

City of Hempstead
Commerce and Civic Association Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, April 21st, 2026

Call to Order:

The monthly HCCA meeting was called to order by President Cheryl Hardwick at 6:04 P.M.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:

The invocation was given by Board Member James Garfield, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Member Vicki LeBlanc.

Roll Call of HCCA Board Members:

President Cheryl Hardwick called roll call and HCCA Board Members present were President Cheryl Hardwick, Vice President Melissa Hegemeyer, Secretary Katherine Ward, Treasurer Raul Villarreal, and Board Members James Garfield and Vicki LeBlanc. Absent was Board Members Kenneth Pilcher and Brian Trafton.

Welcome HCCA Members and Visitor's:

President Cheryl Hardwick welcomed the HCCA members and the visitor's attending the meeting.

Sign In Sheet for Attendance and Door Prizes:

President Cheryl Hardwick asked everyone to be sure and sign in so we would have a record of your attendance and to sign up for the door prizes.

Approval of the March 2026 Monthly HCCA Monthly Minutes:

Secretary Katherine Ward made a motion to approve the March 2026 HCCA monthly minutes and a second was made by Board Member Vicki LeBlanc. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Approval of the April 2026 HCCA Treasurers Reports:

Secretary Katherine Ward made a motion to approve the April 2026 Treasurers report, and a second motion was made by Treasurer Raul Villarreal. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Approval of paying the Waller County Express invoice in the amount of \$192.00 for advertising for the Easter in the Park Event:

Board Member James Garfield made a motion to pay the invoice to the Waller County Express in the amount of \$192.00 for advertising for the Easter in the Park event and a second motion was made by Board Member Vicki LeBlanc. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Recognize and Honor the Hempstead High School Band Students:

The HCCA Board recognized and honored each Hempstead High School Band member for their outstanding wins at the State UIL Competition. Each band student was given a gift basket, and a picture was taken with the HCCA Board.

Trombone Trio – Donivan Brannam, Naveah Espinosa, and Damian Vega-Stephens

French Horn Quartet – William Canchola, Christian Vega-Stephens, Octavio Lozoya, and Brianna Rodriguez.

All State Band and going to All State Solo & Ensemble

Damian Vega-Stephens

Recognize and Honor the Hempstead High School Color Guard Team for their 1st Place and Best in Class at Nationals:

The HCCA Board recognized and honored the Hempstead High School Color Guard Team for winning 1st Place and Best in Class at the National Contest, and their sponsors. This was the third year in a row for the Color Guard Team to win the National Contest. Each color guard member and sponsors were given a gift basket, and a picture was taken with the HCCA Board.

Color Guard Members:

Alician Guevara

Liliana Medrano

Sabastinen Guevara

Ja'Mayra Ross

Emely Hernandez

Casey Seets

Meredith Martines Marco

Nayelih Sotelo

Color Guard Sponsors:

Veida Garcia and Anahi Garcia

Recognize and Honor Ronald Walker as the 2026 Hempstead High School Teacher of the Year and for his upcoming retirement:

The HCCA Board recognized and Honored Ronald Walker as the 2026 Hempstead High School Teacher of the Year and for his upcoming retirement from the Hempstead ISD. Mr. Walker was given a gift basket, and a picture was taken with the HCCA Board.

Recognize and Honor Kristie Toliver for being the Hempstead High School 2026 Paraprofessional of the Year and for her upcoming retirement:

The HCCA Board recognized and honored Kristie Toliver for being the Hempstead High School Paraprofessional of the Year and for her upcoming retirement from the Hempstead ISD. Ms. Toliver was given a gift basket, and a picture was taken with the HCCA Board.

Recognize and Honor Veronica Klausmeyer with the Hempstead City Council for Sponsoring the HCCA Easter in the Park Event:

The HCCA Board recognized and honored Veronica Klausmeyer with the Hempstead City Council and thanked her for sponsoring the HCCA Easter in the Park Event. Mrs. Klausmeyer was given a gift basket, and a picture was taken with the HCCA Board.

Recognize Jason Stiltner with his businesses Red Robin Fencing and Blue Jay Dumpster:

The HCCA Board recognized Jason Stiltner with his businesses Red Robin Fencing and Blue Jay Dumpster. Mr. Stiltner talked about the services that he offers with his two businesses. Mr. Stiltner was given a gift basket, and a picture was taken with the HCCA Board.

Presentation of a donation to the Hempstead VFW Post 7104 in the amount of \$500.00:

The HCCA Board presented a donation of \$500.00 to the Hempstead VFW Post 7104, and it was accepted by Tanya Simons and Scott Duncan.

Upcoming HCCA Events for 2026:

President Cheryl Hardwick talked about the upcoming HCCA Events for 2026.

*Hempstead Watermelon Festival 2026 Royalty sign up is coming with sign up meetings on Thursday, April 30th, Monday, May 4th, and Tuesday, May 12th at 6:00 P.M. at the Episcopal Church.

*Memorial Day Parade and Program is Monday, May 25th, 2026.

*Watermelon Festival is on Friday, July 17th and Saturday, July 18th, 2026.

HCCA Membership - \$100.00 for businesses, \$50.00 for non-profit organizations, and \$25.00 for an individual:

President Cheryl Hardwick talked about the HCCA Membership and encouraged everyone to join.

Old Business:

No old business.

New Business:

President Cheryl Hardwick stated that the HCCA and Citizens Coffee and Wine Café were teaming up to provide breakfast and lunch to the Hempstead High School for Teacher's Appreciation Week. She also talked about the upcoming meetings for those that would like to sign up for the Watermelon Royalty for 2026 and there were flyers that they could pick up.

Mr. Ronald Walker the Hempstead High School Band Director stated that there would be an HHS Band car wash on Saturday, April 25th, from 12:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. at the Hempstead Early Childhood Center.

Next Meeting – Tuesday, May 19th, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. at the St Bartholomew's Episcopal Church at 811 14th Street, Hempstead, Texas.

Upcoming Events:

President Cheryl Hardwick talked about the upcoming events in the community.

Hempstead American Legion Post 459 located at 31667 FM 1736 in Hempstead and next to the fire station.

Meetings are held each month on the second Monday of the month at 6:00 P.M.

- Waller County Mudbug Crawfish Boil on Friday, April 24th, 2026, beginning at 5:30 P.M. at the Waller County Fairgrounds in Hempstead.
- Waller County Demolition Derby on Saturday, April 25th, 2025, at the Waller County Fairgrounds in Hempstead. There will also be a Kids Demo Derby with power wheels vehicles.
- Waller County 4-H 74th Annual BBQ & Fundraiser on Saturday, May 16th, 2026, at 11:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. at the Knights of Columbus Hall located at 22892 Mack Washington Lane in Hempstead.
- HCCA Memorial Day Parade and Program to be held on Monday, May 25th, 2026, in downtown Hempstead at the Gazebo. The parade begins at 9:00 A.M. and the program will begin after the parade.
- 36th Annual Watermelon Festival on Friday, July 17th and Saturday, July 18th, 2026.

Door prizes and refreshments were served after the meeting. The door prizes were donated by Melissa Hegemeyer with Hegemeyer Realty and Associates and Julian Alvarez with Texas Premier Residential Services, LLC.:

The door prize winners were Lonnie Garfield, Alician Guevara, Lilliana Medrano, LaMayra Ross, Jason Stiltner, and Nathalee Vargas.

Adjourn:

Board Member James Garfield made a motion to adjourn the monthly HCCA meeting, and a second motion was made by Treasurer Raul Villarreal. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 P.M.

Submitted by Secretary Katherine Ward _____

Approved and signed by President Cheryl Hardwick _____

