

BE IT REMEMBERED that on Monday, June 29, 2026, the Commissioner Court of Howard County met in Workshop Session at 9:00 AM with RANDY JOHNSON, County Judge, as the Presiding Officer. The following members were present: Commissioner Pct. 2, Cash Berry; Commissioner Pct. 3, Jimmy Long; Commissioner Pct. 4, Doug Wagner and County Judge, Randy Johnson. Commissioner Pct. 1, Eddilisa Ray was not present at this meeting.

Judge Randy Johnson Lead the Court in Prayer and Called the Workshop to Order at 9:01 AM.

There were no registrations for public comment at this meeting.

Jim P. Allison of Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP, addressed the Court to provide a comprehensive overview of recent changes to economic development policies and the specific regulatory limitations placed on county governments. Mr. Allison provided an explanation of the property tax codes and government codes governing economic development, specifically focusing on Chapter 312 tax abatements, Chapter 381 economic development agreements, and Payments in Lieu of Taxes. He also gave clarification on the distinct legal differences between city and county authorities regarding land use and zoning. Mr. Allison noted that county governments lack the statutory authority to implement zoning or directly deny data center developments, as counties can only regulate specific permitted entities, which do not currently include data centers. He provided an overview and answered questions regarding the existing Chapter 381 economic development agreement with Crusoe Energy. This item was presented for discussion purposes only. No formal action was taken by the Court.

The Court moved into Executive/Closed Session to consult with legal counsel related to Economic Development Negotiations pursuant to Tex. Gov. Code, Sec. 551.071 and 551.087 from 9:50 AM to 11:40 AM. No Action was taken related to the closed session.

With no opposition from other members of the court, Judge Johnson skipped down to item 3a.

Stan Parker, County Sheriff, spoke to the court about the benefits and answered questions related to a resolution he presented about flock camera systems. A motion was made by Commissioner Pct. 3 Long and seconded by Commissioner Pct.4 Wagner to Approve the Resolution of the County Commissioners of the County of Howard, Texas authorizing the County Sheriff to Enter into a Multiple Use Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation Allowing the Installation and Operation of Automated License Plate Recognition Cameras in Texas Department of Transportation Right- of-Ways, as presented by Stan Parker, County Sheriff. A vote was taken and 4 members of the Court voted "AYE" with None voting "NAY." Motion carried.

The Court then moved back up to item 2c.

County Sheriff Stan Parker and Jail Chief Natalie Oliver addressed the Court regarding critical space and budgetary concerns stemming from overpopulation at the county jail facility. They detailed the escalating financial burden of housing local inmates in surrounding county facilities due to current capacity constraints. While emphasizing that this spike is a temporary issue rather than a permanent trend, they advised the Court that adjustments be made to the upcoming fiscal year budget to ensure the county is adequately prepared to cover these ongoing housing costs. Rachel Long, County Auditor, presented the court with updated budget forms and went over a few changes in the proposed budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. Both of these items were presented for discussion purposes only. No formal action was taken by the Court.

Future Items/Events:

- Next meeting is July 13, 2026, with 9AM Workshop and 10 AM Regular Session
- Meeting with Representatives from West Texas Centers and Victim Services on July 13th.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:04 PM

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HOWARD

I, Jury Padron, Howard County Clerk, attest that the foregoing is a true and accurate accounting of the Commissioners Court authorized proceedings for June 29, 2026.



Jury Padron, Howard County Clerk
Clerk of the Commissioners Court
Howard County, Texas