

NOTICE OF AN EMERGENCY PUBLIC MEETING

February 18, 2021

Notice is hereby given that Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo has called an emergency meeting of the Commissioners Court of Harris County, Texas. This emergency meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, February 19, 2021 by telephone conference call for the purpose of considering and taking action on matters brought before the Court as shown on the agenda below.

The emergency or urgent public necessity requiring immediate action of Commissioners Court is the widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from severe weather, including extremely cold temperatures, ice, and snow, resulting from Winter Storm Uri 2021, and the extraordinary measures that must be taken to alleviate the suffering of people and to protect or rehabilitate property.

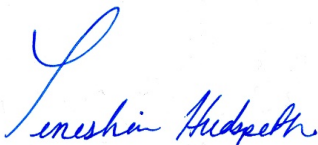
The purpose of this meeting is to consider and take action on the following:

1. Approval of the extension through February 26, 2021, by the Harris County Commissioners Court, of the Declaration of Local Disaster issued by County Judge Lina Hidalgo on February 14, 2021 due to Winter Storm Uri;
2. Discussion of Winter Storm Uri, Harris County's response to this storm, and possible action regarding this storm;
3. Human Resources & Risk Management's request for consideration of adjustments to the payment and compensation for county employees related to the response and recovery of Winter Storm Uri for the pay period beginning February 13, 2021; and
4. Commissioner Precinct 4's request for discussion and possible action regarding debris removal in response to Winter Storm Uri.

Emergency or urgent public necessity items may be published up to one (1) hour before a meeting of Harris County Commissioners Court.

Meetings of the Harris County Commissioners Court are usually held in the Commissioners Court Conference Room on the ninth floor of the County Administration Building, located at 1001 Preston Street, Houston, Texas 77002. During the COVID-19 pandemic, meetings have been held virtually to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings to slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). 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.

This emergency meeting of the Harris County Commissioners Court will not be an in-person meeting. This emergency meeting will be held by telephone conference call. Members of the public are still entitled to participate and address governmental bodies during any telephonic or videoconference meeting. The public may view the meeting via: <https://www.harriscountytexas.gov/Government/Court-Agenda/Court-Videos>. Members of the public are reminded that the Harris County Commissioners Court is a Constitutional Court, created by the State with judicial, administrative and legislative powers. As such, the Harris County Commissioners Court possesses the authority to issue Contempt of Court citations. Accordingly, persons shall conduct themselves with proper respect and decorum in addressing the Court, in participating in public discussions before the Court, and in all actions in the presence of the Court. Profane, insulting or threatening language, racial, ethnic or gender slurs or epithets will not be tolerated. 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 Courts Order may result in a Contempt of Court Citation. In accordance with the Governor's order, the public may make comments by signing up to speak by no later than 8:00 a.m. on Friday, February 19, 2021 at <https://appearancerequest.harriscountytexas.gov/>. Members of the public who sign up to speak may access the meeting from this **meeting link:** <https://harriscounty.webex.com/harriscounty/j.php?MTID=m2ba0c8158d0d1686ba4392601f0d0af3>. The public may also join the meeting **by phone:** +1-408-418-9388 (United States Toll) or **Global call-in numbers;** using the following **meeting number and password:** Meeting number (access code): 187 704 9161 and Meeting password: hHD5DHxd75. Upon joining the meeting, you will be placed in a queue and your name will be called 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>.



Teneshia Hudspeth, County Clerk
and Ex-Officio Clerk of Commissioners Court
of Harris County, Texas



James E. Hastings Jr., Director
Commissioners Court Records

