

**Hamilton County Commissioner's Court**

**Regular Session**

**Tuesday, December 14, 2021**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Commissioners Johnny Wagner, Keith Curry, Lloyd Huggins, and Dickie Clary. Clary called the meeting to order and a quorum was established. Huggins led the invocation and Clary followed with the pledges.**

**There was one public comment from Adam Niolet, in his capacity as Hico City Manager. He spoke on behalf of several citizens against a Facebook posting by Sheriff Justin Caraway. He and witnesses claimed the Sheriff posted misinformation about a Hico establishment on Facebook, and asked the Court to speak with the Sheriff.**

**Rodney Craddick, Mayor of Hamilton, updated the Court on the Hamilton Community Center and the progress being made.**

**There were no budget adjustments to consider.**

**The Court considered the following consent agenda:**

- A. Minutes from previous Commissioner's Court meetings**
- B. Approve Departmental reports**
- C. Approve bills in the net amount of \$153,329.53; payroll in the amount of \$72,291.49 and in-between bills of \$4,388.69**
- D. Certificates of continuing education – Lacy Alexander**
- E. Application(s) for culvert – One application in Precinct 2**
- F. Building and Use Request –Ratification of Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, use of Courthouse Grounds for Christmas on the Square, December 11, 2021**
- G. Bonds/Deputations – None**

**Huggins made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Curry seconded. The Court approved the consent agenda unanimously.**

**Effective December 6, 2021, Armando Herrera was hired in Precinct 2, Edward Hood was hired as Deputy Sheriff; December 2, 2021, Emma Byers resigned from the District Clerk's office, and effective December 13, 2021, Susan Halpin transferred from the County Clerk's office to the District Clerk's office.**

*The Courthouse roofing project will begin January, 2022, at the earliest, due to supply chain problems.*

*The Court was asked to ratify the Primary Elections Service Contracts between the County Clerk, as elections officer, and the Republican and Democrat party chairs. The contracts allow the parties to share in the cost of primary and runoff elections. Huggins made the motion to ratify the contracts, Curry seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.*

*There were no FY2021-2022 budget issues to discuss.*

*Assistant Auditor Carla Broome updated the Court on payroll services being transferred to ADP. The process is moving forward.*

*Lacy Alexander updated the Court on the Emergency Communications project. All employees of that department were required to be certified in CPR. The primary emergency radio channel license was renewed. Don Rudolph Construction received the bid to build out the server room. There will be a grant writing workshop in January, 2022. The electrical contractor quoted \$16,145.00 to complete the electrical wiring project; and quoted \$35,182.50 for a generator to power the communications room, all to begin in January, 2022, and taking 4-6 weeks. Huggins made the motion to approve the bids, contingent upon approval from the CFO. Wagner seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

*The Court received one fuel bid for FY2021-2022. The bid was from Bert Schrank for a 12 cent per gallon mark-up. Wagner made the motion to accept the fuel bid. Curry seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

*There was no action taken on the 2021 Redistricting Project and Voting Precincts Project. After the newspaper notices have run, copies will be sent to our redistricting attorney, who will then notify the Secretary of State.*

*The Court discussed whether to move the date and time of the final meeting of the Commissioner's Court due to the holidays. There will be no need to move the meeting.*

*The Court considered the multi-county agreement proposed by Coryell, Lampasas, Mills, Milam and Hamilton Counties concerning SB 476, Sexual Assault Response Team. Huggins made the motion to accept the agreement, Curry seconded and the motion carried unanimously.*

*The Court then discussed the Joint Resolution and Statistical Information for Joint Primary, which allows the Republican and Democratic parties to hold a joint primary election. Wagner made the motion to approve the Joint Resolution, Curry seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

*Hilaco, LLC presented the Court with its application for a 5-year tax abatement. It has received approval from Hico EDC. The Court acknowledged and received the application and will consider the application after due diligence. Huggins offered to do the investigation and the abatement will be considered at the next meeting. County Attorney Henkes asked the LLC to obtain a new appraisal before consideration.*

*Hamilton Historic Main Street had provided the Court with a pamphlet describing their new four-point approach. However, there was no representative from the organization present, and the Court passed the issue until the next meeting.*

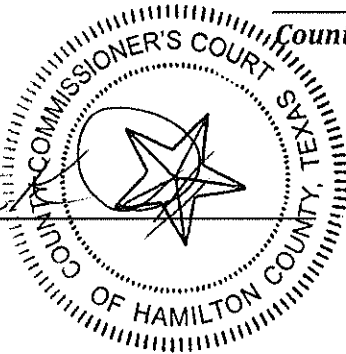
*Wagner is considering the purchase of a lease-returned 2018 John Deere 670G Motor Grader. Because of the nature of the purchase, Wagner suggested that the Court purchase the equipment without the necessity of going out for bids. Wagner then made the motion for Precinct 1 to purchase the 2018 John Deere 670G motor grader, contingent upon satisfaction of all relevant laws. Curry seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

*No action was taken on the Interlocal Agreement between Hamilton County and the City of Hamilton for the 50-year lease of the radio tower.*

*The Court adjourned at 9:53 a.m.*

Attest:

*Cynthia*  
County Clerk



*Dickie Clay*  
County Commissioner, Precinct 4