

MINUTES

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this 10TH DAY of AUGUST, 2021, Commissioners Court of Fort Bend County, Texas, met at a regular meeting with the following present:

KP GEORGE	COUNTY JUDGE
VINCENT MORALES	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 1
GRADY PRESTAGE	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 2
ANDY MEYERS	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 3
KEN R. DEMERCHANT	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 4
LAURA RICHARD	COUNTY CLERK

When the following were heard and the following orders were passed:

- 1. Call to Order.**
Call to Order by Judge KP George at 1:00 p.m.
- 2. Invocation and Pledges of Allegiance by Commissioner Grady Prestage.**
Invocation and Pledges of Allegiance by Commissioner Grady Prestage.
- 3. Approve minutes of special meeting/budget workshop held on July 28, 2021 and regular meeting held on August 3, 2021.**

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner Morales
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve minutes of special meeting/budget workshop held on July 28, 2021 and regular meeting held on August 3, 2021.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

4. Public Comments regarding the Agenda and Announcements.

Michael Kahlenberg, 927 Rosa Del Villa, spoke to the court about volunteers who call on citizens who are socially isolated in the County. Three years ago the Fort Bend County Sheriff's office embarked on a new initiative to bring trained volunteers from the Citizens Police Academy to call on those who are socially isolated, including seniors 65 and above and those with disabilities. About 600 phone calls are being made monthly and visits are being made as needed. There were volunteers present in court who were recognized. These volunteers are citizens of the County who are reaching out to our socially isolated. As learned through COVID, social isolation is a major crisis and issue. Today during court, the Commissioners and Judge were made honorary volunteers and were given hats and project life saver shirts.

Dr. Jacquelyn Minter, Director of Health and Human Services gave an update on COVID 19. She stated the data that is given comes from the Department of State Health Services. Last week an average of 294 new cases were reported during the reporting week. In Fort Bend County, 13% of our cases are occurring in children, ages 11 and younger, 24% are occurring in the 4 – 19 year old age group, which are school age children. Testing is reported at the County level with three testing sites currently opened and a fourth being opened in Precinct 4. Preliminary data shows the test positivity is about 20%, in which one in every five test is positive. The hospitals who report in the County reported similar numbers of 20% – 22%. Hospital bed data is reported to SETRAC (SouthEast Texas Regional Advisory Council), and is not reported directly to the County. Hospitals in Fort Bend County averaged 170 patients per day, General and ICU with COVID, which is compared to 98 patients per day in the previous month. The seven day percentage of ICU patients that were admitted for COVID stands about 24%, this is SETRAC data. Almost one out of four people in ICUs in Fort Bend County is COVID positive. Vaccination remains one of our most powerful tools. Our hospitals are reporting 80% – 99% of persons hospitalized with COVID are unvaccinated and 96% of those deaths coming through recently are unvaccinated persons. There are 44% of our residents age 12 – 19 years of age who have been vaccinated. Over the last week, almost 7,000 individuals additionally have been vaccinated in our County. The number of vaccines have increased by about 10,000, all providers, throughout the County last week. As we continue to see the effects of the Delta variant in our community, there are additional concerns with children getting ready to go back to school. It is important to note we all have tools to keep us safe, which are getting vaccinated, masking which provides protection, hand washing and social distancing.

Commissioner Meyers asked if we are experiencing deaths in the elderly as we did before.

Dr. Minter stated we are not seeing that yet. Deaths are a lagging indicator and hopefully this will not be seen.

Commissioner DeMerchant announced starting tomorrow, there will be testing and vaccination at Four Corners Community Center. This will run next week, Tuesday – Friday, going forward.

There were two public comments.

Mayor Charles Jessup, 11919 Valencia, Meadows Place spoke on Item 7, the appointment of Allen Bogard to the Gulf Coast Water Authority Board of Directors, representing small municipalities for a two-year term. Mayor Jessup expressed his concern about the replacement of Russell C. Jones, the current president of the Gulf Coast Water Authority.

Mayor Joe Zimmerman, 1406 Lake Pointe Parkway, Sugar Land, spoke on Item 7. Mayor Zimmerman asked the court to consider reappointing Russell Jones to the Gulf Coast Water Authority. Russell is not only president of the board; but the Chair of the contract review of facilities committee and a member of the water resources committee. Russell has served with distinction.

Item 4 continued - Public Comments:

Commissioner Meyers presented a proclamation to Deputy Constable Roger Castillo, Deputy Constable Gregory Markovsky and Deputy Constable Bryan Steffen in Precinct 3 Constable Chad Norvell's office for responding to a call which saved a 17 year old's life.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS: 1:20 p.m.: Conduct Public Hearings and take all appropriate action on the following matters:

Public hearing held. No public comments.

A. Acceptance of the traffic control plan for Sunset Crossing Section Three, Precinct 1.

B. Acceptance of the traffic control plan for Sienna Section 34B, Precinct 1.

C. Acceptance of the traffic control plan for Grand Vista Sec 18, Precinct 2.

D. Acceptance of the traffic control plan for Tamarron Section 15, Precinct 3.

E. Acceptance of the traffic control plan for Silver Ranch Section 5, Precinct 3.

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner Morales
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve Agenda Items 5A - 5E.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: 6 - 16

6. OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL: Approve out-of-state travel requests for County personnel:

Approve out of state travel for Dianne Gertson to Grand Rapids, Michigan, October 31, 2021 through November 6, 2021, to attend the National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences Conference. (Fund: National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences)

7. COUNTY JUDGE:

Approve appointment of Allen Bogard to the Gulf Coast Water Authority Board of Directors, representing small municipalities for a two-year term commencing September 1, 2021.

Item 7 was moved to Discussion.

8. COMMISSIONER, PCT. 4:

Approve appointment of Shazib Iqbal to Emergency Service District No. 5, Board of Directors and reappointment of John Godbee and John Mukoro to a term through December 31, 2022.

9. BUDGET TRANSFER(s):

- A. Commissioner Precinct No. 2: Approve transfer in the amount of \$2,228 from Travel into Accounts as detailed on Auditor's form dated July 30, 2021, to cover deficient in funding for fiscal year 2021.**
- B. County Clerk: Approve transfer in the amount of \$78 from County Clerk-Fees & Services into Information Technology - Fees & Services to allocate funds for the purchase of one (1) Adobe Acrobat License.**
- C. County Treasurer: Approve transfer in the amount of \$5,702 from Fees & Services into Information Technology-Fees to allocate funds for County Treasurer software expense.**
- D. Law Library: Approve transfer in the amount of \$30 from Fees into Information Technology to allocate additional funds for unplanned costs.**
- E. Environmental Health: Approve transfer in the amount of \$4,800 from Travel into Information Technology to allocate additional funds for Information Technology Hardware monitors and Cisco phone headset expenses.**
- F. Fire Marshal: Approve transfer in the amount of \$3,000 from Supplies and Maintenance into Information Technology to allocate funds for purchase of replacement laptops.**
- G. Fairgrounds: Approve transfer in the amount of \$1,000 from Traveling and Training into Information Technology for funds to be allocated for purchase of a switch to repair Wifi at the Fairgrounds.**

10. ENGINEERING-PAYMENTS:

- A. Approve payment of Invoice No. 479701/28/II in the amount of \$46,273.62 to Dannenbaum Engineering Corporation for plan, specification, and estimate design services of FM 521 Expansion Project, Mobility Bond Project No. 17113, Precinct 1. (Fund: Mobility Bonds)**
- B. Approve payment of Invoice No. E151012-22 in the amount of \$23,414.55 to Amani Engineering, Inc., for professional engineering services regarding South Post Oak, Mobility Bond Project No. 13112, Precinct 1. (Fund: Mobility Bonds)**
- C. Approve payment of Invoice No. 54838 in the amount of \$487.50 to Paradigm Consultants, Inc. for professional construction materials testing services regarding Ransom Road, Mobility Bond Project No. 17103, Precinct 1. (Fund: Mobility Bonds)**
- D. Approve payment of Invoice No. 4 in the amount of \$7,200.00 to DVL Enterprises LLC for construction of Ransom Road, Mobility Bond Projects No. 17103, Precinct 1. (Fund: Mobility Bonds)**
- E. Approve payment of Invoice No. 2611 in the amount of \$17,232.80 to Taylor Construction Management, LLC for construction inspection services for Mobility Bond Projects within Precincts 1, 2, 3, and 4. (Fund: Mobility Bonds)**
- F. Approve payment of Invoice No. FBC1907-21 in the amount of \$67,288.00 to AIG Technical Services, LLC for professional engineering services regarding Mobility Projects within Precincts 1, 2, 3, and 4. (Funding: Mobility Bonds)**

Item 10 continued - Engineering - Payments:

- G. Approve payment of Invoice No. 17CM01-28 in the amount of \$20,120.50 to Isani Consultants, L.P. for professional construction management services regarding Mobility Projects, Precinct 1, 2, 3, and 4. (Fund: Mobility Bonds)**
- H. Approve payment of Invoice No. 1 in the amount of \$90,427.52 to DVL Enterprises, LLC for construction of Avenue E, Mobility Bond Project No. 17220x, Precinct 2. (Fund: Mobility Bonds)**
- I. Approve payment of Invoice No. 8 in the amount of \$86,583.54 to Allgood Construction Company, Inc. for paving and drainage improvements regarding Beechnut Road, Mobility Bond Project No. 17204, Precinct 2. (Fund: Mobility Bonds)**
- J. Approve payment of Invoice No. 10 in the amount of \$101,009.52 to Allgood Construction Company, Inc. for construction of Old Richmond Road, Mobility Project No. 17208, Precinct 2. (Fund: Mobility Bonds)**
- K. Approve payment of Invoice No. 21-5209 in the amount of \$2,217.00 and Invoice No. 21-6112 in the amount of \$2,480.00 to Tolunay-Wong Engineers, Inc. for construction materials testing services regarding Lake Olympia Segment 1, Mobility Bond Project No. 13207, Precinct 2. (Fund: Mobility Bonds)**
- L. Approve payment of Invoice No. 12 Final in the amount of \$572,049.91 to James Construction for construction of Cane Island Parkway Phase 2, Mobility Bond Project No. 17308, Precinct 3. (Fund: Mobility Bonds)**
- M. Approve payment of Invoice No. 0320636, 0320635, 0320634, 0320633 in the amount of \$4,855.00 to Percheron, LLC for professional acquisition services for 2017 Mobility Projects within Precinct 3. (Fund: Right of Way)**
- N. Approve payment of Invoice No. 4 in the amount of \$509,283.40 to Allgood Construction for construction of Brandt Road, Mobility Bond Project No. 17310, Precinct 3. (Fund: Mobility Bonds)**
- 11. ENGINEERING-PERMITS:**
 - A. Approve permit application from CenterPoint Energy to install a gas line along Shenandoah Drive, Permit No. 2021-47674, Precinct 1.**
 - B. Approve permit application from Frontier Southwest Inc. dba/Frontier Communications of Texas/ Squan Engineering to install fiber optic cable along various roadways within the Andover Farms Sections 4 and 5 subdivisions, Permit No. 2021-47671, Precinct 1.**
 - C. Approve permit application from Frontier Southwest Inc. dba/Frontier Communications of Texas/ Squan Engineering to install fiber optic cable along various roads within the Estate at Teal Run and Teal Run subdivisions, Permit No. 2021-47695, Precinct 1.**
 - D. Approve permit application from Citylynx, Inc. to install traffic signals and a right turn lane on Sienna Parkway at the intersection of Sienna Oaks Drive, Permit No. 2021-47698, Precinct 1.**

Item 11 continued - Engineering - Permits:

- E. Approve permit application from Frontier Southwest Inc. dba/Frontier Communications of Texas/ Squan Engineering to install fiber optic cable along various roadways within the Estates of Teal Run Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 subdivisions, Permit No. 2021-47744, Precinct 1.**
- F. Approve permit application from Frontier Southwest Inc. dba/Frontier Communications of Texas/ Squan Engineering to install fiber optic cable along various roads within the Fresno Ranchos Subdivision, Permit No. 2021-47393, Precinct 1.**
- G. Approve permit application from Frontier Southwest Inc. dba/Frontier Communications of Texas/ Squan Engineering to install fiber optic cable along various roadways within the Ridgewood Estates Subdivision, Permit No. 2021-47740, Precinct 1.**
- H. Approve permit application from Gonzalez Construction Enterprises, Inc. to install a new residential street connection to Linda Drive, Permit No. 2021-47727, Precinct 1.**
- I. Approve permit application from CTC Concrete, Inc./ Taylor Morrison to install a residential driveway at 19018 Whitehaven Bend Lane, Permit No. 2021-47466, Precinct 2.**
- J. Approve permit application from Comcast of Houston, LLC to install fiber optic cable along White Trail Court and Hickory Deer Lane, Permit No. 2021-47666, Precinct 3.**
- K. Approve permit application from Comcast of Houston, LLC to install utility cable along Tamarron Parkway, Permit No. 2021-47673, Precinct 3.**
- L. Approve permit application from Southwestern Bell Telephone Company dba AT&T Texas/Cobb Fendley & Associates to install utility cable along Cinco Ranch Boulevard, Permit No. 2021-47700, Precinct 3.**
- M. Approve permit application from Comcast of Houston, LLC to install fiber optic cable crossing under Old South Drive, Permit No. 2021-47704, Precinct 3.**
- N. Approve permit application from Comcast of Houston, LLC to install fiber optic cable along Pacific Spring Lane, Permit No. 2021-47707, Precinct 3.**
- O. Approve permit application from Comcast of Houston, LLC to install fiber optic cable along Skinner Lane, Permit No. 2021-47709, Precinct 3.**
- P. Approve permit application from CenterPoint Energy to install a gas line crossing under Via Mazzini Way, Permit No. 2021-47734, Precinct 3.**

12. ENGINEERING-DEVELOPMENT:

- A. Accept the streets in Bonbrook Plantation South, Section Seven: Jonquil Drive 1,067.20 LF, Fuchsia Drive 630.84 LF, Harvest Hill Drive 149.67 LF, Mugwort Drive 754.94 LF, for a total of 2,602.65 LF and release the bond in the amount of \$182,185.50, Precinct 1.**
- B. Accept the streets in Sienna Village of Destrehan Section 5: Mount Logan 564.18 LF, Lazy Vine Lane 1,151.27 LF, Big Vine Court 999.16 LF, for a total of 2,714.16 LF and release the bond in the amount of \$209,612.20, Precinct 1.**

Item 12 continued - Engineering - Development:

- C. Accept the streets in Sienna Village of Destrehan Sec 8: Plaza Point Drive 262.32 LF, Twin Rose Drive 1,006.00 LF, Spring Rose Drive 680.00 LF, Pink Rose Walk Court 307.54 LF, for a total of 2,255.86 LF and release the bond in the amount of \$169,675.10, Precinct 1.
 - D. Accept the streets in Still Creek Ranch, Section One: Still Creek Ranch Drive 1,848.76 LF, Tye Creek Lane 696.00 LF, Keys Creek Court 583.47 LF, Wolf Creek Lane 645.67 LF, Prairie Dog Fork Lane 1,242.43 LF, for a total of 5,016.33 LF and release the bond in the amount of \$357,140.00, Precinct 1.
 - E. Approve the plat for the roads within Olympia Falls Sec 1, Precinct 2.
 - F. Approve the plat for the lots within Olympia Falls Sec 1, Precinct 2.
 - G. Approve the plat for the roads within Olympia Falls Sec 2, Precinct 2.
 - H. Approve the plat for the lots within Olympia Falls Sec 2, Precinct 2.
 - I. Approve the plat for Village of Sawmill Lake, Precinct 1.
 - J. Approve the plat for Fulbrook Section Three “D” Replat of Lot 12A, Block 1, Replat No 2, Precinct 3.
 - K. Set public hearing for acceptance of the traffic control plan for Briarwood Crossing Section 11, Precinct 1. *(Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.)*
 - L. Set public hearing for acceptance of the traffic control plan for Vanbrooke Sec 3, Precinct 3. *(Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.)*
 - M. Set public hearing for acceptance of the traffic control plan for Glenholly Park Drive in Riverway Estates Section 1, Precinct 3. *(Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.)*
13. **HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES:**
- A. **Health & Human Services:** Approve Temporary Facility Use Agreement between Fort Bend County and Kendleton Church of God to use designated space for a communicable disease testing site, vaccination site, or as otherwise mutually agreed by Kendleton Church of God and Fort Bend Health and Human Services Director.
 - B. **Health & Human Services:** Accept and electronically sign Contract No.: HHS001084500001 between the Texas Department of State Health Services and Fort Bend County to accept grant funds in the amount of \$1,856,353.00 for the Public Health Workforce Grant with with no County match from for the term of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023, and designate County Judge as authorized official to accept the award.
14. **PARKS & RECREATION:**
- A. Accept and record the generous donation by Houston Flying Disc Society of nineteen (19) used disc golf baskets for Jones Creek Ranch Park.

Item 14 continued - Parks & Recreation:

- B. Approve request to use Jones Creek Ranch Park from 5 pm to 11 pm, as submitted by Fort Bend County Fire Marshal for the Fire Marshal and Homeland Security and Emergency Management Awards Banquet and Office Gathering; to be held on December 3, 2021 and waiving all applicable fees.**

15. PURCHASING:

- A. Approve the continued purchase of in-car video equipment from L-3 SF Mobile Visions, Inc. utilizing Houston-Galveston Area Council Agreement EF04-21 for various departments upon request from the remainder of their Fiscal Year 2021 budgets.**
- B. Approve the continued purchase of docking stations from GTS Technology Solutions, Inc. utilizing State of Texas Department of Information Resources Agreement DIR-CPO-4751, for various departments upon request for the remainder of their Fiscal Year 2021 budgets.**
- C. Authorize advertising of bids for furniture for the North Library.**

16. TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR:

- A. Approve & record into Minutes tax payment refunds in the amount of \$15,339.07 for the Office of Carmen P. Turner.**
- B. Record into Minutes the Certification of 2021 Tax Year Anticipated Collection Rate and Excess Debt Collections for Fort Bend County General Fund.**

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner Morales
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve Consent Agenda Items 6 - 16, excepting Item 7.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Consent Agenda Item 7 - Moved to Discussion:

Approve appointment of Allen Bogard to the Gulf Coast Water Authority Board of Directors, representing small municipalities for a two-year term commencing September 1, 2021.

Item 7 continued - Consent Agenda:

7. COUNTY JUDGE:

Approve appointment of Allen Bogard to the Gulf Coast Water Authority Board of Directors, representing small municipalities for a two-year term commencing September 1, 2021.

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner Morales
Duly put and carried (2 -3), it is ordered to reappoint Russell Jones as Director of the Gulf Coast Water Authority Board of Directors, representing small municipalities for a two-year term commencing September 1, 2021.

Judge George	No
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	No
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	No

MOTION FAILED

Moved by Commissioner Prestage, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and carried (3-2), it is ordered to appoint Allen Bogard to the Gulf Coast Water Authority Board of Directors, representing small municipalities for a two-year term commencing September 1, 2021.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	No
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	No
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

MOTION PASSES

17. COUNTY JUDGE:

- A. Take all appropriate action to reset a public hearing to be conducted on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Courtroom at 401 Jackson Street in Richmond, Texas for the proposed creation of a new Emergency Services District to be named Emergency Services District Number 9, and issue the necessary notices pursuant to Section 775.015 of the Health & Safety Code.**

Moved by Commissioner Morales, Seconded by Commissioner Meyers

Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to reset a public hearing to be conducted on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Courtroom at 401 Jackson Street in Richmond, Texas for the proposed creation of a new Emergency Services District to be named Emergency Services District Number 9, and issue the necessary notices pursuant to Section 775.015 of the Health & Safety Code.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

- B. Take all appropriate action on Resolution In Opposition to FEMA designating levee protected areas as Special Flood Hazard Areas with mandatory purchase requirement for Flood Insurance, Implementing Risk Rating 2.0, and using Levee Safety Program Risk Assessments for premium pricing; and use of Levee Safety Program funding for Risk Assessment rather than Levee Enhanced Protection Measures.**

Moved by Commissioner DeMerchant, Seconded by Commissioner Meyers

Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve Resolution In Opposition to FEMA designating levee protected areas as Special Flood Hazard Areas with mandatory purchase requirement for Flood Insurance, Implementing Risk Rating 2.0, and using Levee Safety Program Risk Assessments for premium pricing; and use of Levee Safety Program funding for Risk Assessment rather than Levee Enhanced Protection Measures.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

18. COMMISSIONER, PCT. 1:

Take all appropriate action on the Order Calling Election for Creation of the Fort Bend County Assistance District No. 23 and Imposition of a Sales and Use Tax, to be located generally along FM 762 and Boothline Road.

Moved by Commissioner Morales, Seconded by Commissioner Prestage
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve Order Calling Election for Creation of the Fort Bend County Assistance District No. 23 and Imposition of a Sales and Use Tax, to be located generally along FM 762 and Boothline Road.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

19. COMMISSIONER, PCT. 3:

Take all appropriate action on request to reclassify vacant Position No. 4013-0005, from Community Relations Manager, Grade 11 of the Professional Management Policy Group to Project Manager, Grade 13 of the Professional Management Policy Group, in the Office of the Commissioner Pct. 3, effective August 10, 2021.

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve request to reclassify vacant Position No. 4013-0005, from Community Relations Manager, Grade 11 of the Professional Management Policy Group to Project Manager, Grade 13 of the Professional Management Policy Group, in the Office of the Commissioner Pct. 3, effective August 10, 2021.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

20. COMMISSIONER, PCT. 4:

A. Take all appropriate action on request by Sayed Naveed Ahmed & Adeela Choudry to waive penalty and interest fees totaling \$1,977.07 on property taxes for tax year 2020, Pct. 4.

Moved by Commissioner DeMerchant, Seconded by Commissioner Meyers
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve request by Sayed Naveed Ahmed & Adeela Choudry to waive penalty and interest fees totaling \$1,977.07 on property taxes for tax year 2020, Pct. 4, as recommended by the Tax Assessor's Office due to an error found.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Commissioner DeMerchant thanked Carmen Turner, Tax Assessor and her staff for the hours spent on these items. Commissioner also thanked the residents for their patience on these issues.

B. Take all appropriate action on request by Monte and Kathy Hambleton to waive penalty, interest, and collection fees totaling \$383.29 on property taxes for tax year 2019, Precinct 4.

Moved by Commissioner Prestage, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve request by Monte and Kathy Hambleton to waive penalty, interest, and collection fees totaling \$383.29 on property taxes for tax year 2019, Precinct 4, as recommended by the Tax Assessor's Office due to an error found.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

21. AUDITOR:

Take all appropriate action on Resolution Declaring Intention to Advance Funding and Reimburse Expenditures Related to Various Mobility Projects.

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner Morales
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve Resolution Declaring Intention to Advance Funding and Reimburse Expenditures Related to Various Mobility Projects.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

22. BUDGET & FINANCE:

- A. Authorize payment of \$132,000 from American Rescue Plan Act to complete FY 2021 match for Interlocal Agreement between Fort Bend County and Texana Center for Forensic Assertive Community Treatment/Intensive Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services in support of SB292. (Fund: American Rescue Plan Act Grant – Public Health Response, Mental Health Initiatives Category)**

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve payment of \$132,000 from American Rescue Plan Act to complete FY 2021 match for Interlocal Agreement between Fort Bend County and Texana Center for Forensic Assertive Community Treatment/Intensive Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services in support of SB292. (Fund: American Rescue Plan Act Grant – Public Health Response, Mental Health Initiatives Category)

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Commissioner Meyers stated the Health Department and Judges have pointed out the County is having an increase in mental health issues. This is one way to address this issue.

- B. Take all appropriate action to Amend the American Rescue Plan Act budget by transferring \$736,000 from the Business Grant Program line item to the Small Business Consulting Program line item in the Economic Recovery Category.**

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to Amend the American Rescue Plan Act budget by transferring \$736,000 from the Business Grant Program line item to the Small Business Consulting Program line item in the Economic Recovery Category.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Item 22 continued - Budget & Finance:

- C. Take all appropriate action to Amend the American Rescue Plan Act Budget to create New Grant Positions, effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, as follows:**

1.	\$113,000 for two (2) Passport Clerk positions, grade 7 of the Administrative Clerical policy group, in the District Clerk's Office;
2.	\$169,490 for three (3) Clerk III positions, grade 7 of the Administrative Clerical policy group, in the Tax Office;
3.	\$128,240 for one (1) Business Project Analyst position, grade 14 of the Professional Management policy group, in the Information Technology Department;
4.	\$103,880 for one (1) Quality Assurance Analyst position, grade 12 of the Professional Management policy group, in the Information Technology Department;
5.	\$136,620 for one (1) Audio Visual Engineer position, grade 13 of the Professional Management policy group, in the Information Technology Department;
6.	\$88,500 for one (1) Technical Support Specialist positions, grade 11 of the Professional Management policy group, in the Information Technology Department;
7.	\$94,080 for one (1) Technical Support Specialist II, grade 12 of the Professional Management Policy group, in the Information Technology Department;
8.	\$110,430 for one (1) Bailiff - Sergeant position, grade 12 of the Law Enforcement policy group, in the Sheriff's Office;
9.	\$71,680 for one (1) Constable Deputy - Bailiff position, grade 9 of the Law Enforcement policy group, in the Constable, Precinct 4 Office;
10.	\$717,960 for five (5) CIT Deputy positions, grade 9 of the Law Enforcement policy group, in the Sheriff's Office;
11.	\$347,280 for two (2) CIT Sergeant positions, grade 12 of the Law Enforcement policy group, in the Sheriff's Office;
12.	\$55,590 for one (1) Lifesaving Programs Aide, grade 6 of the Administrative Clerical policy group, in the Animal Services Department;
13.	\$209,350 for two (2) Epidemiologist positions, grade 12 of the Public Health policy group, in the Health & Human Services Department effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

Commissioner Meyers asked if these positions were submitted as part of the budget and through the budget process these were taken out.

Pamela Gubbels, Director of Finance and Investments stated this is correct. Ms. Gubbels added these 22 positions were requested in the 2022 Budget.

Item 22 continued - Budget & Finance:

The positions were reviewed and voted on individually.

(1) 2 - Passport Clerk positions, District Clerk's Office:

Moved by Commissioner Prestage, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to Amend the American Rescue Plan Act Budget to create New Grant Positions, effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 for \$113,000 for two (2) Passport Clerk positions, grade 7 of the Administrative Clerical policy group, in the District Clerk's Office.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Commissioner Meyers indicated he requested passport data regarding revenue and expenses and has not received the detail of the expenses.

Beverly Walker, District Clerk stated the expense report has been sent to Commissioner Meyers and to the Budget Officer. Ms. Walker indicated there is a need for these positions for one year.

(2) 3 - Clerk III positions, Tax Office:

Moved by Commissioner Prestage, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to amend the American Rescue Plan Act Budget to create New Grant Positions, effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 for \$169,490 for three (3) Clerk III positions, grade 7 of the Administrative Clerical policy group, in the Tax Office.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Carmen Turner, Tax Assessor/Collector indicated the tax office is still behind and are working to be caught up.

Pamela Gubbels, Director of Finance and Investments stated these positions are for one year only. When the FY2023 Budget will be reviewed, the departments will have to come back and justify these positions again.

Commissioner Meyers is concerned grant funds are being used to fund temporary positions that end up being permanent positions.

Ed Sturdivant, County Auditor stated all of these positions funded from ARPA will have additional documentation supporting the use of the positions throughout the term of the funding.

Item 22 continued - Budget & Finance:

- (3) 1 - Business Project Analyst position, Information Technology Department;**
- (4) 1 - Quality Assurance Analyst position; Information Technology Department**
- (5) 1 - Audio Visual Engineer position; Information Technology Department**
- (6) 1 - Technical Support Specialist position; Information Technology Department**
- (7) 1 - Technical Support Specialist II position, Information Technology Department:**

Moved by Commissioner Prestage, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant

Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to amend the American Rescue Plan Act Budget to create New Grant Positions, effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 for \$128,240 for one (1) Business Project Analyst position, grade 14 of the Professional Management policy group, in the Information Technology Department; \$103,880 for one (1) Quality Assurance Analyst position, grade 12 of the Professional Management policy group, in the Information Technology Department; \$136,620 for one (1) Audio Visual Engineer position, grade 13 of the Professional Management policy group, in the Information Technology Department; \$88,500 for one (1) Technical Support Specialist positions, grade 11 of the Professional Management policy group, in the Information Technology Department; and \$94,080 for one (1) Technical Support Specialist II, grade 12 of the Professional Management Policy group, in the Information Technology Department.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Commissioner Meyers stated he asked Robyn Doughtie, Director of Information Technology to rank the five positions in order of importance.

Robyn Doughtie, Director of Information Technology indicated the rank is as follows: 1. Technical Support Specialist II; 2. Quality Assurance Analyst; 3. Audio Visual Engineer; 4. Business Project Analyst; 5. Technical Support Specialist.

Judge George made a statement. Our way of doing business has changed tremendously. The IT department has been one of the departments most impacted due to many people who were asked to work from home and the technical support is needed.

Commissioner Morales reiterated as long as the understanding is these positions are only for one year.

Item 22 continued - Budget & Finance:

(8) - 1 Bailiff - Sergeant position, Sheriff's Office:

Moved by Commissioner Prestage, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to Amend the American Rescue Plan Act Budget to create New Grant Positions, effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 for \$110,430 for one (1) Bailiff - Sergeant position, grade 12 of the Law Enforcement policy group, in the Sheriff's Office.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Major Zamora, Sheriff's Office stated the Court Bailiff Sergeant is needed due to the current Supervisor/Deputy ratio is one Sergeant for 22 deputies and currently they have 44 deputies for one Sergeant.

(9) - 1 Constable Deputy - Bailiff position, Constable, Precinct 4:

Moved by Commissioner Prestage, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and carried (3-2), it is ordered to Amend the American Rescue Plan Act Budget to create New Grant Positions, effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 for \$71,680 for one (1) Constable Deputy - Bailiff position, grade 9 of the Law Enforcement policy group, in the Constable, Precinct 4 Office.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	No
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	No
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Chief Jimmy Evans stated there has been a 131% increase in citations issued in the first four months of 2021 and there is no dedicated Bailiff for court.

Commissioner Meyers indicated there are eleven staff and it would seem one could be a Bailiff. Commissioner will not support this position.

Item 22 continued - Budget & Finance:

(10) - 5 CIT Deputy positions, Sheriff's Office;

(11) - 2 CIT Sergeant positions, Sheriff's Office:

Moved by Commissioner Prestage, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and carried (4-1), it is ordered to Amend the American Rescue Plan Act Budget to create New Grant Positions, effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 for \$717,960 for five (5) CIT Deputy positions, grade 9 of the Law Enforcement policy group, in the Sheriff's Office and \$347,280 for two (2) CIT Sergeant positions, grade 12 of the Law Enforcement policy group, in the Sheriff's Office.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	No
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Commissioner Meyers indicated there are a lot of needs; however he is concerned the County is adding a lot of people who will end up staying for more than a year. Commissioner Meyers is challenging the spending of taxpayer money.

Commissioner DeMerchant pointed out the CIT positions are for crisis and the County does have an increase in the mental health issues.

(12) - 1 Lifesaving Programs Aide, Animal Services Department:

Moved by Commissioner Prestage, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and carried (4-1), it is ordered to Amend the American Rescue Plan Act Budget to create New Grant Positions, effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 for \$55,590 for one (1) Lifesaving Programs Aide, grade 6 of the Administrative Clerical policy group, in the Animal Services Department.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	No
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Rene Vasquez, Director of Animal Services explained the reason for this position is to help with transporting animals and getting the animals into foster. There has been a tremendous increase in animals that have come into the Animal shelter. The number of dogs has increased from 50 to 150 and for the past three months the intake has been between 550 to 600 animals.

Commissioner Morales thanked Fort Bend Paws who were able to help Fort Bend Animal Services transport 160 animals elsewhere.

Item 22 continued - Budget & Finance:

(13) - 2 Epidemiologist positions, Health & Human Services:

Moved by Commissioner Prestage, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to Amend the American Rescue Plan Act Budget to create New Grant Positions, effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 for \$209,350 for two (2) Epidemiologist positions, grade 12 of the Public Health policy group, in the Health & Human Services Department effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

There were two Epidemiologist, one Senior Data Health Analyst and an Administrative Assistant that were requested initially. The request today is for two Epidemiologist.

D. Take all appropriate action to Amend the American Rescue Plan Act budget by transferring \$500,000 from Fort Bend County Reimbursement to Pandemic Relief Effort, and authorize an amount not to exceed \$500,000 for Hazard Incentive Pay for Emergency Service Districts (ESD) in Fort Bend County. (Fund: American Rescue Plan Act – Pandemic Relief Effort Category)

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner Morales
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to Amend the American Rescue Plan Act budget by transferring \$500,000 from Fort Bend County Reimbursement to Pandemic Relief Effort, and authorize an amount not to exceed \$500,000 for Hazard Incentive Pay for Emergency Service Districts (ESD) in Fort Bend County. (Fund: American Rescue Plan Act – Pandemic Relief Effort Category)

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Judge George stated he approves this item; but would like to keep an open mind for those who may have been missed.

Item 22 continued - Budget & Finance:

- E. Take all appropriate action to create one (1) Child Development Specialist, grade 12 of the Professional Management policy group, in the Behavioral Health Services Department effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024. (Fund: American Rescue Plan Act Grant – Mental Health Initiatives Category)**

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to create one (1) Child Development Specialist, grade 12 of the Professional Management policy group, in the Behavioral Health Services Department effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024. (Fund: American Rescue Plan Act Grant – Mental Health Initiatives Category)

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

- F. Take all appropriate action to create one (1) Housing Coordinator Position, grade 10 of the Professional Management policy group, in the Behavioral Health Services Department effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024. (Fund: American Rescue Plan Act Grant – Mental Health Initiatives Category)**

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to create one (1) Housing Coordinator Position, grade 10 of the Professional Management policy group, in the Behavioral Health Services Department effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024. (Fund: American Rescue Plan Act Grant – Mental Health Initiatives Category)

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Item 22 continued - Budget & Finance:

- G. Take all appropriate action to create one (1) Licensed Psychological Associate Position, grade 12 of the Public Health policy group, in the Behavioral Health Services Department effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024. (Fund: American Rescue Plan Act Grant – Mental Health Initiatives Category)**

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to create one (1) Licensed Psychological Associate Position, grade 12 of the Public Health policy group, in the Behavioral Health Services Department effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024. (Fund: American Rescue Plan Act Grant – Mental Health Initiatives Category)

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

- H. Take all appropriate action to Amend the American Rescue Plan Act Budget by \$1,185,690 to create two (2) Associate Judge Positions for the District Courts effective through September 30, 2024.**

Moved by Commissioner Prestage, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and carried (3-2), it is ordered to Amend the American Rescue Plan Act Budget by \$1,185,690 to create two (2) Associate Judge Positions for the District Courts effective through September 30, 2024.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	No
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	No
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Commissioner Meyers stated there are many retired Judges we could use as visiting Judges. An Associate Judge cannot try a case before a jury unless all parties agree to it. A visiting Judge will have a lot more experience.

Commissioner Morales indicated he called Judge Susan Brown who is the Admin Region Judge for the state. Judge Brown stated these facts could be stated to the court: There are available funds through the state for visiting Judges. There are a number of visiting Judges in Fort Bend County and in Harris County who would prefer to work in Fort Bend County. Matagorda County and Harris County are the only Counties responding to the available funds. Judge Susan Brown stated Fort Bend County has funds available from the state at almost 100% which could be used to fund visiting Judges to take care of the backlog dockets.

Judge Williams, 268th District Court stated the state money for visiting Judges is dwindling. The difference in having an Associate Judge who works every day can take cases on the fly and are Fort Bend County employees. The County does not have as much control over visiting Judges, they may not have the same philosophy as the Judge who sits in the courtroom and their rulings may be different. The case load has doubled since COVID. Judge Williams asked the court to approve the two Associate Judge positions.

Item 22 continued - Budget & Finance:**I. Take all appropriate action to amend the American Rescue Plan Act budget by \$450,000 to conduct engineering studies for the West Fort Bend Water Authority.**

Moved by Commissioner Morales, Seconded by Commissioner Meyers
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to amend the American Rescue Plan Act budget by \$450,000 to conduct engineering studies for the West Fort Bend Water Authority.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

J. Record into the Minutes the amended American Rescue Plan Act Budget dated August 10, 2021.

Moved by Commissioner Prestage, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and carried (3-2), it is ordered to record into the Minutes the amended American Rescue Plan Act Budget dated August 10, 2021, based on the decisions made today.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	No
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	No
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

K. Take all appropriate action to propose the 2021 Tax Rate for Fort Bend County and take a record vote.

Proposed General Fund Tax Rate	\$0.3320
Proposed OPEB Trust Tax Rate	\$0.0100
Proposed Road & Bridge Fund Tax Rate	\$0.0185
Proposed Interest & Sinking Fund Tax Rate	\$0.0778
TOTAL PROPOSED TAX RATE:	\$0.4383

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner Prestage
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered, by record vote, the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.33200 for the General Fund, \$0.0100 for the OPEB Trust Fund, \$0.0185 for the Road & Bridge Fund, and \$0.0778 for the Interest & Sinking Fund for a total Fort Bend County Tax Rate of \$0.4383, which is effectively a 3.11 percent increase in the tax rate.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Item 22 continued - Budget & Finance:

Commissioner Meyers stated the County is reducing the tax rate by six-tenths of a cent.

Pamela Gubbels, Director of Finance and Investments stated the actual decrease in the tax rate is four one-hundredths of a cent.

MOTION PASSES

- L. Take all appropriate action to set public hearings on the proposal to increase the 2021 Tax Rate for Fort Bend County to be conducted on *September 14, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.* in the Commissioners Courtroom, 2nd Floor, in the Historical Courthouse in Richmond, Texas.**

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner Prestage
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to set public hearings on the proposal to increase the 2021 Tax Rate for Fort Bend County to be conducted on September 14, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Courtroom, 2nd Floor, in the Historical Courthouse in Richmond, Texas.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

- M. Take all appropriate action to set public hearings for the FY2022 Proposed Budget for Fort Bend County to be conducted on *September 13, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.* and *September 14, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.* in the Commissioners Courtroom, 2nd Floor, in the Historical Courthouse in Richmond, Texas.**

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner Prestage
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to set public hearings for the FY2022 Proposed Budget for Fort Bend County to be conducted on September 13, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. and September 14, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Courtroom, 2nd Floor, in the Historical Courthouse in Richmond, Texas.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Item 22 continued - Budget & Finance:

N. Take all appropriate action to propose the FY 2022 salaries for Fort Bend County Elected Officials.

Moved by Commissioner Prestage, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve as presented the FY 2022 salaries for Fort Bend County Elected Officials with the noted correction for CCL No. 4.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Pamela Gubbels, Director of Finance and Investments stated there is a correction to schedule presented to the court. County Court at Law Judge No. 4 Proposed FY2022 Annual Salary needs to be changed to \$163,800.

23. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

Take all appropriate action on Amendments to Urban County Qualification Cooperation Agreements between Fort Bend County and the following entities: City of Arcola, City of Beasley, Village of Fairchilds, City of Fulshear, City of Kendleton, City of Meadows Place, City of Needville, City of Orchard, Village of Pleak, City of Richmond, City of Rosenberg, City of Simonton, City of Stafford, City of Sugar Land, and Town of Thompsons; to enable the entities to request grant funds from Fort Bend County for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Programs, for the term FY2022 through FY2024 (September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2025).

Moved by Commissioner Morales, Seconded by Commissioner Prestage
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve Amendments to Urban County Qualification Cooperation Agreements between Fort Bend County and the following entities: City of Arcola, City of Beasley, Village of Fairchilds, City of Fulshear, City of Kendleton, City of Meadows Place, City of Needville, City of Orchard, Village of Pleak, City of Richmond, City of Rosenberg, City of Simonton, City of Stafford, City of Sugar Land, and Town of Thompsons; to enable the entities to request grant funds from Fort Bend County for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Programs, for the term FY2022 through FY2024 (September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2025).

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

24. ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATION:

Take all appropriate action on Fort Bend County Early Voting Schedule and Locations for the November 2, 2021 Special Election to approve proposed Amendments to the Texas Constitution.

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner Morales
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve Fort Bend County Early Voting Schedule and Locations for the November 2, 2021 Special Election to approve proposed Amendments to the Texas Constitution.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

25. ENGINEERING:

Take all appropriate action on Agreement between Fort Bend County and Cinco Landscape Maintenance Association, Inc., regarding landscaping and maintenance in Precincts 3.

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve Agreement between Fort Bend County and Cinco Landscape Maintenance Association, Inc., regarding landscaping and maintenance in Precincts 3.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

26. FACILITIES MANAGEMENT & PLANNING:

Take all appropriate action on Blanket Easement from CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC, for electric distribution and related communication facilities, located at the Emergency Operations Center, 307 Fort Street in Richmond, Texas, Precinct 1.

Moved by Commissioner Morales, Seconded by Commissioner Prestage
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve Blanket Easement from CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC, for electric distribution and related communication facilities, located at the Emergency Operations Center, 307 Fort Street in Richmond, Texas, Precinct 1.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

27. FAIRGROUNDS:

- A. Take all appropriate action on Memorandum of Understanding between Fort Bend County and Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, Inc. (HLSR) for use of additional equipment for the National Brahman Show to be held at the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds.**

Moved by Commissioner Morales, Seconded by Commissioner Prestage
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve Memorandum of Understanding between Fort Bend County and Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, Inc. (HLSR) for use of additional equipment for the National Brahman Show to be held at the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

- B. Take all appropriate action to make changes to the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds Fee Schedule regarding clean up fees for the George Pavilion & Barn H Facilities.**

Moved by Commissioner Morales, Seconded by Commissioner Prestage
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve changes to the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds Fee Schedule regarding clean up fees for the George Pavilion & Barn H Facilities.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

28. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES:

Animal Services: Take all appropriate action on Application to Petco Love for grant funds in an amount of \$150,000 for the Animal Welfare Organization Grant, with no cash match required by Fort Bend County and approved as to legal form by the County Attorney's Office.

Moved by Commissioner Morales, Seconded by Commissioner Prestage
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve Application to Petco Love for grant funds in an amount of \$150,000 for the Animal Welfare Organization Grant, with no cash match required by Fort Bend County and approved as to legal form by the County Attorney's Office.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

29. HUMAN RESOURCES:

A. Take all appropriate action on revisions to the Employee Information Manual, specifically Section 709, Sick Leave, as submitted by Human Resources.

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve revisions to the Employee Information Manual, specifically Section 709, Sick Leave, as submitted by Human Resources.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

B. Take all appropriate action to authorize the County Judge to execute Fort Bend County's Texas County & District Retirement System (TCDRS) Plan Authorization for the Plan Year 2022 and consider action on the following items: changes in the plan provisions for non-retirees; Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for retirees; and payment of a rate greater than the TCDRS required rate.

Commissioner Meyers indicated his concern is the County retirees are on a fixed income and unless the court makes any COLA adjustment they will remain on the same fixed income in an environment experiencing rapid increase in inflation which will carry over into the future. A 30% COLA would cost \$900,000 for the retirees. Commissioner would like to move that the County provide a 30% COLA adjustment for our retirees.

Pamela Gubbels, Director of Finance and Investments stated this cost would be for this year and future years. The fund balance may be close to the 25%. The last time a COLA was done was in 2014, with a 10% of CPI and the previous time was in 2009. The recommendation from Human Resources was to make no changes in the plan provisions for non retirees. By providing the 30% COLA adjustment for retirees, it will bring a required employer contribution rate up to 13.95% from 12.33%.

Ed Sturdivant, County Auditor explained the concern of the court in the past has been that increasing the CPI has provided a less significant benefit to the individual retiree. The material impact for the retiree would cost a significant amount to the taxpayers.

This item will remain in the budget; however no action is being made to approve.

No Action

Item 29 continued - Human Resources:

- C. Take all appropriate action on request to create a full time position, Director of Economic Opportunity & Development, Grade 16 of the Professional Management Policy Group in the Economic Opportunity & Development Department, designate this position as an Executive Manager, effective August 10, 2021 and authorize Human Resources to engage a Consultant to identify the most highly qualified candidates. (Fund: American Rescue Plan Act)**

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve request to create a full time position, Director of Economic Opportunity & Development, Grade 16 of the Professional Management Policy Group in the Economic Opportunity & Development Department, designate this position as an Executive Manager, effective August 10, 2021 and authorize Human Resources to engage a Consultant to identify the most highly qualified candidates and present the Consultant to Commissioners Court. (Fund: American Rescue Plan Act)

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Commissioner Morales asked if the County is going out to search for this position and are not eliminating our partnering with Greater Fort Bend EDC.

Judge George stated Human Resources is being authorized to search for the individual.

Commissioner Prestage indicated the partnering with Greater Fort Bend EDC is not in this action. Commissioner would prefer to pick the consultant first and ask HR to find a consultant and decide upon what the job description will be.

30. PARKS & RECREATION:

- A. Take all appropriate action on a request from Foster High School Cross-Country to waive rental fee for use of four (4) pavilions at Jones Creek Ranch Park on August 28, 2021 for a cross-country meet.**

Moved by Commissioner Morales, Seconded by Commissioner Meyers
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve request from Foster High School Cross-Country to waive rental fee for use of four (4) pavilions at Jones Creek Ranch Park on August 28, 2021 for a cross-country meet.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Item 30 continued - Parks & Recreation:

- B. Take all appropriate action on a request from the Literacy Council of Fort Bend to waive rental fees for the use of meeting space at Mustang Park Community Center on August 25, 2021 for ESL and GED student assessments.**

Moved by Commissioner Morales, Seconded by Commissioner Prestage
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve request from the Literacy Council of Fort Bend to waive rental fees for the use of meeting space at Mustang Park Community Center on August 25, 2021 for ESL and GED student assessments.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

31. PURCHASING:

- A. Take all appropriate action on Amendment to Agreement between Fort Bend County and Carter Brothers Consulting, LLP, for additional professional consulting services for the Business Accelerator Program, Phase Two, in an amount of \$736,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,236,000. (Fund: American Rescue Plan Act)**

Moved by Commissioner Prestage, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve Amendment to Agreement between Fort Bend County and Carter Brothers Consulting, LLP, for additional professional consulting services for the Business Accelerator Program, Phase Two, in an amount of \$736,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,236,000. (Fund: American Rescue Plan Act)

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Commissioner Morales asked about a benchmark of success for this item.

Commissioner Prestage stated there has been success and this is the reason for expanding the agreement. Carter Brothers Consulting has more demand for clients.

Ed Sturdivant, County Auditor indicated this company has enhanced the program with what is being proposed now. There are no new statistics because they are in a pause mode until they are given the go ahead to proceed.

Judge George asked if Carter Brothers can give a workshop to explain the expansion and how it will benefit the County.

Item 31 continued - Purchasing:

- B. Take all appropriate action on request to purchase one (1) truck from Lake Country Chevrolet for Community Supervision and Corrections Department, utilizing TIPS Contract Number 200206 in an amount not to exceed \$33,573.05. (Fund: Community Supervision and Corrections Department Grant)**

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve request to purchase one (1) truck from Lake Country Chevrolet for Community Supervision and Corrections Department, utilizing TIPS Contract Number 200206 in an amount not to exceed \$33,573.05. (Fund: Community Supervision and Corrections Department Grant)

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

- C. Take all appropriate action on request by Austin County Commissioner Precinct 4, for purchase of surplus property from Fort Bend County, pursuant to Local Government Code Section 263.152 (a)(1); specifically two (2) Freightliners M2112, and one (1) Chevrolet Silverado 2500 for a total amount of \$40,500.**

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve request by Austin County Commissioner Precinct 4, for purchase of surplus property from Fort Bend County, pursuant to Local Government Code Section 263.152 (a)(1); specifically two (2) Freightliners M2112, and one (1) Chevrolet Silverado 2500 for a total amount of \$40,500.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Item 31 - Continued - Purchasing:

- D. Take all appropriate action on Addendum to Agreement between Fort Bend County and Gateway Printing & Office Supply, Inc., utilizing Cooperative TIPS Contract Number 200301 for purchase of furniture for the Community Supervision and Corrections Department, in an amount not to exceed \$82,227.47. (Fund: Grants-Community Supervision and Corrections Department Supervision)**

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve Addendum to Agreement between Fort Bend County and Gateway Printing & Office Supply, Inc., utilizing Cooperative TIPS Contract Number 200301 for purchase of furniture for the Community Supervision and Corrections Department, in an amount not to exceed \$82,227.47. (Fund: Grants-Community Supervision and Corrections Department Supervision)

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

- E. Take all appropriate action on Addendum to Agreement between Fort Bend County and Vanguard Environments, Inc., utilizing Omnia Cooperative Contract Number R191811 for the purchase of furniture for the Public Safety Annex, in an amount not to exceed \$131,561.51. (Fund: Public Safety Annex Project Funds)**

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve Addendum to Agreement between Fort Bend County and Vanguard Environments, Inc., utilizing Omnia Cooperative Contract Number R191811 for the purchase of furniture for the Public Safety Annex, in an amount not to exceed \$131,561.51. (Fund: Public Safety Annex Project Funds)

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Item 31 continued - Purchasing:

- F. Take all appropriate action to consider granting an exemption to the competitive bid process as authorized by Local Government Code Section §262.024 (a)(7) for the purchase of an item available from only one source, CLEAR Proflex Online Services from Thomson Reuters in an amount not to exceed \$55,042.68 effective through August 9, 2024. (Fund: Multiple County Departments)**

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to grant an exemption to the competitive bid process as authorized by Local Government Code Section §262.024 (a)(7) for the purchase of an item available from only one source, CLEAR Proflex Online Services from Thomson Reuters in an amount not to exceed \$55,042.68 effective through August 9, 2024. (Fund: Multiple County Departments)

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

- G. Take all appropriate action on Design/Build Agreement between Fort Bend County and Bass Construction Company, Inc. for design phase of Paramedic 602 Station in Rosenberg, pursuant to RFP 21-087 in an amount not to exceed \$124,000. (Fund: Advance Funding Resolution)**

Moved by Commissioner Morales, Seconded by Commissioner Prestage
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve Design/Build Agreement between Fort Bend County and Bass Construction Company, Inc. for design phase of Paramedic 602 Station in Rosenberg, pursuant to RFP 21-087 in an amount not to exceed \$124,000. (Fund: Advance Funding Resolution)

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Item 31 continued - Purchasing:

- H. Take all appropriate action on Third Amendment to Agreement for Professional Engineering Services between Fort Bend County and CivilCorp, LLC, to increase the contract by \$18,950.92 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$619,639.98 pursuant to SOQ 14-025; regarding Katy Flewellen, Mobility Bond Project No. 13316, Precinct 3. (Fund: Mobility Bonds)**

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve Third Amendment to Agreement for Professional Engineering Services between Fort Bend County and CivilCorp, LLC, to increase the contract by \$18,950.92 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$619,639.98 pursuant to SOQ 14-025; regarding Katy Flewellen, Mobility Bond Project No. 13316, Precinct 3. (Fund: Mobility Bonds)

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

32. TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR:

Take all appropriate action on request to assign one vehicle: Ford Fusion, Unit No. U042, from Vehicle Maintenance to the Tax Office as an addition.

Moved by Commissioner DeMerchant, Seconded by Commissioner Meyers
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve request to assign one vehicle: Ford Fusion, Unit No. U042, from Vehicle Maintenance to the Tax Office as an addition.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

33. Approve Bills.

Moved by Commissioner Morales, Seconded by Commissioner Prestage
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve bills in the amount of \$5,695,300.16, including routine disbursements of \$4,173,915.63.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

34. Authorize County Auditor to pay and release time-sensitive disbursements on August 19, 2021 to be ratified by Commissioners Court on August 24, 2021.

Moved by Commissioner Morales, Seconded by Commissioner Prestage
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to authorize County Auditor to pay and release time-sensitive disbursements on August 19, 2021 to be ratified by Commissioners Court on August 24, 2021.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

Recess:

Recessed at 2:53 p.m.

35. Meet in Closed Session to deliberate the following matters as authorized by the Texas Government Code:

- A. § 551.071. Consultation With Attorney. Commissioners Court will meet in Closed Session to seek the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation; a settlement offer; or on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to Commissioners Court under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with Texas Government Code Chapter 551.**

Case No. 4:18-CV-01739 Fort Bend County, et al vs. United States Army Corps of Engineers, et al; United States District Court, for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division.

- B. § 551.072. Deliberation Regarding Real Property. Commissioners Court will meet in Closed Session to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person.**

Approximately 4.9 acres of land out of Tract “F” situated in the Alexander Hodge League, Abstract Number 32, Fort Bend County, Texas.

- C. § 551.074. Personnel Matters. Commissioners Court will meet in Closed Session to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee.**

**Annual Evaluation: Road & Bridge Commissioner
Annual Evaluation: County Librarian**

Closed Session:

Convened at 3:09 p.m.
Adjourned at 3:53 p.m.

Reconvene:

Reconvened at 3:57 p.m.

36. Reconvene Open Session and consider taking action on the following matters:

§ 551.071. Consultation With Attorney.

A. Case No. 4:18-CV-01739 Fort Bend County, et al v. United States Army Corps of Engineers, et al; United States District Court, for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division.

Moved by Commissioner Meyers, Seconded by Commissioner DeMerchant
Duly put and unanimously carried (5-0), it is ordered to approve Case Number 4:18-CV-1739 FORT BEND COUNTY, FORT BEND COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT, and CINCO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 v. THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS et. al. ("Corps lawsuit")
Commissioners Court hereby authorizes transferring funds in the additional amount of \$50,000 from Non-Departmental Fees (100409100 - 63000) to County Attorney Fees (100475100 - 63000) to be used for the County's share of attorneys' fees and all expenses incurred by Special Counsel to submit an amicus brief in Cause No. 17-9001L In Re Upstream Addicks and Barker (Texas) Flood Control Reservoirs vs. The United States in the United States Court of Federal Claims asserting the county's position in the "Corps Lawsuit" that public policy interests are better served in not only compensating named Plaintiffs but also requiring the Corps of Engineers to implement solutions to the flooding of properties surrounding the Addicks and Barker Flood Control Reservoirs.

Judge George	Yes
Commissioner Morales	Yes
Commissioner Prestage	Yes
Commissioner Meyers	Yes
Commissioner DeMerchant	Yes

§ 551.072. Deliberation Regarding Real Property.

B. Approximately 4.9 acres of land out of Tract "F" situated in the Alexander Hodge League, Abstract Number 32, Fort Bend County, Texas.

No Action

§ 551.074. Personnel Matters.

**C. Annual Evaluation: Road & Bridge Commissioner
Annual Evaluation: County Librarian**

Commissioners Court did an evaluation and the record of the evaluation will be in the personal file.

37. Adjournment.

Commissioners Court adjourned at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 10, 2021.

Moved by Commissioner Meyers,
to adjourn.

I attest to the accuracy of the foregoing minutes.



Laura Richard, County Clerk, Fort Bend County, Texas