request by the County Attorney for the court to discuss and take appropriate action in the matter of Rhonda Mitchinson Hollins, et al. v. Barry Len Morris and Harris County, Texas, in U.S. District Court.

Adjournment.