

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HUTCHINSON

On this 10th day of February 2025, 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 9:43 a.m. while on Regular Agenda Item #6
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. Ben Bentley 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

Commissioner Alexander had a correction to the minutes from the previous Commissioners' Court Meeting 01/27/2025. Agenda Item #7 Consider and/or approve land use agreement with Texas Forest Service. The sentence should read Piper not Phiifer.

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

REGULAR AGENDA

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE FACILITY USE REQUESTS BY THE BORGER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Fritzi Cates-Butler, Borger Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, presented 2 requests to use county owned facilities. One is to use the Conner Industries Hangar, located at the Hutchinson County Airport for the Skyline Soiree November 1, 2025. The second is to use the Hutchinson County Historical Museum for a "Boomtown Betrayal: A Murder Mystery Dinner on August 9,

2025, with approximately 50 people. The previous Skyline Soiree was a success and after discussion agreed to approve these requests and waiving the facility fees. Gary Alexander made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item and waiving the facility fees with security and insurance provided by the Chamber, seconded by Chris Prock. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Requests are made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE \$5,000.00 CONTINUATION BOND FOR TIFFANY KAY PHELAN, DEPUTY COUNTY AUDITOR

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

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE ROAD & BRIDGE EQUIPMENT FOR PURPLE WAVE AUCTION

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

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE PUTTING USED FURNITURE IN PURPLE WAVE AUCTION

Duane Chisolm, Road and Bridge Superintendent and Commissioner Bentley discussed the furniture that has been in storage and in various places in the courthouse that is not needed anymore. Gary Alexander made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE SUBMITTING INSURANCE CLAIM TO TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES FOR DAMAGE TO 2017 CATERPILLAR GRADER

Judge Irwin presented the insurance claim. Duane Chisolm with Road and Bridge said it is roughly \$10,000.00 for repairs to get it going again. Commissioner Bentley asked what the deductible is and its \$5,000.00 for equipment. The question is, do we submit a claim or decide on a certain dollar amount that we fix without submitting a claim. Discussion was had to put a policy in place for this and discuss in the next Policy Committee meeting. There presently is a policy in place if we submit a claim it does have to come to Commissioners Court for approval. Gary Alexander made a motion to approve submitting the insurance claim, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Report is made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE OUT OF STATE TRAVEL FOR JUVENILE DEPARTMENT

Judge Irwin presented the 2 out of state travel requests. One is Handle With Care Re-Certification in Norman, Ok for Jeremy Sharp and Amber Wells. The second is a conference for West Texas Chiefs' Association in Ruidoso, NM for Jeremy Sharp. Gary Alexander made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Request has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A JAIL TRANSPORTATION VAN

Sheriff Langwell presented 2 quotes for a new jail transportation van, the current van has 115,000 miles on it. Sheriff Langwell stated he will use SB Funds for this purchase as discussed during budget. The Caldwell County Chevrolet/CAP Fleet quote says 2 vans but is for 1 totaling \$76,454.00. The second quote is through TIPS Cooperative/Dana Safety Supply totaling \$67,823.13. Sheriff Langwell suggested the quote from TIPS/Dana Safety Supply for \$67,823.13. Ben Bentley made a motion to approve the van from TIPS/Dana Safety Supply for \$67,823.13, seconded by Chris Prock. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Quotes are made part of the minutes.

REPORTS FROM HUTCHINSON COUNTY LIBRARY AND HUTCHINSON COUNTY MUSEUM

Nancy Criswell, Library Director, presented her monthly report and gave an update on the happenings and upcoming events at the libraries. As well as the ways they are building, patrons count at the libraries. She has been working on her step plan for employee salaries as well as her annual state accreditation report where she has completed 10 hours of continuing education. She is also the president of the Herrington Library Consortium. Monthly Report has been made part of the minutes.

Ashley Keeney, Museum Director, reported exciting things planned for the Museum with the Chamber. She has been accepted into the Panhandle Area Museum Directors Group and has been working with the Charles Goodnight Museum in Clarendon, Tx to see how she can get more people through the doors. They have had 3 people come into the museum that are writing books about Hutchinson County.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE ANY ARP GRANT PROJECTS

This agenda item is for updates on the approved ARP Projects: Commissioner Bentley gave an update to the new Courthouse Generator and Stinnett Annex parking lot lighting project.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE BURN BAN OR RESCIND BURN BAN

Alan Wells, EMC, reported that the drought index is less than 200. No action taken at this time.

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

Chris Prock had no requests for the Borger Library Clubroom. Dwight Kirksey presented the calendar for the Fritch Library Clubroom through February 16, 2025. Dwight Kirksey made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Chris Prock. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously.

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

Dwight Kirksey made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Gary Alexander. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Order is made part of the minutes.

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

None at this time.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE DONATIONS TO HUTCHINSON COUNTY

Sheriff Langwell reported on a donation made to the Sheriff's Office for the new waiting room. The donation consists of a children's table and chairs, toys, a bin and rug. Chris Prock made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. A list of donations has been made part of the minutes.

DISCUSSION OF COUNTY JUDGES' AND COMMISSIONERS' PRECINCTS DAILY OPERATIONS

Commissioner Alexander reported going out to the airport and speaking with Baltazar on some building items. He was there when the Texas Forest Service was out there and got to speak to them about the approved agreement to house the air tankers to combat wildfires and the possibility of housing more in the future. They were appreciative to us as we are to them.

Commissioner Kirksey reported he has a donor for removing the concrete debris from county wildfires. Amarillo Area Foundation is taking care of the cost and DC Caleche is awarded the bid. They will have 21 to 30 days to complete it when they get started. A big thank you to the Amarillo Area Foundation.

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

None at this time.

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 10:16 a.m.



Cindy Irwin

CINDY IRWIN – COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

Kelly Ratliff

KELLY RATLIFF – COUNTY CLERK