

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HUTCHINSON

On this 27th day of October 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. Chris Prock 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

Dwight Kirksey made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items, seconded by Chris Prock. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Reports have been made part of the minutes.

REGULAR AGENDA

PRESENTATION FROM MR. & MRS. KELLY WATSON IN REGARD TO MAINTAINING AN INDOOR FIRING RANGE ON HIS PROPERTY IN MEADOWLARK

Mr. Kelly Watson presented his report topic: Kelly Watson's Private Indoor Gun Range. Judge Irwin asked if this was open to the public and no, this is private. Mr. Watson would like the court to set the hours and decibels. They spoke with Craig Jones, County Attorney, and there is not a guideline of hours that the court can set as this is private property. Mr. Watson reported decibels from 85-100 inside to outside that he was recorded. Commissioner Prock asked what is downrange behind the building, he said rubber and concrete. There are not any homes directly behind the

building. Commissioner Kirksey suggested 85 decibels as this is the state level. Mr. Watson will set the hours and submit them to Craig Jones, County Attorney. This would be for informational purposes only for the Sheriff's Department etc. Also, as a good neighbor he will abide by state level decibels and set reasonable hours. The court appreciates the communication. Presentation has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE LIFI GRANT CONTRACT

Nancy Criswell, Library Director, presented the contract that has been approved by Craig Jones, County Attorney. Gary Alexander made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Contract has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF SHERIFF J. DALE BUTLER TO THE TPC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE CONTRACT WITH OOMA FOR COURTHOUSE ELEVATOR EMERGENCY LINE SERVICE

Richard Hein, IT Director, presented this contract, County Attorney wanted to add an addendum which was sent to OOMA and has not received it back. This is a mandatory service we must have within the elevator. Mr. Hein said it was the best price and presentation. After the contract is signed, it will take 2 weeks to get it activated. Ben Bentley made a motion to approve Ooma for Courthouse elevator emergency line service with addendum, seconded by Chris Prock. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Ooma contract without addendum has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE MONTHLY AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

Judge Irwin reported that Lesha Krieg, Auditor is out of office and requested this be added to next month's agenda.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE \$1,000.00 BOND FOR SHASTA KAY HUGHES, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT JUVENILE PROBATION

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

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE TOTAL LOSS OFFER FROM TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES FOR THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT 2024 FORD EXPLORER, VIN #8839

Chris Prock made a motion to approve the Total Loss Offer from TAC for the 2024 Ford Explorer, actual cash value \$35,868.17 and release the vehicle, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Offer has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE MOU WITH MOORE COUNTY FOR INMATE HOUSING AND FUNDS COLLECTED BE PLACED INTO THE NEW JAIL SAVINGS FUND

Sheriff Langwell presented that Moore County is transferring inmates to Childress County and Bailey County due to overcrowding. We do have room to help with inmate housing at this time. We have 29 in our jail, and it is a 70-bed jail. There would be a daily rate associated with this, \$60.00 per day per inmate. Mr. Langwell suggested moving these funds to the New Jail Savings Fund. Tiffany Phelan, Assistant Auditor asked that he give the invoices to Amy Back, Treasurer and Lesha Krieg, Auditor. Chris Prock made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item,

seconded by Gary Alexander. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. MOU has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE MOU WITH IMMIGRATION CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT TO COMPLY WITH SB 8

Sheriff Langwell presented new legislation to comply with SB 8 with 3 options. He would like to propose Option 2 – Warrant Service Officer Program. Sheriff Langwell explained this option would work best for our smaller county. They did allow \$80,000.00 per year for counties to implement the options. Ben Bentley made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Chris Prock. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. MOU and explanation of the Warrant Service Officer Program has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE PERSONAL VEHICLE USE FOR CONSTABLE PCT. 2 TO ATTEND TRAINING NOVEMBER 9-14 FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

Constable Hartranft, Pct. 2, explained the purpose of this training and that the training registration and hotel is paid for. Constable Hartranft is requesting to take her personal vehicle due to this training falling on her and her husband's 10-year anniversary and she would like him to go with her. Dwight Kirksey made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Gary Alexander. Commissioner Prock asked if the milage would be reimbursed due to taking her personal vehicle. Yes, that is correct, if she was taking her squad car the county would be paying for fuel but not milage. Constable Hartranft thought since the training was free this would be justified. She can take her personal vehicle but they do not want to pay milage for her taking her personal vehicle but may need to look at the policy further. The vote of record: Dwight Kirksey – nay; Chris Prock – nay; Judge Irwin – nay; Ben Bentley – nay and Gary Alexander - abstained. The motion did not carry.

MUSEUM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ashley Keeney, Museum Director, presented the museum report. Report has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE THE FULL-TIME MUSEUM STAFF TO TAKE THEIR FLOATING HOLIDAY ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26TH, 2025, AND CLOSE THE MUSEUM TO THE PUBLIC THAT DAY

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

UPDATE ON ARP GRANT PROJECTS

None at this time.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE BURN BAN OR RESCIND BURN BAN

Commissioner Prock reported that the drought index is average 331. No action taken at this time.

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

Chris Prock submitted a calendar through Dec 6, 2025, for the Borger Library Clubroom. Dwight Kirksey had no requests for the Fritch Library Clubroom. Chris Prock made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Dwight Kirksey. 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 and transfers have been made part of the minutes.

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

Judge Irwin presented the Library Multi-Site Fiber Optic Infrastructure Project Request for Proposal Packet. Chris Prock made a motion to approve the Multi-Site Fiber Optic Infrastructure Project to go out for proposals, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. The Proposal Packet has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE DONATIONS TO HUTCHINSON COUNTY

Ashley Keeney, Museum Director, read a letter from Strawberry (Cowboy Poet) including a donation he made for \$125.00. Gary Alexander made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Chris Prock. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF COUNTY JUDGES' AND COMMISSIONERS' PRECINCTS DAILY OPERATIONS

Commissioner Alexander reported plumbing issues with the toilets in the ladies' bathroom at the Borger Annex.

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 551.074 (PERSONNEL MATTERS)**

Convened into Executive Session at 10:42 a.m.

Reconvened into Regular Session at 11:14 a.m.

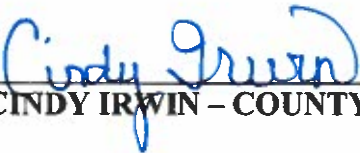
CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE ANY ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chris Prock made a motion to approve the 24-25 budget transfer of \$3,881.28 from the County Attorney budget in the Contingency line item to the County Attorney Supplement 3384751020, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously.

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 11:20 a.m.




CINDY IRWIN – COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:


KELLY RATLIFF – COUNTY CLERK