

Franklin County Commissioners Court  
Commissioner Court Minutes  
Regular Session  
August 28, 2023

The Franklin County Commissioners Court met in Regular Session August 28, 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:** Katie Elliott, Paris Tillery, Marla White, Yesi Castro, Lisa Lawrence, Melissa Clawson, Robert Zinn, Brantin Carr, Ricky Jones, Susan Olsen, Kathy Boren, Gary Boren, Lillie Bush-Reves, Mike Millender, Glenda Pollock, Linda Hammond, Mary McLennan, Joel Dihle, and Laurie Dihle.

Judge Lee called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. Commissioner Smith offered prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag was recited.

**Public Comments:**

None

**Agenda Item 1 – APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 14, 2023 REGULAR SESSION; AUGUST 14, 2023 WORKSHOP SESSION; AND THE AUGUST 21, 2023 SPECIAL SESSION– COUNTY CLERK –** Commissioner Emerson made a motion to accept all minutes as presented. Commissioner Cooper 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 Godfrey seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**See Exhibit 08/28/2023 – A**

**Agenda Item 3 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING JULY 2023 MONTHLY REPORTS – COUNTY TREASURER –** Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the July 2023 monthly reports as presented. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Emerson. Motion carried 4-0.

**See Exhibit 08/28/2023 – B**

**Agenda Item 4 – RECORD FIXED SALARY ORDER FOR THE 62<sup>ND</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT REPORTER – COUNTY JUDGE –** The Fixed Salary Order for the 62<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District Court Reporter was recorded as presented.

**See Exhibit 08/28/2023 – C**

**Agenda Item 5 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING QUOTES/PROPOSALS FROM TYLER TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE FOLLOWING: EMARRIAGE MODULE, VITALS ACCESS, RECORDS MANAGEMENT PUBLIC ACCESS AND RECORDING ACCESS – COUNTY CLERK** – Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the quotes/proposals from Tyler Technologies for the eMarriage Module, Vitals Access, Records Management Public Access, and Recording Access. This will be paid for out of the County Clerk's Record Retention fund. Motion seconded by Commissioner Smith. Motion carried 4-0.  
**See Exhibit 08/28/2023 – D1, D2, D3, and D4**

**Agenda Item 6 – RECORD MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 25, 2023 AND JUNE 22, 2023 SPECIAL SESSIONS OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BAIL BOND BOARD – COUNTY CLERK** – The minutes from the April 25, 2023 and June 22, 2023 Special Sessions of the Franklin County Bail Bond Board were recorded as presented.  
**See Exhibit 08/28/2023 – E1 and E2**

**Agenda Item 7 – RECORD MINUTES FROM THE MAY 15, 2023 SESSION OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY CHILD WELFARE BOARD – LINDA HAMMOND** – Minutes from the May 15, 2023 session of the Franklin County Child Welfare Board were recorded as presented.  
**See Exhibit 08/28/2023 – F**

**Agenda Item 8 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING THE 2023-2024 FRANKLIN COUNTY CHILD WELFARE BOARD BUDGET – LINDA HAMMOND** – Commissioner Emerson made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Franklin County Child Welfare Board budget. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.  
**See Exhibit 08/28/2023 – G**

**\*Agenda Items 9 and 10 were switched at the request of Linda Hammond. Item 10 needed to be voted on before approving Item 9.**

**\*Agenda Item 10 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING EXTENDING THE FRANKLIN COUNTY CHILD WELFARE BOARD TERMS OF HEATHER STRICKLAND AS VICE PRESIDENT AND DEBBIE NEWSOM AS BOARD MEMBER – LINDA HAMMOND** – Commissioner Emerson made a motion to approve extending the Franklin County Child Welfare Board terms of Heather Strickland as Vice President and Debbie Newsom as member. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Godfrey. Motion carried 4-0.

**\*Agenda Item 9 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING THE 2023-2024 OFFICERS OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY CHILD WELFARE BOARD – LINDA HAMMOND** – Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 officers of the Franklin County Child Welfare Board as presented. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.  
**See Exhibit 08/28/2023 – H**

**Agenda Item 11 – CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING ON RENEWAL OF THE COUNTY CLERK'S ARCHIVAL PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION RECORDS PLAN, AS PER GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 118.025 – COUNTY CLERK** – Judge Lee convened the public hearing at 9:15 A.M. and closed at 9:16 A.M. with no public comments.

**Agenda Item 12 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING THE COUNTY CLERK’S ARCHIVAL PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION RECORDS PLAN – COUNTY CLERK** – Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the County Clerk’s Archival Preservation and Restoration Records Plan as presented. Commissioner Godfrey seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.  
**See Exhibit 08/28/2023 – I**

**Agenda Item 13 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING THE 2024 REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC ELECTION JUDGES, ALTERNATE JUDGES AND ELECTION WORKERS – ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR** – Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the 2024 Republican and Democratic Election Judges and Alternate Judges as presented. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Emerson. Motion carried 4-0.  
**See Exhibit 08/28/2023 – J**

**Agenda Item 14 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING QUOTE FROM HOLT CAT FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE CATERPILLER 120LVR MOTOR GRADER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$314,695.63 AND QUOTE FROM CONROY TRACTOR FOR THE PURCHASE ON ONE NEW HOLLAND B95D BACKHOE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$108,003.20 – PRECINCT 2 & PRECINCT 4** – Commissioner Emerson made a motion to approve the quotes from Holt Cat for the purchase of one Caterpillar 120LVR Motor Grader in the amount of \$314,695.63 and from Conroy Tractor for the purchase of one New Holland B95D Backhoe in the amount of \$108,003.20. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cooper. Motion carried 4-0.  
**See Exhibit 08/28/2023 – K1 and K2**

**Agenda Item 15 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING PROPOSAL FROM A&S AIR CONDITIONING, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE BRYANT 10-TON UNIT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,400.00– SHERIFF** – Commissioner Emerson made a motion to approve the proposal from A&S Air Conditioning, Inc., for the purchase of one Bryant 10-ton unit in the amount of \$22,400.00. Commissioner Cooper seconded the motion. Funds will come out of General Fund balance with a future budget amendment. Motion carried 4-0.  
**See Exhibit 08/28/2023 – L**

**Agenda Item 16 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING 2024 ELECTED OFFICIALS’ SALARIES AND TRAVEL ALLOWANCES – COUNTY JUDGE** – Per request by Marla White, Commissioner Emerson made a motion to table Agenda Items 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, and 22. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cooper. Motion carried 4-0.

**Agenda Item 17 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING 2024 PAY RATE STEP PLAN FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES – COUNTY JUDGE** – Per request by Marla White, Commissioner Emerson made a motion to table Agenda Items 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, and 22. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cooper. Motion carried 4-0.

**Agenda Item 18 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING 2024 CERTIFICATE PAY FOR ACTIVE PEACE OFFICERS, DISPATCHERS AND JAILERS – COUNTY JUDGE** – Per request by Marla White, Commissioner Emerson made a motion to table Agenda Items 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, and 22. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cooper. Motion carried 4-0.

**Agenda Item 19 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING ADOPTION OF 2024 FRANKLIN COUNTY SHERIFF’S AND CONSTABLE’S FEES, INCLUDING ANY CHANGES, AS REQUIRED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 118.131 – COUNTY JUDGE** – Sheriff and Constable stated no changes to the fees. Commissioner Emerson made a motion to approve the adoption of the 2024 Franklin County Sheriff’s and Constable’s Fees. Commissioner Godfrey seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**Agenda Item 20 – DISCUSS AND CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ADOPTION OF THE 2024 COUNTY BUDGET AND 2023 TAX RATE – COUNTY JUDGE** – Per request by Marla White, Commissioner Emerson made a motion to table Agenda Items 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, and 22. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cooper. Motion carried 4-0.

**Agenda Item 21 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING ADOPTION OF THE 2024 FRANKLIN COUNTY BUDGET – COUNTY JUDGE** – Per request by Marla White, Commissioner Emerson made a motion to table Agenda Items 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, and 22. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cooper. Motion carried 4-0.

**Agenda Item 22 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING THE 2023 TOTAL TAX RATE OF 0.38336, WHICH IS A 0.02649 INCREASE OF THE NO NEW REVENUE RATE OF 0.35687, TO FUND THE 2024 FRANKLIN COUNTY BUDGET – COUNTY JUDGE** – Per request by Marla White, Commissioner Emerson made a motion to table Agenda Items 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, and 22. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cooper. Motion carried 4-0.

**DISCUSSION:**

- Upcoming workshop at 2:00. Judge Lee requested all elected officials attend. Need to discuss credit card usage, policy manual, holiday calendar, comp time, etc.
- Update on dirt at the Sports Complex.
- Possible burn ban.

**Agenda Item 23 – ADJOURN** – Commissioner Emerson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:33 A.M.

I, Brook Bussell, County Clerk, certify that this is an accurate accounting of the proceedings of the Commissioners’ Court Regular Session on August 28, 2023.

Witnessed and recorded this 7th day of September, 2023.

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Brook Bussell, County Clerk