

Franklin County Commissioners Court
Commissioner Court Minutes
Regular Session
March 10, 2025

The Franklin County Commissioners Court met in a Regular Session on March 10, 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

Members absent: Brook Bussell, County Clerk

VISITORS: Marla White, Marie Redar, Paris Tillery, Yesinia Valenzuela Castro, Melissa Clawson, Beth Hedges, Brantin Carr, Max Cannaday, Pat Wright, Diana Duckworth, Ruth Greene, Cynthia Jones Weidman, Kathy Boren, Gary Boren, Mary McLennan, Russell McCurdy, Mike Rambin, and Bob Stinson.

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 OF THE FEBRUARY 24, 2025 WORKSHOP AND THE FEBRUARY 27, 2025 WORKSHOP – COUNTY CLERK – Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Godfrey seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Agenda Item 2 – 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 03/10/2025 – A

Agenda Item 3 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE 2025-2026 FRANKLIN COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BUDGET – RUSSELL MCCURDY – Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 budget for the Franklin County Appraisal District. Commissioner Newsome seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 03/10/2025 – B

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

See Exhibit 03/10/2025 – C

Agenda Item 5 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION FOR GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY TAX ABATEMENT POLICY STATEMENT – COUNTY JUDGE –

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the Resolution Approving Guidelines and Criteria for Franklin County Tax Abatement Policy. Commissioner Godfrey seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-2, with Judge Lee and Commissioners Cooper and Godfrey voting yes, and Commissioners Newsome and Smith voting no.

See Exhibit 03/10/2025 – D

Agenda Item 6 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE ELIMINATION OF THE COUNTYWIDE POLLING PLACE PROGRAM – ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR –

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Resolution Opposing the Elimination of the Countywide Polling Place Program, Electronic Poll Books, and Electronic Marking Devices. Commissioner Godfrey seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 03/10/2025 – E

Agenda Item 7 – RECORD THE DESIGNATION OF DEPUTY EARLY VOTING CLERK FOR THE MAY 3, 2025 UNIFORM ELECTION DATE – ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR

The Designation of Deputy Early Voting Clerk appointing Angie Jackson as Deputy Early Voting Clerk was recorded as presented.

See Exhibit 03/10/2025 – F

Agenda Item 8 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE TAC AFFORDABLE CARE ACT REPORTING AND TRACKING SERVICE RENEWAL INFORMATION – COUNTY TREASURER –

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the TAC Affordable Care Act Reporting and Tracking Service Renewal Information. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith. Motion carried 4-0.

See Exhibit 03/10/2025 – G

Agenda Item 9 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO POSSIBLY APPROVE A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF MOUNT PLEASANT, TEXAS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, A TYPE A ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO UNDERTAKE A PROJECT WITHIN FRANKLIN COUNTY BY ACQUIRING A CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY TO BE USED FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES WITHIN FRANKLIN COUNTY, TEXAS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE –

After much discussion, no action taken on this item.

Agenda Item 10 – AGRILIFE 4H PROGRAM UPDATE – COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT –

Cynthia Jones Weidman gave an update on behalf of Sarah Brod.

Agenda Item 11 –ROTARY TOUR DE CYPRESS BIKE RIDE UPDATE – PAT WRIGHT–

Diana Duckworth and Pat Wright presented information and a map for the 2025 Rotary Tour de Cypress Bike Ride and Hero BBQ. They have 146 bicyclists signed up so far. Only 7 of 346 finished the ride last year due to inclement weather. They stated the roads look great.

See Exhibit 03/10/2025 – H

Discussion:

- West Annex update.
- City cleanup is scheduled for April 4-11, 2025. Put on future agenda.
- Courthouse geothermal system – waiting on leak(s) to be fixed. Currently no heat and/or air conditioning until repairs are made and system can be pressurized.

Agenda Item 12 - ADJOURN - Commissioner Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Cooper 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 10, 2025.

Witnessed and recorded this 17th day of March, 2025.

Brook Bussell, County Clerk

UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED