

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HUTCHINSON

On this 28th day of April 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
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

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

PRESENTATION BY KATHY DAVENPORT, EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONSULTANT OF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Due to a scheduling conflict Kathy Davenport, Employee Benefits Consultant, could not be here today. In place of this presentation Craig Jones, County Attorney spoke on the Hutchinson County Attorney's Office sponsoring a DWI Training at the Dome in Borger. They brought in a DWI prosecutor with the Texas District & County Attorneys Association, training how to better investigate and prosecute DWI offences. This was provided free of charge thanks to a grant from TxDOT. Over 50 law enforcement officers and prosecutors attended. Everyone that attended received legal publications that will come in handy. Mr. Jones wanted to recognize Alan Wells,

EMC, Sheriff Langwell and LEPC who paid for the food for that day. Dottie's Donuts donated breakfast, Scooters Coffee donated coffee and Smitty Brothers BBQ catered lunch. He also appreciates the City of Borger for allowing them to use the Dome and personnel at the Dome. Also thanked Amy King and Pam Cervantes as he could not have done it without them. This was a successful event.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE AUDITOR'S MONTHLY REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDING MARCH 31, 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. Report has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN SAVNS AND SYLOGISTGOV

Judge Irwin presented this agreement for SAVNS (Statewide Automated Victim Notification Service) changing software vendors to Sylogistgov, Inc. Craig Jones, County Attorney, has reviewed this agreement. Chris Prock made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Agreement has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE AGREEMENT FOR INMATE HOUSING CLASS C INMATES

Judge Irwin presented this agreement. Craig Jones, County Attorney, has reviewed this agreement. Some wording was addressed within the contract, the compensation will stay the same as the previously approved agreement. Gary Alexander made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Dwight Kirksey. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Agreement has been made part of the minutes.

PROGRESS REPORT ON ARP GRANT PROJECTS

Commissioner Prock reported they will start the exterior of the Borger Library within the next couple of weeks with weather permitting.

Commissioner Prock asked about the status of the secure door project for Judge Wysong, JP 2. Craig Jones, County Attorney, spoke on that and they have been unable to reach the approved contractor Clint Aust with CGC General Contractors. Mr. Jones will contact Sheriff Langwell and see if he has a good contact number for him since he completed work in their office.

Commissioner Bentley spoke on the lighting at the Stinnett Annex. Brown Consulting Engineers out of Amarillo were supposed to come look at the building and they have not followed through. He is looking for another engineering company.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE BURN BAN OR RESCIND BURN BAN

Allan Wells, EMC, suggested no action at this time.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE GROSS SALES TO SELL FIREWORKS OVER THE MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY

Dennis Gross with Gross Sales presented his request for permission to sell fireworks over the Memorial Day Holiday. Judge Irwin presented information that Memorial Day is not a legal holiday to sell fireworks, so they have to come to Commissioners Court to get permission to sell fireworks from May 21, 2025 to May 26, 2025 ending at midnight. The order expires on the date the Texas A&M Forest Service determines drought conditions exist in the county or midnight, May 26, 2025 whichever is earlier. Commissioner Kirksey asked if we approve this Order it opens up sales to anyone that sales fireworks for Memorial Day in Hutchinson County, that is correct. Commissioner Prock voiced concern about making this decision not only based on drought conditions but also popping fireworks and PTSD issues veterans may have on a day we are remembering those that have fallen fighting for our freedom. Due to drought conditions, they did not ask permission to sell fireworks for Memorial Day last year. Mr. Gross said they do not get a

large number of sales during this time but more of a time to order and receive inventory for the July 4th selling period. They also sell silent fireworks to help with the loud noise. Dwight Kirksey made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Gary Alexander. Voting in Favor: Judge Irwin, Dwight Kirksey and Gary Alexander. Opposed: Chris Prock and Ben Bentley. Motion carried.

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 submitted a schedule through May 24, 2025 for the Fritch Library Clubroom.
Dwight Kirksey 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 FIBER OPTICS FOR ALL BRANCHES OF THE LIBRARY

Nancy Criswell, Library Director presented the Grant Program named 2026 Library Infrastructure Facility Improvement (LIFI) through Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC). Application with explanation of this project has been made part of the minutes. Region 16 runs all lines to the schools, and they will be joining those lines to our library branches. The Region 16 project manager will oversee this. If we are awarded the grant, it would start July 2025-November 2026. Richard Hein, IT Supervisor, is involved with all of this. Amarillo Area Foundation is also helping with details for this grant. She understands she will need 3 bids for this work over \$50,000.00. Region 16 has contracted with Lit Fiber Company to do all of this, and they will work with us and get all of the statements of work and specs lined out so we can post to get bids. This grant is for \$350,000.00 max grant amount if awarded. \$250,000.00 to get fiber to the buildings and an additional \$100,000.00 in equipment cost to get it installed in each location. There will be heavy communication with Richard Hein, IT Supervisor and Region 16 on this project and equipment needed. The filing deadline for this grant is tonight at midnight. If we are awarded this grant Region 16 could come talk to the Commissioners' Court about the specifics of getting the equipment installed in the buildings, so everyone is on the same page. Ms. Criswell asked what the cost will be for the county with a 36-month lease, depending on the bandwidth it could be between \$300.00 - \$500.00 per month estimation. It was asked if this is per location or total and she will check into that. There will be overlaps with service so we should not be without internet service during the transition. Work will need to be completed by December 31, 2026. Dwight Kirksey made a motion to approve the application process for fiber optics grant partnering with Region 16 and giving authority to Nancy Criswell, Library Director, to make any amendments to the application and submit, seconded by Gary Alexander. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Documents have been made part of the minutes.

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

The Line Item Transfer is for Siren Maintenance. Gary Alexander made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Order has been 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

None at this time.

DISCUSSION OF COUNTY JUDGES' AND COMMISSIONERS' PRECINCTS DAILY OPERATIONS

Judge Irwin reported for Lesha Krieg, Auditor – TAC will be sending appraisers out this summer to reappraise our county buildings. She also received an incident report from Duane Chisholm, R&B Superintendent on a dented bumper on a truck, this was minor damage.

Alan Wells, EMC met with City of Borger about the water lines going out to the airport. They will have 2 new fire hydrants and may have to modify fencing for water tanks, Baltazar is looking into this.

Judge Irwin asked Craig Jones, County Attorney, if the Demand Letter for the airport hangar has been sent out and he will look into this.

Nancy Criswell, Library Director, reported on a successful Library Book Sale.

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

None at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-SECTION 551.071 (CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY) SECTION 551.072 (DELIBERATIONS ABOUT REAL PROPERTY) SECTION 551.073 (DELIBERATIONS ABOUT GIFTS AND DONATIONS) SECTION 551.074 (PERSONNEL MATTERS) SECTION 551.076 (DELIBERATIONS ABOUT SECURITY DEVICES) SECTION 551.087 (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT)

No Executive Session held.

CONSIDER AND/APPROVE ANY ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session held.

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 10:11 a.m.



Cindy Irwin
CINDY IRWIN – COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

Kelly Ratliff
KELLY RATLIFF – COUNTY CLERK