

L. W. "Nubbin" Cooper Jr.
County Commissioner, Precinct 1

Chris Kirkendall
County Commissioner, Precinct 2



Amanda Young
County Commissioner, Precinct 3

Ernie Koch
County Commissioner, Precinct 4

Wayne McDaniel
County Judge

COMMISSIONERS COURT OF HARDIN COUNTY, TEXAS
HARDIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE ▪ COMMISSIONERS COURTROOM (A-131)

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING AND AGENDA
TUESDAY | AUGUST 12, 2025 | 10:00 A.M.

Any attendee of this Open Meeting may be permitted to comment on an Agenda Item for a period of three (3) minutes by raising their hand and being recognized by the Presiding Member prior to the Court acting on any item. Anyone who addresses Commissioners Court must do so from the podium.

AGENDA AND MINUTES

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT ON AUGUST 12, 2025, THERE WAS BEGUN AND HOLDEN A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF HARDIN COUNTY, TEXAS, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE COURT PRESENT:

HONORABLE WAYNE MCDANIEL
HONORABLE L.W. COOPER, JR.
HONORABLE CHRIS KIRKENDALL
HONORABLE AMANDA YOUNG
HONORABLE ERNIE KOCH
HONORABLE CONNIE BECTON

HARDIN COUNTY JUDGE
COMMISSIONER PCT. 1
COMMISSIONER PCT. 2
COMMISSIONER PCT. 3
COMMISSIONER PCT. 4
HARDIN COUNTY CLERK

WHEN THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD AND ORDERS MADE TO-WIT; IN ADDITION TO THE ROUTINE BUSINESS OF THE COUNTY, THE SUBJECT OF SAID MEETING WILL BE THE FOLLOWING:

- 1) Establish Quorum and Call Meeting to Order | Hon. Wayne McDaniel
- 2) Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance | Hon. L.W. (Nubbin) Cooper, Jr.

- 3) Consider and possibly approve Minutes of the July 22, 2025 Regular Meeting; and July 28, 2025 and July 30, 2025 Special Meetings as presented by Hon. Connie Becton, County Clerk.
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER COOPER
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED
- 4) Consider and possibly approve: Request to cancel all Registered Claims from July 22, 2025; Cash Statement; and Quarterly Report for quarter ending June 30, 2025, as presented by Hon. Deborah McWilliams, County Treasurer. (SEE ATTACHED)
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER YOUNG
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KOCH
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED
- 5) Authorization to pay County bills as presented by Mrs. Candice McKinney, County Auditor.(SEE ATTACHED)
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KOCH
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED
- 6) Consider Adoption of Resolution 26-25 honoring the life, service and legacy of Kate Louise Pate-Walker. (SEE ATTACHED)
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER YOUNG
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED
- 7) Discussion and possible action regarding effective dates of salary increases for FY2026 as requested by Mrs. Candice McKinney, County Auditor. (SEE ATTACHED)
MOTION BY: JUDGE MCDANIEL
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER COOPER
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED TO BEGIN WITH THE PAY PERIOD THAT INCLUDES OCTOBER 1, 2025.
- 8) Presentation by Hon. Ernie Koch, County Commissioner, concerning recommendations of the Safety Committee to potentially reduce the number of crashes involving County vehicles, equipment, and personnel, and thus increase the safety and well-being of personnel and the public.
PRESENTATION ONLY!

- 9) Consider and possibly authorize request by Hon. Steve Thomas, 356th Judicial District Court Judge, to increase the pay for the Grand Jury Bailiff from \$250.00 per Grand Jury session to \$350.00 per session effective immediately. If approved, this will not require an amendment to the FY25 Budget or the FY26 Proposed Budget. (SEE ATTACHED)

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER COOPER

SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL

IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.

ACTION: APPROVED

- 10) Consider acceptance of the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending September 30, 2024, for Hardin County Emergency Services District No 4; and for the year ending December 31, 2024, for the Hardin County Emergency Services District No 5; and the Compiled Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2024, for the Village Mills Emergency Services District No 8. (SEE ATTACHED)

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER YOUNG

SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER COOPER

IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED

- 11) Consider approval of request by Hon. Rebecca R. Walton, District Attorney, to apply for a grant through the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts to provide prosecutors' offices in eligible rural counties to ensure professional law enforcement and legal representation throughout the state, pursuant to SB 22, 88R. (SEE ATTACHED)

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL

SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KOCH

IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.

ACTION: APPROVED

- 12) Consider approval of request by Hon. Matthew Minick, County Attorney, to apply for a grant through the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts to provide prosecutors' offices in eligible rural counties to ensure professional law enforcement and legal representation throughout the state, pursuant to SB 22, 88R. (SEE ATTACHED)

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL

SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KOCH

IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.

ACTION: APPROVED

- 13) Consider approval of request by Hon. Matthew Minick, County Attorney, to authorize the purchase of permanent Hardin County emblem stickers to be attached to the 30oz Stanley cups purchased for the Healthy County initiative, not to exceed \$500.00 from the \$3,617.10 currently deposited in the general fund, from the Texas Association of Counties for promotion of the Healthy County Initiative. The current left-over amount from the purchase of the cups and the catering is roughly \$561.00. The purpose of these stickers attached to the cups will be to encourage participation and sustain employee engagement in health and wellness activities throughout the year. (SEE ATTACHED)

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL

SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KOCH

**IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER,
COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.**

ACTION: APPROVED

- 14) Consider and possibly authorize Hon. Wayne McDaniel, County Judge, to apply for the FY26 Rural Law Enforcement grant through the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts in the amount of \$500,000.00 on behalf of the Sheriff. This grant program was established by the Texas Legislature during the 88TH Regular Legislative Session through Senate Bill 22 (SB22) to provide financial assistance to sheriffs, constables, and prosecutors in eligible counties to ensure professional law enforcement and legal representation of the people's interests throughout the State of Texas and requires no local matching funds. (SEE ATTACHED)

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KOCH

SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL

**IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER,
COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.**

ACTION: APPROVED

- 15) Consider and possibly authorize request by Mrs. Lisa Broucher, HCCVAC Director, for conditional approval of a \$1.00 per hour wage increase for four (4) Crime Victim Advocate positions upon attaining required certifications only if the state approves these increases through impending grant award notifications. If approved, these increases will become effective on October 1, 2025, or any date thereafter whereby the grant authority approves the increases. (SEE ATTACHED)

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL

SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER YOUNG

**IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER,
COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.**

**ACTION: ON APPROVAL OF THE GRANT BEING AWARDED BASED ON THE DISCUSSION IN COURT AND
THAT IF GRANT GOES AWAY SO DOES THE INCREASE**

- 16) Consider and possibly approve request by Mrs. Melinda Herrington, Human Resources Director, to change Hardin County's COBRA carrier to Willis Towers Watson (WTW) BenefitConnect. This carrier change will result in a more cost-effective COBRA carrier and eliminate unnecessary expenses associated with COBRA notifications. **(SEE ATTACHED)**
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER YOUNG
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED
- 17) Consider approval of request by Mrs. Melinda Herrington, Human Resources Director, to authorize the County Judge to sign the Interlocal Participation Agreement with Texas Association of Counties Health and Employee Benefits Pool. **(SEE ATTACHED)**
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER YOUNG
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER COOPER
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED
- 18) Consider approval of request by Mrs. Melinda Herrington, Human Resources Director, to authorize the County Judge to sign the 2025 - 2026 Renewal Notice and Benefit Confirmation for Health, Dental, Vision, & Life Insurance Rates offered by the Texas Association of Counties Health and Employee Benefits Pool (TAC HEBP); and the 2025 - 2026 Healthy County: County Specific Incentive (CSI) Program Participation Agreement. **(SEE ATTACHED)**
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER COOPER
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KOCH
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED
- 19) Consider and possibly authorize the Purchasing Agent to solicit bids for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) DR 4485-0405 Lumberton Generator Project. **(SEE ATTACHED)**
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KOCH
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED
- 20) Consider approval of request by Hon. Chris Kirkendall, County Commissioner, for the Purchasing Agent to solicit bids for the GLO CDBG-MIT Gore Store Road Channel Crossing and Roadway Improvements Project, GLO Contract No. 24-065-065-E596 located in Precinct 2. **(SEE ATTACHED)**
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER COOPER
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED

- 21) Consider approval of request by Mrs. Misty Sims, Purchasing Agent, to authorize the County Judge to execute Change Order No. 1-B related to Community Development Block Grant GLO Contract No. 20-065-145-C857 – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Harvey Infrastructure - Saratoga Road Improvement - Construction Project. **(SEE ATTACHED)**
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER YOUNG
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED
- 22) Consider approval of request by Mrs. Misty Sims, Purchasing Agent, to present results of bids received for overlaying approximately 1525' x 17' on Bussey Road, located in Precinct 2. **(SEE ATTACHED)**
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER COOPER
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED LOW BID FROM CMM CONSTRUCTION
- 23) Consider approval of request by Mrs. Misty Sims, Purchasing Agent, to present results of bids received for concrete road repair project of approximately 64 sq. yards (24' x 24' x 6") and approximately 88 sq. yards (24' x 33' x 6") on Perrell Lane, Lumberton, Texas, located in Precinct 1, and possibly award to successful vendor. **(SEE ATTACHED)**
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER COOPER
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED LOW BID FROM FNT CONSTRUCTION
- 24) Consider and possibly authorize the Purchasing Agent to solicit bids for materials and emulsions for all Road & Bridge Departments. **(SEE ATTACHED)**
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER COOPER
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KOCH
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED
- 25) Consider approval of request by Hon L.W. (Nubbin) Cooper, Jr, County Commissioner, Precinct 1, to authorize the Purchasing Agent to solicit bids for dredging Westwood Outfall ditch for an estimated 8,250' and approximately 3' of sediment, located in Precinct 1. **(SEE ATTACHED)**
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER COOPER
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED

- 26) Authorization for the County Judge to execute the Subdivision Participation and Release Form regarding the Purdue and Sackler Opioid Settlement. (SEE ATTACHED)
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER YOUNG
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED
- 27) Consider approval of request by Ms. Alysa Freeman, Elections Administrator, to approve an Order calling for the November 4, 2025 Special Election. (SEE ATTACHED)
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER YOUNG
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED
- 28) Discussion and possible action to approve and accept, for filing in the Minutes of the Court, the District Court Order appointing Candice McKinney as County Auditor for a two-year term and setting the auditor's salary, along with additional documentation, pursuant to Chapter 84 of the Texas Local Government Code. (SEE ATTACHED)
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KOCH
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED
- 29) Consider, possibly authorize and direct the Purchasing Agent to publish increases of salaries and expenses for Elected County and Precinct Officers in The Silsbee Bee pursuant to § 152.013 Local Government Code. (SEE ATTACHED)
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER COOPER
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED
- 30) Setting of Public Hearing to receive comments from citizens of Hardin County concerning the Fiscal Year 2026 Hardin County Budget (October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026); and direct the Purchasing Agent to publish Notice pursuant to § 111.007(c) Local Government Code. (SEE ATTACHED)
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER COOPER
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER YOUNG
IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.
ACTION: APPROVED TO SET HEARING FOR AUGUST 26, 2025 AT 9:00 A.M.

- 31) Setting of Public Hearing to receive comments from citizens of Hardin County concerning the proposed Tax Rate of \$0.496965 per \$100 valuation for the 2025 tax year; and direct the Purchasing Agent publish Notice pursuant to § 26.06 Tax Code. **(SEE ATTACHED)**

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER YOUNG

SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KOCH

IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.

ACTION: APPROVED TO SET HEARING FOR AUGUST 26, 2025 AT 9:00 A.M.

- 32) Discussion on any other non-agenda item without taking action including announcements which may be of interest to the public.

DISCUSSION ONLY

Announcement of Executive (Closed) Session pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.071 (1)(A) for consultation with the Hardin County Attorney, Matthew Minick, to seek advice concerning pending or contemplated litigation.
COURT IS IN RECESS AT 11:06 A.M.

-Return to Open Meeting and resume agenda-
COURT IS BACK IN SESSION AT 11:29 A.M.

- 33) Consider and possibly authorize the County Attorney to consult, negotiate, and contract with outside counsel on behalf of Hardin County Commissioners Court concerning the recovery of overpayments made to MPTX Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$73,878.94 for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Project DR-4332-0052 related to Hurricane Harvey, as well as any other amount(s) which may be discovered in overpayments to MPTX in the future; and further authorize the County Attorney to work with outside counsel to pursue any and all legal action as necessary to recover said funds from MPTX Associates, Inc. **(SEE ATTACHED)**

MOTION BY: JUDGE MCDANIEL

SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER YOUNG

IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.

ACTION: NO ACTION TAKEN AT THIS TIME

- 34) Adjourn.


MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KOCH

SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL

IN FAVOR: JUDGE MCDANIEL, COMMISSIONER KIRKENDALL, COMMISSIONER COOPER, COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND COMMISSIONER KOCH.

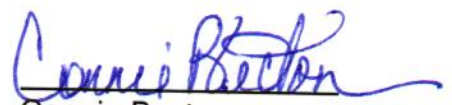
ACTION: APPROVED

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



Wayne McDaniel
HARDIN COUNTY JUDGE





Connie Becton
HARDIN COUNTY CLERK