

Franklin County Commissioners Court
Commissioner Court Minutes
Regular Session
March 25, 2024

The Franklin County Commissioners Court met in Regular Session March 25, 2024, at 9:00 AM 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: Paris Tillery, Melissa Clawson, Joe Shadbolt, Marla White, Yesi Castro, Russell McCurdy, Ricky Jones, Brantin Carr, Max Cannaday, Kathy Boren, Gary Boren, Pat Wright, Diana Duckworth, Mike Millender, Ralph Robertson, Merle Luster (ATCOG), Debbie Carrell, Bill Wilson, Charlie Wilson, Mary McLennan, Linda Hammond, Gerald Ezelle, Elizabeth Ezelle, Mike Ramin, Rea Allen (ATCOG), Samantha Davis (ATCOG), and Allen Fisher.

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

Public Comments: No public comments offered.

Agenda Item 1 – APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 11, 2024 REGULAR SESSION; MARCH 14, 2024 SPECIAL SESSION; AND MARCH 22, 2024 SPECIAL SESSION – COUNTY CLERK – Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Emerson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Agenda Item 2 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE MONTHLY REPORTS – COUNTY TREASURER – Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Godfrey seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 03/25/2024 – A

Agenda Item 3 – 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 03/25/2024 – B

Agenda Item 4 – RECORD V.G. YOUNG INSTITUTE OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATES OF COMPLETION AWARDED TO TOBY GODFREY, CHARLIE EMERSON, AND SCOTT SMITH – COUNTY JUDGE – The V.G. Young Institute of County Government Certificates of Completion awarded to Toby Godfrey, Charlie Emerson, and Scott Smith were recorded as presented

See Exhibit 03/25/2024 – C

Agenda Item 5 – FIRST READING OF PLAT FOR CADDO POINT SUBDIVISION – RALPH ROBERTSON ON BEHALF OF GERALD EZELLE – Commissioner Emerson made a motion to approve the first reading of the plat for Caddo Point Subdivision. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith. Motion carried 4-0.

Agenda Item 6 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE CHILD CARE PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR THIS LITTLE LIGHT LEARNING CENTER – DEBBIE CARRELL – Debbie Carrell presented information regarding the Child Care Tax Relief. After discussion, Commissioner Emerson made a motion to approve a 100% tax exemption for This Little Light Learning Center. Commissioner Cooper seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 03/25/2024 – D

Agenda Item 7 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR TAX COLLECTION BETWEEN FRANKLIN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, FRANKLIN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT, MOUNT VERNON ISD, WINNSBORO ISD, SULPHUR BLUFF ISD, AND SALTILLO ISD – TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR – Commissioner Emerson made a motion to approve the Interlocal Cooperation Agreements for Tax Collection between Franklin County and the following entities: The City of Mount Vernon, Franklin County Water District, Mount Vernon ISD, Winnsboro ISD, Sulphur Bluff ISD, and Saltillo ISD. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 03/25/2024 – E

Agenda Item 8 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR SHERIFF'S OFFICE EQUIPMENT – COUNTY AUDITOR – Commissioner Emerson made a motion to approve the budget amendment for the body cams, in-car recording systems, and evidence storage for the Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Cooper seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 03/25/2024 – F

Agenda Item 9 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE BOND FOR HAILY RODRIGUEZ IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000.00 – COUNTY JUDGE – Commissioner Emerson made a motion to approve the Bond Continuation Certificate in the amount of \$5,000.00 for Haily Rodriguez. Commissioner Godfrey seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 03/25/2024 – G

Agenda Item 10 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE 2024-2025 FRANKLIN COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BUDGET – RUSSELL MCCURDY – Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Franklin County Appraisal District budget. Commissioner Emerson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 03/25/2024 – H

Agenda Item 11 – ROTARY BIKE RIDE INFORMATION – PAT WRIGHT – Pat Wright and Diana Duckworth presented information about the 2024 Rotary Tour De Cypress Bike Ride and the Heroes Barbeque.

See Exhibit 03/25/2024 – I

Agenda Item 12 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT FOR JOINT ELECTION SERVICES WITH SULPHUR BLUFF ISD AND APPROVE FOR POSTING IN THE MOUNT PLEASANT TRIBUNE FOR THE NOTICE OF ELECTION FOR SULPHUR BLUFF ISD – ELECTION ADMINISTRATOR –

Agenda Item 13 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT FOR JOINT ELECTION SERVICES WITH MOUNT VERNON ISD AND APPROVE FOR POSTING IN THE MOUNT PLEASANT TRIBUNE FOR THE NOTICE OF ELECTION FOR SULPHUR BLUFF ISD – ELECTION ADMINISTRATOR – Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Contracts for Joint Election Services with both Sulphur Bluff ISD and Mount Vernon ISD, and to approve posting both Notices of General Election in the Mount Pleasant Tribune. Commissioner Emerson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 03/25/2024 – J

Agenda Item 14 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE DESIGNATION OF EARLY VOTING CLERK FOR HAILY RODRIGUEZ FOR THE MAY 4, 2024 ELECTIONS – ELECTION ADMINISTRATOR – Commissioner Emerson made a motion to approve the Designation of Deputy Early Voting Clerk for Haily Rodriguez for the May 4, 2024, elections. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cooper. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 03/25/2024 – K

Agenda Item 15 – RECORD OFFICIAL RESULTS FROM THE MARCH 5, 2024 JOINT PRIMARY ELECTION – ELECTION ADMINISTRATOR – Official results from the March 5, 2024 Joint Primary Election were recorded as presented.

See Exhibit 03/25/2024 – L

Agenda Item 16 – CONSIDER AND APPROVE MOU BETWEEN ATCOG AND FRANKLIN COUNTY FOR TRANSFER OF EQUIPMENT (RADIO REPEATERS) – COUNTY JUDGE – Commissioner Emerson made a motion to approve the Regional Equipment Transfer MOU between Franklin County and Ark-Tex Council of Governments for (4) Harris 100Watt repeaters for a three-site simulcast p-25 radio system with accessories. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 03/25/2024 – M

Agenda Item 17 – CONSIDER AND APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH ATCOG TO PROVIDE ROAD SIGNS AND INSTALLATION FOR ALL MISSING AND NEW PRIVATE ROADS FOR THE 9-1-1 PROGRAM – RAE ALLEN (ATCOG) – Rae Allen with ATCOG presented information regarding their audit of private roads located within Franklin County. Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the agreement with ATCOG to provide road signs and installation for all missing and new private roads for the 9-1-1 program. Commissioner Emerson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Agenda Item 18 – SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY RAE ALLEN FROM ATCOG – RAE ALLEN – Rae Allen with ATCOG presented Edward Shadbolt, Jr., with the Ark-Tex Council of Governments 2024 Telecommunicator of the Year.

See Exhibit 03/25/2024 – N

Agenda Item 19 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO MOVE THE APRIL 8, 2024 COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING TO TUESDAY APRIL 9, 2024 DUE TO THE ELCLIPSE – COUNTY JUDGE – No action taken.

Discussion:

- Radio station KDDM is coming to Franklin County;
- Exterior lighting at the East Annex, HUB, and Sheriff's Office– get estimates;
- Status of clock tower – Bob Stinson will work on getting report from engineer;
- Courthouse generator – put on next agenda to go out for proposals;
- Handicap parking at the HUB – need to add more ramps for accessibility;
- Kitchen issues at the jail;
- Motor grader for Pct. 2 is ready – put on next agenda;
- Sheriff made the Court aware of the Life Saving Award presented to Deputy Shaniece Hall; and
- Charlie Wilson inquired as to whether or not the Court is ready for her to register the new annex with TDLR. She was told to proceed.

Agenda Item 20 – ADJOURN – Commissioner Emerson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Commissioner Godfrey seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 10:22 AM.

I, Brook Bussell, County Clerk, certify that this is an accurate accounting of the proceedings of the Commissioners' Court Regular Session on March 25, 2024.

Witnessed and recorded this 2nd day of April, 2024.

Brook Bussell, County Clerk