

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

November 13, 2020


Notice is hereby given that a special meeting of the Commissioners Court of Harris County, Texas, will be held on **Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.** virtually, to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings to slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), for the purpose of conducting the local canvass of the November 3, 2020 General and Special Elections and for the purpose of considering and taking action on matters brought before the Court as shown on the posted agenda.

On March 16, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott granted a request by the Texas Attorney General to waive certain requirements of the Texas Open Meetings Act to reduce face-to-face contact relating to government meetings while maintaining government transparency during government meetings in accordance with Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code. Governor Abbott suspended various statutory provisions requiring government officials and members of the public to be physically present at a specified meeting location.

On October 7, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott issued Executive Order GA-32, which directs that all persons not otherwise excepted by the order shall not be in groups larger than ten and shall maintain six feet of social distancing from those not in their group. The public may access the meeting through the following link: <https://agenda.harriscountytexas.gov>. Members of the public are still entitled to participate and address governmental bodies during any telephonic or videoconference meeting. In accordance with the Governor's order, the public may make comments by signing up to speak by no later than Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. at <https://appearancerequest.harriscountytexas.gov/>. You will be placed in a queue and will receive a phone call when it is your time to speak. Agendas may be obtained in advance of the court meeting via the internet at <https://agenda.harriscountytexas.gov>.



Christopher G. Hollins, County Clerk
and Ex-Officio Clerk of Commissioners Court
of Harris County, Texas



James E. Hastings Jr., Director
Commissioners Court Records





HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

COMMISSIONERS COURT 1001 Preston St., Suite 934 ♦ Houston, Texas 77002 ♦ (713) 274-1111

Lina Hidalgo
County Judge

Rodney Ellis
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Adrian Garcia
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Steve Radack
Commissioner, Precinct 3

R. Jack Cagle
Commissioner, Precinct 4

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

November 17, 2020

11:00 a.m.

Opening prayer by Father Victor Perez of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Houston.

I. Department(s)

1. Request by **Budget Management** for approval of:
 - a. An initial budget and authorization to transfer relevant budget, staff, and equipment from the County Clerk and the Tax Assessor-Collector; to work with the County Engineer to allocate designated office space; and any other action necessary and appropriate to establish the Office of the Elections Administrator.
 - b. A Public Official Bond for the Elections Administrator, Isabel Longoria, effective November 18, 2020.
2. Request by the **County Clerk** for adoption of the official canvass for all votes cast in the November 3, 2020 General and Special Elections.
3. Request by the **Purchasing Agent** for approval of an amendment to an agreement with the Justice Management Institute to increase funding in the amount of \$254,394 to provide operational oversight and to implement recommendations from the Pretrial Study.

II. COVID-19

Request by **Budget Management** for approval of an amendment to an agreement on behalf of the CARES Act Committee with Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston to increase funding to \$60 million for the Emergency Direct Assistance Program, and authorization for the County Judge to execute the amendment on behalf of Harris County, subject to County Attorney approval.

III. Executive Session

Request by **Budget Management** for discussion and possible action concerning the compensation of the Director of the Justice Administration Department and Interim Director of Pretrial Services.

IV. Appearances before court

The Clerk of the Court or another person designated by the presiding member of the court shall keep the time for speakers. Those persons who do not conduct themselves in an orderly and appropriate manner will be ordered to leave the meeting and recognition to speak may be refused at subsequent meetings of the court. Refusal to abide by the court's order may result in a Contempt of Court Citation.

1. 3 minutes

A speaker whose subject matter as submitted relates to an identifiable item of business on this agenda will be requested to come to the podium where they will be limited to three minutes. A speaker whose subject matter as submitted does not relate to an identifiable item of business on this agenda will be limited to three minutes if they have not appeared at any of the three preceding court meetings on the same issue.

2. 1 minute

A speaker whose subject matter as submitted does not relate to an identifiable item of business on this agenda and who has appeared at any of the three preceding court meetings on the same issue will be limited to one minute.

Adjournment.