

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

The Franklin County Commissioners Court met in a Regular Session on May 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:** Marla White, Paris Tillery, Jennifer Cooper, Max Cannaday, Melissa Clawson, Beth Hedges, Brantin Carr, Ruth Greene, Carla Fox, Mike Millender, Mary McLennan, April Bardwell, Laurie Dihle, Kayla Gentry, Michael Gentry, Frankie Cooper, Linda Hammond, and Lauren Lewis.

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 MAY 5, 2025 WORKSHOP; MAY 7, 2025 SPECIAL SESSION; MAY 12, 2025 REGULAR SESSION; MAY 12, 2025 2:00 PM WORKSHOP; MAY 12, 2025 6:45 PM WORKSHOP; AND THE MAY 19, 2025 SPECIAL SESSION – COUNTY CLERK –** Commissioner Godfrey pointed out a correction that needed to be made to the May 12, 2025 6:45 Workshop, changing the year 2025 to 2026 in third sentence on Item 1 to read “Franklin County will have to wait until **2026** to contribute their part as it is not in the 2025 budget.” Commissioner Godfrey made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Commissioner Cooper seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**Agenda Item 2 – AUDIT CLAIMS AGAINST THE COUNTY AND AUTHORIZE THEIR PAYMENTS – COUNTY TREASURER –** The total amount submitted for approval is \$155,741.99. Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve payment of the claims against the county as presented, and Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**See Exhibit 05/27/2025 – A**

**Agenda Item 3 – APPROVE MONTHLY REPORTS – COUNTY TREASURER –** Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the monthly reports as presented. Commissioner Godfrey seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**See Exhibit 05/27/2025 – B**

**Agenda Item 4 – RECORD INTEREST EARNED IN NORTHEASTERN FINANCIAL SECURITIES FROM MAY 2023 THROUGH MAY 2025 – COUNTY TREASURER –**

County Treasurer Paris Tillery presented information on interest earned for investments she has made through Northeastern Financial Securities covering May 2023 through May 2025, totaling \$25,121.13. The information was recorded as presented.

**See Exhibit 05/27/2025 – C**

**Agenda Item 5 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN TEXSTAR – COUNTY JUDGE –**

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the Application for Participation in TexSTAR. Commissioner Godfrey seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**See Exhibit 05/27/2025 – D**

**Agenda Item 6 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION APPOINTEES FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY – COUNTY JUDGE**

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the County Historical Commission appointees for 2025-2026. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Godfrey. Motion carried 4-0.

**See Exhibit 05/27/2025 – E**

**Agenda Item 7 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO AWARD 2026 HOT FUNDING REQUESTS – COUNTY JUDGE –**

Due to the decrease in available funding, each entity that submitted a request will receive \$5,000 for 2026. Commissioner Godfrey made a motion to approve awarding \$5,000 to the following entities for 2026: Franklin County Youth Baseball/Softball Association, Franklin County Sheriff's Posse, Franklin County Genealogical Society, Mt. Vernon Key Club – CountryFest, SRS Saddlery/Auctions, Franklin County Arts Alliance, Alama Mission Museum, Franklin County Historical Association, Mt. Vernon Music, Rotary – Tour de Cypress, Mount Vernon/Salttillo Young Farmers, Big Dawg Sports, Franklin County Chamber of Commerce, and 2D Sports. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**See Exhibit 05/27/2025 – F**

**\*Agenda Item 9 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPOINT MAX CANNADAY AS FIRE MARSHAL – COUNTY JUDGE –**

Commissioner Smith made a motion to appoint Max Cannaday as the Fire Marshal. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cooper. Motion carried 4-0. \*Item 9 was voted on before Item 8 to have everything in the correct order.

**\*Agenda Item 8 – CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE BOND FOR MAX CANNADAY – COUNTY JUDGE –**

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the bond for Max Cannaday as Fire Marshal, and Commissioner Cooper seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**See Exhibit 05/27/2025 – G**

**Discussion:**

- County Auditor Marla White stated the insurance funds for damage to the flooring in the District Courtroom will be coming in soon, and that bids are needed for the repairs.
- Old fire training facility remodel – Sarah Brod is working on a list of needs to make

it a usable space for the County Extension office, and bids will be obtained. Known needs as of right now are: bathroom(s), heat/AC unit, and creating an office and secure storage area.

- Courthouse generator – No updates from CenterPoint on getting gas hooked up. A quote of \$7,400 was received for a metal fence to go around the generator. Commissioner Smith would like to get a quote for a wood privacy fence before moving forward.
- Judge Lee commended the commissioners on the conditions of their roads.
- Commissioner Smith stated all four precincts working on chip sealing miles of road in precinct 4 last week.
- Legislative updates.
- Commissioner Cooper would like to bring a resolution opposing the Marvin Nichols reservoir to the Court.
- Sports Complex – FCYBSA received a quote of \$8,600 for repairs to 4 scoreboards. The repairs must be made before upcoming tournaments the second and third weekends of June. Schedule a Special Session on Friday, May 30, 2025, at 11:00 AM to approve a budget amendment to take care of this. Michael Gentry said they want to move the storage shed the chalk is stored in to a more central location for better access, and both Commissioner Cooper and Commissioner Godfrey offered assistance in moving it. Mr. Gentry also asked about the awnings for the bleachers and was told they will most likely be put up in the fall.

**Agenda Item 10 - ADJOURN** - Commissioner Newsome made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:57 AM.

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

Witnessed and recorded this 27<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025.

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Brook Bussell, County Clerk