

BE IT REMEMBERED that on Monday, July 27, 2026, the Commissioner Court of Howard County met in Workshop Session at 9:00 AM, in Regular Session at 10:00 AM and in Workshop Session at 1:30 PM with RANDY JOHNSON, County Judge, as the Presiding Officer. The following members were present: Commissioner Pct. 2, Cash Berry; Commissioner Pct. 4, Doug Wagner and County Judge, Randy Johnson. Commissioner Pct. 1, Eddilisa Ray and Commissioner Pct. 3, Jimmy Long were not present.

Judge Johnson Opened in Prayer and Called the Meeting to Order at 9:02 AM.

The Commissioners' Court continued its annual meetings for organizations receiving County financial contributions exceeding \$6,000. Tammy Schrecengost from the Heritage Museum, who was unable to attend the July 13, 2026, meeting, was present for this session. Ms. Schrecengost updated the court on funding allocations, expenditures, and the overall utilization of Howard County donations. The court and Ms. Schrecengost also discussed potential celebrations for the upcoming 150th anniversary of Howard County's creation. Additionally, Ms. Schrecengost highlighted an upcoming "A Night at the Museum" event taking place on August 8 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., encouraging the public to attend. This was a discussion item only, and the court took no formal action.

The Court Recessed at 9:39 AM and Reconvened in Regular Session at 10:02 AM.

Judge Johnson led the opening pledges and provided the court with a recap of the preceding workshop session.

There were no registrations for public comment at this meeting.

With no objection from the other members of the Court, Judge Johnson moved items 2a. and 2b. and 7a. to the end of the regular session.

There were no budget items related to the library renovation project. County Judge Johnson provided updates on the construction project, noting that the carpet and flooring work will take place in August. This work will require the building to close to the public for approximately two and a half weeks, starting August 3. During the closure, staff will continue serving the public through curbside service, telephone contact, and off-site meetings. Judge Johnson encouraged Howard County citizens to follow the library's Facebook page for further updates. This was a Discussion Item and No Action was Taken.

A motion was made by County Judge Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Pct.4 Wagner to Accept the Filing of the Proposed Juvenile Probation Department Budget for the Fiscal Year 2027 as per Local Govt Code 140.004 as presented by Brenda Tubb, Juvenile Probation Officer. A vote was taken and 3 members of the Court voted "AYE" with None voting "NAY." Motion carried.

County Judge Johnson provided an update regarding the announced permanent closure of the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Big Spring, noting that the closure will impact more than 200 local families. Judge Johnson stated that the Commissioners' Court, alongside City of Big Spring and Howard County officials, unanimously executed a joint petition authored by State Representative Drew Darby urging the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to reconsider the decision. To address the potential economic impact, a local leadership focus group was established to manage contingency planning, coordinate rapid-response job fairs with Workforce Development, and communicate with state and federal lawmakers. Mayor Robert Moore is serving as the central point of contact for unified community messaging. Judge Johnson expressed a commitment to supporting all affected families and his hopefulness in keeping them within the Howard County community. This was a discussion item only; no formal action was taken.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pct. 2 Berry and seconded by Commissioner Pct.4 Wagner to Accept the Personnel Report as presented by Abigail Lopez, County Treasurer. A vote was taken and 3 members of the Court voted "AYE" with None voting "NAY." Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pct. 2 Berry and seconded by Commissioner Pct.4 Wagner to Approve the Invoices as presented by Wanda Metcalf, County Assistant Auditor. A vote was taken and 3 members of the Court voted "AYE" with None voting "NAY." Motion carried.

There were no budget amendments presented or considered during this meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pct.4 Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Pct. 2 Berry to Approve Purchase Requests, pending verification of contract amounts by Choice Partners as presented by Wanda Metcalf, County Assistant Auditor. The requests were as follows: Sheriff's Office for an Instructor Class for R. Gammons at \$1,050.00; IT for Email & 365 Backup with Acronis from CDWG at \$3,219.36; Library for Repairs to Air Distribution Systems from James Lane Mechanical at \$45,242.83; District Court for Repairs to Air Distribution Systems from James Lane Mechanical at \$23,315.00; Law Enforcement Center for Repairs to Air Distribution Systems from James Lane Mechanical at \$70,100.23; Court Annex for Repairs to Air Distribution Systems from James Lane Mechanical at \$53,937.95; Courthouse for Repairs to Air Distribution Systems from James Lane Mechanical at \$47,864.23; A vote was taken and 3 members of the Court voted "AYE" with None voting "NAY." Motion carried.

Brian Klinksiek, Road and Bridge Engineer, Provided the Court with Roadway Maintenance Updates; No Action Taken.

Brian Klinksiek, Road and Bridge Engineer, Provided the Court with Fleet Management Updates; No Action Taken.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pct. 2 Berry and seconded by Commissioner Pct.4 Wagner to Approve the Intergovernmental Agreement Between Scurry County and Howard County regarding the housing of Howard County Inmates in the Scurry County Jail as presented by Stan Parker, County Sheriff. A vote was taken and 3 members of the Court voted "AYE" with None voting "NAY." Motion carried.

Future Items/Events:

- Next Budget meeting scheduled on August 3rd.
- Celebration of 150th Howard County Anniversary
- Appointment of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator

The Court entered Executive Session at 10:54 AM pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.072 to discuss agenda items 2a, 2b, and 7a. The Court reconvened in open session at 11:52 AM. No action was taken on any of the items discussed during the closed session.

Court Recessed at 11:55 AM and Reconvened in Workshop Session at 1:34 PM

Andrew Howe, Project Manager, and Bryce Carlile, Civil Engineer, both representing Half, presented a Flood Mitigation Alternatives Report detailing data and plans gathered over recent months to address flooding in the 25th Street area. Mr. Howe and Mr. Carlile also discussed a separate regional plan to assist with statewide flood planning initiatives. They shared localized maps with the Commissioners and Judge to highlight Howard County flood zones and critical areas of concern. Following the Court's review of the visual data and proposed strategies, the Court and Half representatives agreed to schedule a follow-up meeting to further evaluate the mitigation options. This was a discussion item only, no formal action was taken.

Court Adjourned at 3:30 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 July 27, 2026.



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