

Franklin County Commissioners Court
Commissioner Court Minutes
Regular Session
January 27, 2025

The Franklin County Commissioners Court met in a Regular Session on January 27, 2025, 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
Scott Newsome, Commissioner, Precinct 3
Scott Smith, Commissioner, Precinct 4
Brook Bussell, County Clerk

VISITORS: Paris Tillery, Marla White, Beth Hedges, Brantin Carr, Melissa Clawson, Lisa Lawrence, Bob Stinson, Kathy Boren, Gary Boren, Mary McLennan, Russell McCurdy, Tom Austin, Mike Rambin, Mike Millender, Sam Young, Charlotte Homer, and Carla Fox.

Judge Lee called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Commissioner Smith offered prayer. The Pledges of Allegiance to the American flag and the Texas flag were recited.

Public Comments: None

Agenda Item 1 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 26, 2024 WORKSHOP, JANUARY 13, 2025 REGULAR SESSION, JANUARY 13, 2025 WORKSHOP, AND THE JANUARY 21, 2025 WORKSHOP – COUNTY CLERK – Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Cooper seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Agenda Item 2 – RECORD MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 25, 2025 BAIL BOND BOARD SPECIAL MEETING – COUNTY CLERK – The minutes from the November 25, 2024 (corrected from 2025) Bail Bond Board Special Meeting were recorded as presented.

See Exhibit 01/27/2025 – A

Agenda Item 3 – AUDIT CLAIMS AGAINST THE COUNTY AND AUTHORIZE THEIR PAYMENTS – COUNTY TREASURER – Commissioner Smith 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 01/27/2025 – B

Agenda Item 4 – RECORD THE COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLERK'S ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS CERTIFICATES OF COMPLETION AWARDED TO BROOK BUSSELL AND ELLEN JAGGERS FOR COMPLETING THE REQUIRED 20 HOURS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR 2024 – COUNTY CLERK AND DISTRICT CLERK – The County and District Clerk's Association of Texas Certificates of Completion awarded to Brook Bussell and Ellen Jagers for completing the required 20 hours of continuing education for 2024 were recorded as presented.

See Exhibit 01/27/2025 – C

Agenda Item 5 – RECORD THE CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION FOR BIRTH REGISTRATION CERTIFICATION AWARDED TO BROOK BUSSELL – COUNTY CLERK – The Certificate of Completion for Birth Registration Certification awarded to Brook Bussell was recorded as presented.
See Exhibit 01/27/2025 – D

Agenda Item 6 – RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 18, 2024 FRANKLIN COUNTY CHILD WELFARE BOARD MEETING – LINDA HAMMOND – The minutes of the November 18, 2024, Franklin County Child Welfare Board Meeting were recorded as presented.
See Exhibit 01/27/2025 – E

Agenda Item 7 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE FRANKLIN COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD MEMBERS – LISA LAWRENCE – Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Franklin County Library Board Members as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Godfrey. Motion carried 4-0.
See Exhibit 01/27/2025 – F

Agenda Item 8 – RECORD FRANKLIN COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES FOR 2024 – LISA LAWRENCE– The Franklin County Library Board minutes for 2024 were recorded as presented.
See Exhibit 01/27/2025 – G

Agenda Item 9 – RECORD DEPUTIZATION OF COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR APPOINTMENTS – TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR – The deputations of the County Tax Assessor/Collector appointments were recorded as presented.
See Exhibit 01/27/2025 – H

Agenda Item 10 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE TAX ABATEMENT POLICY – COUNTY JUDGE – Commissioner Cooper made a motion to continue the original Tax Abatement Policy with removal of the expiration date, and Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Agenda Item 11 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE COUNTY ROAD CROSSING PERMIT REQUEST FROM FARMERS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE – Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the County Road Crossing Permit request from Farmers Electric Cooperative. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Godfrey. Motion carried 4-0.
See Exhibit 01/27/2025 – I

Agenda Item 12 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE CYBERSECURITY COURSE ENROLLMENT FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES – Commissioner Godfrey made a motion to approve the Cybersecurity Course enrollment for county employees, and Commissioner Cooper seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
See Exhibit 01/27/2025 – J

Agenda Item 13 – CONSIDER AND APPROVE PURCHASE OF RANGE AND OVEN FOR HUB – Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the purchase of a range and oven for the HUB at a cost not to exceed \$9,688.00. Commissioner Newsome seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Discussion:

- Commissioner Smith stated he had been in contact with TXDOT regarding regrind materials. There is enough for each precinct to get approximately 10 loads. Some will need to be used at the West Annex. They will all coordinate to pick up on the same day.
- Sports Complex – proposal from 2D Sports will be put on the next agenda.
- ESD – Judge Lee explained the issue with the public notice not being published in time for the public hearing. He also stated the county is exploring funding opportunities and options for the county to assist the fire departments with their needs. Commissioner Smith is working on setting up a meeting with each of the fire chiefs.
- Mary McLennan mentioned having an issue accessing the franklincountyclerk.net website. Clerk explained there have been some issues, but the SSL certificate is up to date and should not pose a security risk. The problem is being addressed.

Agenda Item 14 - ADJOURN - Commissioner Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Godfrey seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:36 AM.

I, Brook Bussell, County Clerk, certify that this is an accurate accounting of the proceedings of the Commissioners Court Regular Session on January 27, 2025.

Witnessed and recorded this 27th day of January, 2025.

Brook Bussell, County Clerk