

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Budget Workshop

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, August 5, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: County Judge James Yates, Commissioners Johnny Wagner, David Ogle, Dickie Clary and Keith Curry. County Judge James Yates called the meeting to order a quorum was established. There were no pledges or invocation today.

Open Comments:

Doug Baker, a representative from Hamilton City Council, addressed the Commissioners Court in regards to the Law Enforcement contract increases. The City Council would like to ask questions and gain clarity on the 7% contract increase from this budget cycle to next budget cycle. City Council is requesting a meeting with members of the Commissioners Court and the County Judge in order to discuss the Law Enforcement contract for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. County Attorney, Mark Henkes and City Attorney, Connie White will assist the City of Hamilton and Hamilton County in the drafting of a more detailed Law Enforcement contract.

Discussion on the FY 2025-2026 Budget Workshop:

- *Longevity*
- *Judge Yates reapplied for SB22 Grant funds on August 5, 2025. Grant opened on August 2, 2025.*
- *General Fund*
- *Capital*
- *Recycling Center renovations – splitting the renovations between multiple budget cycles*
- *County Clerk – 1 A/C unit to be replaced*
- *Sheriff's Department – HVAC expenses*
- *Current Tax Rate .43, with a 3.5% max and proposed Tax rate at .44 = \$118,000.00 additional revenue generated.*

Recess at 10:16 am

Reconvene at 10:30 am

FEMA:

The entire FEMA team including the regional representatives along with two members of TDEM were present in Court today and available to ask questions.


The FEMA team began the meeting by introducing themselves and their positions. The FEMA team expressed their dedication to assisting and supporting Hamilton County in moving forward with the original FEMA disaster DR-4781. The FEMA team apologized for the ongoing issues with DR-4781 and stated this project is taking way too long and they are here to get it moving forward with ultimate goal being the County receiving funding.

- *Several FEMA team members will be riding with the Commissioners to review CR 512 and CR 301 bridges.*
- *Comparison of FEMA and County material calculations and road length calculations were out of balance. FEMA has agreed to increase their material calculations by 22,000 cubic yards and the Commissioner's agreed to shorten their length of road calculations. The Commissioners and FEMA came to the agreement in order to move the project forward.*
- *RFI's should not have been issued towards the County and FEMA has recalled/cancelled all previous RFI's*
- *The errors in Precinct Four's DDD have been corrected and submitted to the portal*
- *Hamilton County may want to file a "Hardship Letter" in hopes of receiving some funding sooner*
- *Documentation of both FEMA projects must be kept separately*
- *Signing of the Damage Assessment by the Commissioners does not bind the County to the initial information gathered. The Commissioners should request a copy of the Damage Assessment documentation they sign.*

Adjourned at 11:26 am



County Judge

Attest: 

County Clerk

