

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HUTCHINSON

On this 9th day of September 2024, A.D., the Commissioners Court met in a Regular Session with the following members present to wit:

Cindy Irwin	County Judge
Gary Alexander	Commissioner Precinct #1
Dwight Kirksey	Commissioner Precinct #2 Arrived at 9:38 a.m.
Ben Bentley	Commissioner Precinct #3
Chris Prock	Commissioner Precinct #4
Kelly Ratliff	County Clerk & Ex-Officio Clerk of Commissioners Court

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER FOR REGULAR MEETING, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

Judge Irwin called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Judge Irwin led the pledge and prayer.

PUBLIC COMMENT; 5 MINUTES PER PERSON (WITH SIGNED PARTICIPATION FORM)

None at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS COMMISSIONERS' COURT MEETING

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE COUNTY AUDITOR'S TABULATED REPORT TO COMMISSIONERS COURT PURSUANT TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE 114.024

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE PAYROLL

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE DISPOSAL OF OBSOLETE OFFICE EQUIPMENT AS REQUESTED BY DEPARTMENTS

ACCEPT CERTIFICATES OF COMPLETION FROM ELECTED OR APPOINTED OFFICIALS

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE REPORTS FROM ELECTED/APPOINTED OFFICIALS REQUIRED BY STATE LGC 114.044

Gary Alexander made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Reports have been made part of the minutes.

REGULAR AGENDA

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION

Ben Bentley made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Gary Alexander. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Proclamation and Notice has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TEXANS FEEDING TEXANS: HOME DELIVERING MEAL GRANT PROGRAM

Chris Prock made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Gary Alexander. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Resolution has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE UPDATES TO HUTCHINSON COUNTY POLICIES

Lesha Krieg, Auditor pointed out the changes to the Purchasing Policy, Travel Policy and Credit Card Policy they are highlighted in yellow.

There was also discussion on:

COUNTY PROVIDED VEHICLE (Suggested placement: Personnel Policy Pg 48 after PERSONAL USE)- After discussion it was decided to update the first sentence containing "will" be changed to "may". This suggested addition of COUNTY PROVIDED VEHICLE has been made part of the minutes

TELEPHONES/CELL PHONES (Personnel Policy, Pg 49) – After discussion it was decided to revise and present again in Commissioners Court.

Ben Bentley made a motion to approve the policy updates, seconded by Chris Prock. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Policies have been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH HANSFORD COUNTY

Gary Alexander made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Chris Prock. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Agreement has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH CARSON COUNTY

Gary Alexander made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Chris Prock. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Agreement has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE PIPELINE CROSSING FOR CHRIS BOGNER

Chris Prock made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Permit has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE RAMP GRANT FOR 2025

Gary Alexander made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Grant has been made part of the minutes.

REVIEW SALARY ORDER FOR JENNIFER RHODEN, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SUPERVISION AND CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT OF THE 84TH & 316TH JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE ANY ARP GRANT PROJECTS

Chris Prock, Commissioner Pct. 4: \$47,691.44 – This project is for cameras at the Hutchinson County Museum that will create a safer museum for all patrons and staff. Currently we have had issues of questionable individuals coming in and causing various situations that are not ideal for a museum. The cameras will hopefully prevent some of these and while they may not all be stopped; video evidence will now be possible if ever needed. The collections will be protected if someone damages or tries to steal any of the items from displays. Chris Prock made a motion to approve the ARP Project for \$47,691.44, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. ARP Project Application has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE BURN BAN OR RESCIND BURN BAN

Jerry Langwell, EMC/County Fire Marshall, reported that the drought index is 502. No action taken at this time.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE REQUESTS FOR USE OF CLUBROOMS AT BORGER LIBRARY OR FRITCH

Chris Prock presented a schedule through 11/9/2024 for the Borger Library Clubroom.
Dwight Kirksey presented a schedule through 9/21/2024 for the Fritch Library Clubroom.
Dwight Kirksey made a motion to approve the schedules, seconded by Chris Prock. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE LINE ITEM CHANGES, TRANSFERS, AND/OR BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Gary Alexander made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Chris Prock. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Orders have been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE ADVERTISING, OPENING, ACCEPTING OR AWARDING BIDS

Captain Hajjar presented bids for the Sheriff Department firearms. Dwight Kirksey made a motion to approve the bid with ProForce Law Enforcement for firearms, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Bids have been made part of the minutes.

Commissioner Ben Bentley requested to go out for bids for seal coating, overlay and restripe for Courthouse parking lot and Courthouse Annex. Ben Bentley made a motion to approve going out for bids for the parking lots, seconded by Dwight Kirksey. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE DONATIONS TO HUTCHINSON COUNTY

None at this time.

DISCUSSION OF COUNTY JUDGES' AND COMMISSIONERS' PRECINCTS DAILY OPERATIONS

Gary Alexander, Commissioner Pct. 1 reported the manufactured home has been set up at the Airport.

Dwight Kirksey, Commissioner Pct. 2 reported the nuisance letters he sent out were successful in his precinct.

Chris Prock, Commissioner Pct. 4 reported he will get a PO for the museum cameras. He is also looking at getting the back wall of the Borger Library fixed from a leaking window and resolving the issue.

Ben Bentley, Commissioner Pct. 3 reported the electrical has been disconnected from all the units on the roof at the Courthouse Annex. The roofers can get started in the next couple of weeks. The coolers from inside the Courthouse Annex will be scrapped and the amount made will be taken to Lesha Krieg, Auditor.

Judge Irwin reported there are 2 pickups, and the belly dump sitting at the Courthouse Annex, she will get with the auction company.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE SALE OF STRUCK OFF TAX PROPERTIES AND TAX DEEDS

None at this time.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE ANY CHANGES TO THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET THAT THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT CONSIDERS WARRANTED BY THE LAW AND REQUIRED BY THE INTEREST OF THE TAXPAYERS

After discussion Lesha Krieg, Auditor will adjust the cell phone allowances back to how they were originally. Dwight Kirksey made a motion to approve the amendments to the Proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Budget, seconded by Gary Alexander. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVED BUDGET FOR 2024-2025

Dwight Kirksey made a motion to approve the Budget for 2024-2025, , seconded by Ben Bentley. The vote of record: Gary Alexander – aye; Ben Bentley – aye; Chris Prock – aye; Dwight Kirksey – aye; and Judge Irwin – aye. The motion carried.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE TAX RATE FOR 2024-2025

I Ben Bentley move that the property tax rate be decreased by the adoption of a tax rate of .53, which is effectively a -1.00 percent decrease in the tax rate, seconded by Dwight Kirksey. The vote of record: Gary Alexander – aye; Ben Bentley – aye; Chris Prock – nay; Dwight Kirksey – aye; and Judge Irwin – aye. The motion carried.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE MOTION TO ADJOURN

Gary Alexander made the motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Adjourn 10:43 a.m.




CINDY IRWIN – COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:


KELLY RATLIFF – COUNTY CLERK