

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR SESSION  
April 28, 2026

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

Chairman Shoupe called the 10:00 a.m. meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the April 28, 2026, Houston County Commission Regular Session. He declared a quorum as all commissioners were in attendance.

The invocation was given by Reverend Aaron Ott, from St. Matthias Anglican 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 Harvey and seconded by Commissioner Herring. The motion carried unanimously.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Shoupe began by announcing that the Houston County Farm Center ribbon cutting will be held tomorrow, Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. He added that the Chamber of Commerce will be there along with a food truck for anyone that would like to have lunch. The public is invited and he hopes to see many people come out and celebrate this occasion.

At this time, Chairman Shoupe called on Mrs. Cricket George and asked her to come forward. He stated that Mrs. George is the new Chairman of the Houston County Board of Registrars and he congratulated her. Mrs. George began by saying that she has been with the Board for 7 years and just got appointed as Chairman. She continued to say that she is filling some big shoes as Ms. Molly Meadows just retired and it will be a transition. Mrs. George reminded everyone that next Monday is the last day to register to vote for the upcoming election on May 19<sup>th</sup>. She also thanked the commission for all their support and she looks forward to working with them in the future. Chairman Shoupe thanked Mrs. George and a round of applause was given by all.

Chairman Shoupe then called on Revenue Commissioner Greg Holland to come forward to speak about property tax payments. Mr. Holland reminded everyone that Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, is the last day that property tax can be paid before it goes to the tax lien auction, which will be held on Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00 a.m. He did say that this year's online tax lien

auction is different than what has been in the past. In the past the auction was held in person here at the administration building, but this year it is strictly online. Mr. Holland said that people can register and get everything set up so that they can begin to bid Monday at 9:00 a.m. He, again, reminded everyone to pay their taxes by April 30<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Harvey asked if he could tell the general public how they can register for this. Mr. Holland reported that Govease is the company that will be handling this auction and that they handle most counties in the state. He said for those interested that they can go to GovEase.com and there are training videos to show you how to register, how to bid and anything else you need.

## AWARDS & PRESENTATIONS

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

Commissioner Adams made the motion to approve the proclamation for “Small Business Week” and Commissioner Herring seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

At this time, Chairman Shoupe asked Mrs. Steltenpohl to join him up front. He stated that Mrs. Steltenpohl represents the Chamber of Commerce and they are a huge part of success when it comes to business development and small businesses are the backbone of the Chamber of Commerce and the entire community. Chairman Shoupe then read the proclamation in its entirety and asked Mrs. Steltenpohl for comments. She began by thanking the commission for recognizing this event. She reported that small businesses are the heartbeat of the community and they are represented by people that employ less than 100 people and there are many small businesses here in our community. Mrs. Steltenpohl reminded everyone that these are the people that we go to and ask to support the little league teams, school functions and many other local events. She asked everyone to please support them as they support us during this week and throughout the year. Mrs. Steltenpohl said that there are several different activities during this week and they will be posted on their social media platforms. Tuesday is the Small Business Week Luncheon, which is the big event of the week where they will recognize different categories of people from emerging businesses that employ on a smaller scale. She appreciates the commission recognizing this week as it is the heartbeat of our community. Chairman Shoupe stated that a lot of people spend a lot of money on Amazon, but he has never seen Amazon sponsor a baseball team.

### 2. Proclamation – “National Corrections Officers Week”

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the proclamation for “National Corrections Officers Week” and Commissioner Adams seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

At this time, Commissioner James Ivey made his way to the podium and asked the corrections officers that were in attendance to come forward. Commissioner Ivey began by stating that this is just a small group of the corrections deputies that are employed at the Houston County Jail as they have over 70 deputies that are overseeing 500+ inmates at this time. He added that included today is the Chaplain of the jail that tries to help the incarcerated to make better life choices once they are no longer in custody and are back on the streets. He then read the proclamation in its entirety and applause was given by all.

Chairman Shoupe commented that he greatly appreciates all that they do and he realizes they are under a lot of stress with the overcrowding issue, which they hope to begin addressing very soon.

## REGULAR AGENDA

1. Request to approve budget amendment in the amount of \$44,017.50 for the purchase of additional mats for the jail due to increased inmate population – Stacey Holland, CAO

Commissioner Ivey made a motion to approve the budget amendment in the amount of \$44,017.50 for the purchase of additional mats for the jail due to increased inmate population. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

2. Request to sell the following items on GovDeals:

- a. Assorted computer equipment (monitors, printers, modems, etc)
- b. Assorted office desks (wood & Metal)
- c. Assorted metal office filing cabinets (2 & 4 drawer)
- d. Assorted office chairs
- e. 1995 International 4700 garbage truck

Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the request to sell the stated items on GovDeals. Commissioner Adams seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

## STAFF REPORTS

Chief Administrative Officer – No report

County Engineer – closed roads: West Cook, Cty Rd. 9 and Fletcher Smith. Over the next couple weeks they will be paving Cedar Springs Rd., Avon and Broadway in Cowarts. Over the next month they will pave Womack, N. Broad St. and Bluff Springs.

Chairman Shoupe asked about the shoulders on Judge Logue and asked if work had been completed. Engineer Kirkland said they have not finished with that as of yet but are getting to it soon.

Commissioner Herring commented that the Road & Bridge does an outstanding job with the minimal amount of money they have to work with. He thanked them for what they do and the hard work they put in every day.

County Attorney – No report

Adjourned