

Franklin County Commissioners Court
Commissioner Court Minutes
Regular Session
May 8, 2023

The Franklin County Commissioners Court met in Regular Session May 8, 2023, at 9:00 A.M. in the Commissioners Courtroom at the Franklin County Courthouse located at 200 North Kaufman Street, Mount Vernon, Texas.

Members present: Scott Lee, County Judge
Jerry Cooper, Commissioner, Precinct 1
Toby Godfrey, Commissioner, Precinct 2
Charlie Emerson, Commissioner, Precinct 3
Scott Smith, Commissioner, Precinct 4
Brook Bussell, County Clerk

VISITORS: Tim Dial, Landon Ramsay, Marla White, Paris Tillery, Melissa McSwain Clawson, Katie Elliott, Brantin Carr, Ricky Jones, Robert Zinn, Bob Stinson, Ralph Robertson, Susan Olsen, Mike Ramin, Glenda Pollock, Mike Millender, Mary McLennan, Kathy Boren, Gary Boren, David Truesdale, Betty Austin, Tom Austin, and Velvet Coberley.

Judge Lee called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M., and Commissioner Smith offered prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag was recited.

Public Comments: Judge Lee addressed the commissioners and audience regarding rules and decorum of Commissioners Court. No further public comments were made.

Agenda Item 1 - APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 24, 2023 REGULAR SESSION AND APRIL 24, 2023 WORKSHOP SESSION – COUNTY CLERK -
Commissioner Emerson made a motion to approve the April 24, 2023, Regular Session Minutes, and the April 24, 2023, Workshop Session Minutes. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Agenda Item 2 - AUDIT CLAIMS AGAINST THE COUNTY AND AUTHORIZE THEIR PAYMENT – TREASURER – Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve payment of the claims against the county as presented, and Commissioner Emerson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 05/08/2023 – A

Agenda Item 3 – SECOND READING: REPLAT LOT WF1R-2 PHASE 2 TWIN COVE ESTATES – RALPH ROBERTSON FOR WKN TRUST CYPRESS, LLC – Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the second reading of the replat of Lot WF1R-2 Phase 2 Twin Cove Estates, and was seconded by Commissioner Emerson. Motion carried 4-0.
See Plat Cabinet #

Agenda Item 4 – RECORD MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 9, 2022 SESSION OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BAIL BOND BOARD – COUNTY CLERK – Minutes from the June 9, 2022, session of the Franklin County Bail Bond Board were presented to be put on record.

See Exhibit 05/08/2023– B

Agenda Item 5 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING OATH OF OFFICE AND BOND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR – TAX A/C –

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Oath of Office and Bond for Melissa McSwain Clawson, Franklin County Tax Assessor/Collector. Commissioner Emerson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 05/08/2023 – C

Agenda Item 6 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING ANTI-BRIBERY STATEMENTS, OATHS OF OFFICE AND DEPUTATIONS APPOINTING CRISTI GONZALEZ TO POSITION OF CHIEF DEPUTY TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR AND LAURA RHOADES TO POSITION OF DEPUTY TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR – TAX

A/C – Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Anti-bribery Statements, Oaths of Office, and Deputations appointing Cristi Gonzalez to the position of Chief Deputy Tax Assessor/Collector and Laura Rhoades to the position of Deputy Tax Assessor/Collector. Commissioner Emerson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 05/08/2023 – D

Agenda Item 7 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING LISTING SURPLUS EQUIPMENT WITH AUCTIONEER EXPRESS – PRECINCT 2 –

Commissioner Emerson made a motion to approve listing surplus equipment with Auctioneer Express. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Agenda Item 8 – RECORD CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION FOR TAC CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS TRAINING FOR KATIE ELLIOTT AND LANDON RAMSAY – COUNTY JUDGE

–Certificates of Completion for TAC Cybersecurity Awareness Training for Katie Elliott and Landon Ramsay were presented to be put on record within the Minutes.

See Exhibit 05/08/2023 – E

Agenda Item 9 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING WITHDRAWING \$258,000 FROM ACCOUNT WITH FINANCIAL NORTHEASTERN SURETIES, INC., AND DEPOSITING INTO THREE CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT – COUNTY

TREASURER – Commissioner Emerson made a motion to approve withdrawing \$258,000 from account with Financial Northeastern Sureties, Inc., and depositing into three certificates of deposit. Second was made by Commissioner Smith. Motion carried 4-0.

Agenda Item 10 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON CONDUCTING ANNUAL REVIEW OF FRANKLIN COUNTY INVESTMENT POLICY AND APPROVING RESOLUTION OF ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY INVESTMENT POLICY – COUNTY TREASURER

– Commissioner Cooper made a motion to conduct an annual review of the Franklin County Investment Policy and to approve the resolution of annual review of the Franklin County Investment Policy. Commissioner Emerson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 05/08/2023 – F

Agenda Item 11 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON OPENING AND AWARDING BIDS SUBMITTED FOR DEMOLITION OF PROPERTY FORMERLY KNOWN AS TERRY HAVEN NURSING AND REHABILITATION LP, LOCATED AT 424 US HWY 67 W, MT. VERNON, TX 75457 – COUNTY JUDGE

– Only one bid was received and opened. Commissioner Emerson made a motion to award the bid submitted by Brooksey

Crow in the total amount of \$64,500. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 05/08/2023 – G

Agenda Item 12 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING CONCEPT DRAWINGS AND SITE PLAN FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY ANNEX WEST – BOB STINSON CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES

– Commissioner Emerson made a motion to approve the concept drawings and site plan for Franklin County Annex West. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Godfrey. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 05/08/2023 – H

DISCUSSION –

- Old Jail building is vacant now that the Extension Agent has relocated to the Annex East building. There are two relatively new A/C units that could be used elsewhere. Arts Alliance has no desire to use the space. Ron Barker would like to come back to the Court with proposal.
- Sheriff Jones informed the Court that the Watch Guard product line currently in use is being discontinued. He has received a quote of \$111,000 for the new software including cloud storage. He prefers to physically maintain his own server and cost would also be cheaper. He is exploring others options as well.
- HOT Funding Applications are due May 16, 2023. Hearings are scheduled for May 22, 2023, at 2:00 PM.

Agenda Item 13 – ADJOURN – Commissioner Emerson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:34 A.M.

I, Brook Bussell, County Clerk, certify that this is an accurate accounting of the proceedings of the Commissioners' Court Regular Session on May 8, 2023.

Witnessed and recorded this 17th day of May, 2023.

Brook Bussell, County Clerk