

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Regular Session

Tuesday, August 26, 2025

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, August 26, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: County Judge James Yates, Commissioners Johnny Wagner, David Ogle, 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:

Richard Layne addressed the Court in regards to FEMA. Mr. Layne is concerned about the lack of funding received from FEMA up to this point and concerned about not receiving the funds in a timely manner and the effects to the next budget cycle. Mr. Layne asked why can't FEMA set a standard that the County can follow to expedite this process.

Budget Adjustments (L.I.T.):

- \$4,500.00 from 010-495-1030, personnel salaries to 010-495-4000, professional services for professional consult/ Assistant Auditor; Jeremy Shell*
- \$14,000.00 from 022-613-1520 Road Hand 2 to 022-613-1530, Road Hand 3 – Both employees were paid under a single GL#.*

Commissioner Curry made a motion to approve the Budget Adjustments (L.I.T.) as presented and Commissioner Wagner seconded the motion. The Commissioner's Court approved the Budget Adjustments (L.I.T.) with a 3-vote approval and Commissioner Clary did not approve and Judge Yates abstained.

The Court considered the following Agenda:

- Approved Minutes from August 8, 2025*
- Approved Departmental Reports*
- In-Between Bills for \$449.74*
- Expense Register for \$361,827.46*
- Payroll in the amount of \$83,895.20*
- Culvert Application for Bahai Pipeline on CR 404 in Precinct 2*
- No Building and Use Requests*
- No Bonds*

Commissioner Clary made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The Court approved the Consent Agenda with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

Hamilton County Personnel Update:

New Hire: Aubrey Toler; Communications Department, Full time

Hamilton County Treasurer's Report:

Cash on Hand in the amount of \$2,608,149.09

Investments in the amount of \$4,460,182.62

Treasurer, Tonya Cox, updated the Court that the Cash Pooled Report is incorrect and has not been correct since 2016. Tyler technologies are aware of the issue and are currently working on correcting the report information. Tonya stated that as soon as Tyler technologies has fixed the issue, she will provide the Court with updated and correct information.

No Hamilton County Investment Report at this time.

No County Infrastructure Update at this time.

No Hamilton County Communications update at this time.

Law Enforcement Update:

Sheriff Boulton updated the Court on the status on the Conex and HVAC system. The electricians are coming this week to connect power to the Conex and Schmidt is actively working on getting the heat and A/C to the Jail.

No discussion on the Burn Ban at this time.

The Commissioners Court reviewed the Amended Law Enforcement contract between the City of Hamilton and Hamilton County for Law Enforcement services. The amended contract provides Exhibit C which details the total contract cost to include 5 officers plus the City paid stipends for the Sheriff and Administrative Assistant. Commissioner Clary made amotion to approved the amended contract and Commissioner Ogle seconded the motion. The Commissioner's Court approved the Law Enforcement contract between Hamilton County and the City of Hamilton with a 4-0 vote; Judge Yates abstained.

The Commissioners discussed the Rules of Procedure, Conduct and Decorum at meetings of the Commissioners Court. This document sets a standard for everyone to be held accountable. Agenda item submission must be before noon on the Wednesday prior to the scheduled meeting. Commissioner Clary made a motion to approve and Commissioner Wagner seconded the motion. The Commissioners Court approved the Rules of Procedure, Conduct and Decorum at meetings of the Commissioners Court with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

Codi McCarn, Hamilton County Tax Appraiser, informed the Court that the 2024 and 2025 Attorney fee disbursement for tax cases have not been disbursed to Linebarger; the funds have been sitting in an account with Hamilton County. Codi is requesting that Hamilton Central Appraisal District disburse the attorney fees to Linebarger directly. Commissioner Clary made the motion to approve and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The Commissioner's Court approved the Hamilton Central Appraisal District to disburse the Attorney's Fees from tax cases with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

Kerry Hancock with BizProtec presented a quote for cyber security upgrades for County Departmental Software. Hamilton County IT & security recommendations include; Endpoint Security programs, E-mail and Collaboration services, Firewall/Network security, user security and backup and backup to the Cloud as well. Security Audits look for the recommendations from BizProtec as proper security measures. The TAC insurance rates will also lower if tighter cybersecurity measures are implemented for the County. Commissioner Wagner made a motion to purchase all recommended cyber security upgrades and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The Court approved the purchase of all recommended cyber security upgrades with a 4-0 vote; Judge Yates was absent for this vote.

The Commissioners Court discussed the need to send a letter to the Texas Department of Transportation to request materials, asphalt and road base for Precinct One. Commissioner Clary asked if it would be wise to include all precincts on the letter and Commissioner Wagner informed the Court that each precinct will have to send their own letters. Commissioner Wager made a motion to approve the letter to TXDOT and Commissioner Clary seconded the motion. The Commissioners Court approved of the letter to Texas Department of Transportation with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

The Treasurer's office is requesting a chair, desk and computer for additional personnel. Commissioner Clary made a motion to approve the expenditures and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The Commissioners Court approved the expenditures for the Hamilton County Treasurer's office with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

Hamilton County Phase II Tower:

- Radio Frequencies have been set***
- Bearcom has received some of the equipment***
- The first 20% payment was approved in today's Consent Agenda***

Recess at 9:53 am

Reconvene at 10:03 am

Budget Workshop:

- **Risk Management Pool increase, currently have a \$3,659.00 shortfall**
- **Purchasing of all cyber security recommendations from BizProtec**
**** the one-time fees will be paid in the current budget cycle, subscriptions and reoccurring fees will be budgeted next budget cycle**

Recess at 10:44 am

Reconvene at 9:00 am, August 27, 2025

Judge Yates absent, attending Conference.

Commissioner Clary led the Budget Workshop.

- **The Commissioners Court received a \$4,800.00 quote from BizProtec for a new Courthouse server. The Court will make this purchase in our current budget cycle.**
- **Create a new GL # in Non-Departmental for cyber security – funded at \$6,000.00**
- **Each Commissioner moved \$25,000.00 from their budgets into personnel salaries in nondepartmental line due to the uncertainty of the Auditors office. The decision to move money from their budgets was made for the best interest and protection of the County.**

The Court requested Janie make all requested changes to the proposed budget and provide a clean and full copy of the proposed budget by Tuesday, September 2, 2025.

Adjourned at 9.35 am

County Judge

Attest:

County Clerk

