

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Regular Session

Wednesday, December 27, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Wednesday, December 27, 2023 at 9:00 am with the following members present: County Juge James Yates, Commissioners Keith Curry, Johnny Wagner 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.

There were no Open Comments.

There were two budget adjustments (L.I.T.) to consider:

- 1. Precinct 2, Keith Curry requested to move \$1,000.00 from Road Material and Supplies to Contract Services for brush cleaning on a bridge due to flood work services related.*
- 2. Precinct 3, Lloyd Huggins requested to move \$9,500.00 from Road Hand 1 to Temporary Employee.*

Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve the line item transfers and Commissioner Clary seconded the motion. The budget adjustments were approved with a 3-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

The court considered the following Consent Agenda:

- a. Approve Minutes from previous Commissioner's Court Meeting, December 12, 2023.*
- b. Approve Departmental Reports*
- c. Payroll in the amount of \$11,119.62 and Expense Register in the amount of \$64,796.14*
- d. Certificates of Continuing Education for: Janie Stanosch (4) – Public Funds Investment Training Webinar, Tapping into the Strategic Power of Data, Certified PFIA Training and Texas Public Funds Investment Act & Related Investment Issues. Randall Whiddon (3) – Environmental and Historic Preservation-IS-1016, IS-317 A, Introduction to Community Response Team, Developing and Managing Volunteers. Tonya Cox (2) – Certificate of Compliance Public Funds Investment Act and 2023 Certificate of Compliance Continuing Education.*
- e. No Culvert Installation Request to consider*
- f. No Building and Use Requests to consider*
- g. Bonds – Raymond Lazard, Deputy Sheriff*

Commissioner Clary made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The consent agenda was approved with a 3-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

There was no Hamilton County Personnel update provided.

Tonya Cox provided the Treasurer's Report stating that as of November 2023 Hamilton County's Cash on Hand is \$1,869,607.60 and Investments in the amount of \$1,322,899.43.

There was no Hamilton County Facilities update provided.

Lacy Alexander provided an update for the Communications Department. Allstate Tower Inc. has completed the repairs approved in a previous Commissioners Court. The guide wires have been properly affixed and tightened. The Communications department held CPR training class and had 19 participants from a variety of counties in attendance. The Communications Department is on track in 2023 to surpass their call volume from 2022.

No action taken on the BURN BAN.

Discussion on the payment to Robert Half for services rendered in hiring the Assistant Auditor will be placed on a future agenda in order to allow the court time to seek advice from the County Attorney.

Action was taken on the appointment of James Gould for Election Judge for Jonesboro, precinct 4. Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve and Commissioner Clary seconded the motion. The Election Judge appointment for Jonesbor, precinct 4 was approved by a 3-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

The court discussed the Engagement letter for the Outside Audit ending September 30, 2022 with BMY. Commissioner Clary asked the court what is the purpose of approving a contract when the audit is already 90% completed? Commissioner Clary also questioned what assurances does the county have for BMY to actually provide the audit results to the court upon completion? Clary also voiced his concern in regards to the timing of payment stating that Hamilton County has never "fronted" money for an outside audit before so why is it happening now? BMY has requested that all communications come from the County Judge only and not the Commissioners. Commissioner Clary opposes signing the Engagement letter but the court took no action at this time.

Further discussion was had on the 2023 Fiscal year Audit and the need to get Request for Proposals from other auditing companies. Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve and Commissioner Clary seconded the motion. The court approved the need to get Request for Proposals with a 2-0 vote, Commissioner Curry opposed and Judge Yates abstained.

There was no discussion on the Employee Handbook at this time.

There was no discussion on the FY 2023-2024 Budget.

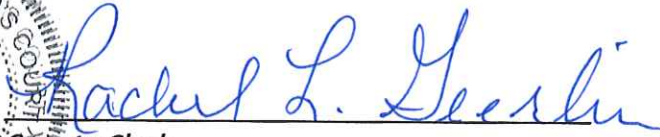
Adjourned at 9:42 am



Judge James Yates



Attest:



County Clerk