

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
April 14, 2025

PRESENT: Chairman Brandon Shoupe, Commissioner Curtis Harvey, Commissioner Tracy Adams, Commissioner Ricky Herring, Commissioner James Ivey, County Engineer Barkley Kirkland, Chief Administrative Officer Peter Covert and County Attorney Pres Register.

Chairman Shoupe called the 10:00 a.m. meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the April 29, 2025 Houston County Commission Regular Session and declared a quorum as all commissioners were in attendance.

The invocation was given by Pastor Taylor Rutland, from First Baptist Church of Dothan, and the pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner James Ivey.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Herring and seconded by Commissioner Adams. The motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Shoupe announced that today was Assistant County Engineer Tyler Reeder's birthday and wished him a Happy Birthday.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Recognition – Junior ROTC Cadets – Commissioner Tracy Adams

Chairman Shoupe began by thanking Commissioner Adams for bringing this to the commission as it is an honor to have these outstanding young people in attendance today.

Commissioner Adams approached the podium and asked the cadet to come forward. He began by saying that this is an opportunity for the commission to see some of the most impressive people they will meet and this is their day. He then thanked the Rehobeth Mayor, Kimberly Trotter, for being in attendance to see the outstanding cadet from Rehobeth High School. Commissioner Adams then presented an Appreciation Certificate to Cadet Lt. Commander Jazmine Coyt, from Rehobeth High School.

Ms. Coyt said that she was very grateful for this award and especially the ROTC program as it has helped her to overcome a lot of controversies and problems with personal and life. She also said that the program is wonderful and she is happy that they are part of the program. The Gunnery Sergeant Ron Morgan from Rehobeth added that Jazmine is awesome. She recently put in for the Army Pilot program and was accepted. Miss Coyt will come back to Ft. Rucker after her basic training and get her flight training. He added that Miss Coyt is a great leader and she will do great things in life.

Commissioner Adams then asked Houston County Career Academy Cadet LTC Charley SanMiguel, to come forward and he presented her certificate. Commissioner Adams said that the Career Center has only started their program three years ago and they have come a long way as they are on the verge of becoming a certified program in just three short years. Commissioner Adams added that they have some outstanding cadets and they are very active.

At this time, Cadet Brown approached the podium and said she has been one of the first cadets in the first class and now she will be graduating. She thanked them for the award and said she would love to see the program grown even more. Lt. Col. John Tatum approached the podium, on behalf of the Houston County Career Academy, and said that Cadet Brown was one of the first that he got to see in the program and she worked her way up from Cadet Private to now, Cadet LTC in charge of the program. He added that she is always volunteering and doing anything that she is asked to do. Lt. Col. Tatum added that Cadet Brown has also enlisted in the Alabama Army National Guard and has been accepted to Auburn University, where she will be going to school and become a pharmacist. A round of applause was given by all.

At this time, Commissioner Adams said that this is the first opportunity that he has been a commissioner and an instructor on the same day. He continued by stating that Cadet LTC Shyla Brown has already gone through basic training last summer, she has been accepted to UAH in Huntsville. Mr. Adams said that she has a bright future and she has earned everything as she is very smart. He added that she does anything that is asked and is an outstanding young lady and out of the 13 years he has been the instructor, she is one of the best cadets he has ever had. He then presented her with a certification of appreciation. Cadet LTC Brown began by thanking Sgt. Major Adams for helping her to become a better person in life. She said that the JROTC helps to carry yourself everywhere you go in life. She thanked the commission.

2. Proclamation – “National Corrections Officers Week”

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the proclamation and Commissioner Ivey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner James Ivey approached the podium to present this proclamation. He asked all the corrections deputies that were present to come forward for the proclamation.

Commissioner Ivey commented that these deputies do tremendous work for the people that they have to deal with on a daily basis. He then read the proclamation and presented it to the deputy representative, Asst. Commander Kelita Moore. Commander Moore began by thanking the commission for recognizing them and stated that all the deputies are hard workers and they do a lot behind the scenes and sometimes it goes unnoticed. She thanked the deputies and the commission for recognizing them today.

3. Proclamation – “Small Business Week” – Jessica Steltenpohl, Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce

Commissioner Ivey made a motion to accept the proclamation and Commissioner Adams seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Shoupe invited Mrs. Steltenpohl to come forward and thanked her for coming today. He then read the proclamation and upon completion, he commented that the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce is one of the most outstanding organizations that we have and it is a well run organization. He then presented the proclamation to Mrs. Steltenpohl and asked for commented. She began by stating that the US Small Business Association established “Small Business Week” back in 1963 and it was done in an effort to recognize the small business owners and to celebrate them and the hard work they pour into their business. Mrs. Steltenpohl added that this is a week that they spotlight all the work that goes into contributing so much economically and in so many ways. She also stated that the Chamber host several events during that week and she encourages everyone to follow the social media page and their website for a list of those events and asked everyone to participate.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Request to approve Resolution of Authorization for the Houston County Distribution Park Infrastructure Improvements Growing Alabama Grant Application

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the Resolution of Authorization for the Houston County Distribution Park Infrastructure Improvements Growing Alabama Grant Application. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Request to appropriate \$94,377 of the Series 2025 Bond Proceeds to the Town of Webb for playground equipment – Town of Webb

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the request to appropriate \$94,377 of the Series 2025 Bond Proceeds to the Town of Webb for playground equipment. Commissioner Adams seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Request to appropriate \$109,768 for the Series 2025 Bond Proceeds to the Town of Kinsey for basketball and pickle ball court improvements – Town of Kinsey

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the request to appropriate \$109,768 for the Series 2025 Bond Proceeds to the Town of Kinsey and Commissioner Ivey seconded. When called for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

4. Request to approve \$1,112,610.00 in budget amendments for miscellaneous expenditure items – Road & Bridge

Commissioner Ivey made a motion to approve the budget amendments for \$1,112,610.00 for miscellaneous expenditures for the Road & Bridge Department. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

5. Request to approve \$1,542,043.10 in budget amendments for miscellaneous revenue items – Road & Bridge

Commissioner Adams made the motion to approve the request for \$1,542,043.10 in budget amendments for miscellaneous revenue items for the Road & Bridge Department. Commissioner Ivey seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

6. Request to award bid for Reflectorized Thermoplastic Pavement Marking Material to lowest bidder meeting specs – Road & Bridge

Commissioner Adams made a motion to award the bid for Reflectorized Thermoplastic Pavement Marking Material to lowest bidder meeting specs. Commissioner Ivey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

7. Request to enter into an Amended Agreement with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources of the State of Alabama for maintaining the Gordon Boat Launching Site – Road & Bridge

Commissioner Ivey made a motion to approve entering into an Amended Agreement with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources of the State of Alabama for maintaining the

Gordon Boat Launching Site. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

8. Request to enter into an agreement with ADEM for dump site remediation on Dusty Lane in Ashford, AL and approve accompanying budget amendment – Road & Bridge

Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the request to enter into an agreement with ADEM for dump site remediation on Dusty Lane in Ashford, AL and approve accompanying budget amendment. Commissioner Herring seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

9. Request to approve budget amendment in the amount of \$200,000 for software replacement for the Sheriff's Dept. operations – Major Bill Rafferty, Sheriff's Dept.

Commissioner Ivey made a motion to approve the budget amendment in the amount of \$200,000 for software replacement for the Sheriff's Dept. operations. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

10. Request to approve Pro Phoenix service agreement contract and authorize Chairman to execute agreement – Major Bill Rafferty, Sheriff's Dept.

Commissioner Ivey made a motion to approve the service agreement contract with Pro Phoenix and authorize Chairman to execute agreement. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

Chief Administrative Officer – No report

County Engineer – 4 closed roads: Smithville, Ben Ivey, D Hodge, Iris Crawford Road and Enon Road have been paved. Ashford Road, Iris Road, Smithville, County Line, Ben Ivey and D Hodge are next on the schedule for paving.

County Attorney – No report

Adjourned