

**MINUTES OF APRIL 5, 2001**  
**HOUSTON REAL ESTATE COUNCIL MEETING**

1. **Legislation -**

A. Fort Bend County Planning Authority - A bill has been submitted and is progressing well with significant support from the Ft. Bend Economic Development Council and numerous others that would give the County planning authority well in excess of the jurisdiction that the Houston City Planning commission has.

E. Sub-contractor interest on retainage - The bill has been introduced and is progressing well. It would require all sub-contractors receive interest on retainage. It's our understanding that BOMA is opposing this legislation.

C. West Houston Regional Water Authority - State representative Bill Callegari working with MUDs and developers in the West Houston area has a bill to create a West Houston Regional Water Authority. It is our opinion the bill is superior to the one that created the North Houston Regional Water Authority. It has cleared the House and is headed to the Senate. North Houston Regional Water Authority has submitted what they call a clean-up bill but it did make significant changes they feel are necessary to make their district functional including power of condemnation. It appears this bill will pass handily.

2. **Lt. Governor Ratliff Interview -** An interview was distributed that appeared in the Texas Association of Builders magazine with the Lt. Governor. It appears he will run for the Lt. Governor seat and he will receive significant support from the engineering community across the state.

3. **Landscape Ordinance Committee -** Tommy Friedlander has agreed to serve as our representative to this ordinance committee that will be chaired jointly by Kay Crooker and Rick Rice, members of the City Planning Commission.

4. **City Council Candidates -** A list was distributed showing probable City council candidates. It was decided as it gets closer to election time, we may well interview some of these candidates as apparent leaders surface.

5. **Membership Update -** All but three of our members have paid their 2001 dues.

6. **NPDES Storm Water Update -** Mike Schaffer gave an update and handed out the latest information available. As a reminder it goes into effect in October.

7. **EPA Lawsuit -** Rick Rice gave a report on the EPA lawsuit, West Houston Association has joined many others in this lawsuit. If this suit is not successful, Houston will be severely penalized by losing Federal highway funding.

8. **City of Houston** ▪ 70% Developer Revisions ▪ A copy of the revisions made to the existing ordinance implementation were prepared and distributed by Parke Patterson.

Respectfully submitted,  
James C. Box, Director-Governmental Relations