

Franklin County Commissioners Court
Commissioner Court Minutes
Emergency Session
May 24, 2023

The Franklin County Commissioners Court met in an Emergency Session May 24, 2023, at 2:00 P.M. in the South Lobby of the Franklin County Law Enforcement Center located at 208 TX Highway 37, 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: Melissa Clawson, Janet Middleton, Marla White, Yesi Castro, Haily Rodriguez, Chance Crane, Ricky Jones, Landon Ramsay, Robert Zinn, Bob Stinson, Ellen Jagers, Brantin Carr, Seth Bryan (Kaybro), Clint Cooper, and Katie Elliott.

Judge Lee called the meeting to order at 2:01 P.M., and Commissioner Smith offered prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag was recited.

Public Comments: None

Agenda Item 1 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING TEMPORARILY CLOSING THE FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE DUE TO EMERGENCY STRUCTURAL DAMAGE TO BELL TOWER – COUNTY JUDGE – Bob Stinson gave an update on the damage and repairs thus far. The structural engineer that he contacted, Dave Gillespie, has assessed the situation. The immediate threat of the counterweight falling further has been resolved. New projected date for reopening the courthouse is Monday, June 5, 2023, if all goes according to plan. Estimated cost of repairs is approximately \$60,000.00 per the first report by the insurance adjuster. Due to possible liability issues, the building will remain closed until repairs are complete and fire suppression system is functioning properly. Most offices will remain closed until June 5th. The District Clerk will relocate to the Law Enforcement Center, and the County Clerk will relocate to the Annex East building. Future possibilities regarding clock and bell tower were discussed. No official vote or action taken.

Agenda Item 2 – ADJOURN – Commissioner Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Godfrey seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:48 P.M.

I, Brook Bussell, County Clerk, certify that this is an accurate accounting of the proceedings of the Commissioners Court Emergency Session on May 24, 2023.

Witnessed and recorded this 5th day of June, 2023.

Brook Bussell, County Clerk