

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
October 27, 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 October 27, 2025 Houston County Commission Regular Session and declared a quorum as all commissioners were in attendance.

The invocation was given by Pastor Chad Hixson from Rehobeth Baptist Church 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 began by thanking Commissioner Ivey for doing a great job leading the Administrative Meeting last Thursday. He added that he had a very special announcement to make and that was to wish a Happy Birthday to Ms. Molly (Meadows) on 85th birthday this coming Wednesday. Happy Birthday to Ms. Molly

Chairman Shoupe announced that the National Peanut Festival begins this weekend with the ribbon cutting on Friday at 6:00 p.m. and he hopes to see everyone there.

Commissioner Harvey stated that law enforcement was on an all time high during the Peanut Festival Parade and he wanted to commend them for their efforts and he was very impressed with all they did.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Request to award ACCA Joint County Bid for Debris Removal Monitoring Services

Commissioner Ivey made a motion to approve awarding the ACCA Joint County Bid for Debris Removal Monitoring Services. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

2. Request to approve resolution to relocate polling place in Columbia from the Rossie Purcell Municipal Building to the First Baptist Church of Columbia – Patrick Davenport, Judge of Probate

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the resolution to relocate the polling place in Columbia. Commissioner Adams seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Request to approve resolution to relocate polling place in Rehobeth from the Rehobeth Municipal Complex to Rehobeth Baptist Church – Patrick Davenport, Judge of Probate

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the resolution to relocate polling place in Rehobeth. Commissioner Ivey seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. Request to adopt a more formalized Policy for the handling of Indigent Burial Requests in the County – Peter B. Covert, CAO

Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the request to adopt a more formalized Policy for the handling of Indigent Burial Requests in the County and Commissioner Herring seconded. Chairman Shoupe stated that this was discussed last Thursday and they had another request this morning for a burial. He added that this has become an issue over the last few years and he hopes that this policy will draw back some of the demand of the taxpayer. When called for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

5. Request to authorize Chairman to apply for Revolving Loan Fund from Wiregrass Electric on behalf of Houston County in the amount of \$333,000 at 1% interest for 10 years

Commissioner Harvey made a motion to approve the request to authorize Chairman to apply for Revolving Loan Fund from Wiregrass Electric on behalf of Houston County in the amount of \$333,000 at 1% interest for 10 years. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

6. Request to approve budget amendment in the amount of \$37,000 for engineering fees related to Distribution Park Sewer Expansion project

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the budget amendment and Commissioner Adams seconded. Chairman Shoupe stated that this is the 10% matching fund for the project. When called for the vote, the motion passed unanimously.

7. Request to approve MOU with Houston County Water Authority in regards to sewage project

Commissioner Ivey made a motion to approve the MOU with Houston County Water Authority and Commissioner Harvey seconded. When called for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

8. Request to approve establishing a \$50,000 contingency fund for catastrophic sewer repairs

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the request to establish a \$50,000 contingency fund for catastrophic sewer repairs and Commissioner Harvey seconded. Chairman Shoupe reminded everyone that they spoke about this item last Thursday. To clear up some possible confusion, they are not transferring this fund but they are setting it aside as they can still draw interest from it. If the money is ever needed, it can be distributed as it is already budgeted for this item. If for some reason, insurance reimburses the Water Authority for anything, the money will come back to the county to replenish the account. When called for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

9. Request to approve transfer of \$75,000 from the general fund to Houston County Water Authority for sewer repairs and expenses

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the transfer of \$75,000 from the general fund to Houston County Water Authority for sewer repairs and expenses and Commissioner Adams seconded. Chairman Shoupe stated that these are the only funds that they are transferring to the Water Authority as this was given to the county by the Port Authority to use for this project. When called for the vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Shoupe added that he wanted to thank Commissioner Herring, the Houston County Water Authority, The Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, Colton Cureton and everyone else involved in this project as there are a lot of moving parts to it. Also, the Port Authority played a big role in this endeavor. Chairman Shoupe stated that this project is extremely important and even though it is approved today, 231 South will look the same but in the future there will be a difference thanks to what is being approved today.

Administrative Officer – No report

County Engineer – 3 closed roads; Judge Logue, E. Cook and Cedar Springs Rd.

County Attorney – No report

Commissioner Adams asked if they had an update on the Gordon Boat Ramp and Engineer Kirkland stated that all the rip raps are in place, the gravel is in place, guard rails go up this week and paving is set up for a week from Monday. Hopefully by Thanksgiving this will be completed.

Adjourned