

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HUTCHINSON

On this 23rd day of February 2026, 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 - ABSENT
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

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 FROM RYAN SAWYER, TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION

Ryan Sawyer with the Texas Veterans Commission thanked the county for the office space at the Borger Annex in Hutchinson County. He has been at the Annex since January 2, 2026 and appreciates the opportunity to help veterans in the area. He has been working on building relationships with the entities and organizations that can help put him in front of veterans in the area. There are widows of veterans that can also benefit from his services to help get them the benefits they deserve. He wants to find the veterans that are off the radar and have given up, laws have changed and the Texas Veterans Commission can help them. As the Veteran's Officer he can help hold their hand and get them through the process. Since Covid TVC works from home

and requires email or you call and get a different person putting the veteran at a disadvantage to try to get things taken care of and access their healthcare benefits. Being a Veteran's Officer if they need help, he can be right there on site for them and help them through the process. Honor flight out of Lubbock is still available for all 29 counties in the Panhandle. Boom Adventures takes first responders and veterans on fishing and hunting trips. He had his first event in Dumas with a small turnout. He is interested in any veteran forward events, so he can attend and let them know about his services. Judge Irwin asked how many veterans he has seen since January and he said on average 1 veteran per day. He should have full access and be fully accredited by the end of the week. This will allow him to look behind the scenes for VA approval and why they may have been denied on claims and help them. He is the only onsite VSO for all counties north of I-40 in the Panhandle. Legions and Elks have been open and helpful, as he hopes to work more with them. Judge Irwin did thank him for everything he is doing and if he needs anything to reach out.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE FY 26-27 COOPERATIVE WORKING AGREEMENT WITH HUTCHINSON COUNTY CRISIS CENTER

Judge Irwin presented this agreement with no changes. 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 \$5,000.00 BOND FOR TIFFANY KAY PHELAN DEPUTY COUNTY AUDITOR

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

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE OUT -OF-STATE TRAVEL FOR JEREMY SHARP, CHIEF JUVENILE PROBATION, TO ATTEND WEST TEXAS CHIEFS CONFERENCE IN RUIDOSO, NM ON JUNE 8, 2026 AND CHIEF SHARP AND AMBER MILLS TO ATTEND HANDLE WITH CARE TRAINING, MAY 11-13, 2026 IN NORMAN, OK

Jeremy Sharp, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer presented this request. West Texas Chiefs Conference is management training and has been going on for 40 plus years; it's in New Mexico due to the central location. The Handle with Care Training is a yearly training and it conflicted with West Texas Chiefs Conference when it was in Frisco, TX so they now go to OKC so it doesn't conflict and it is closer than Frisco, TX. Ben Bentley made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Gary Alexander. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Flyer has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE THE SHERIFF DEPARTMENT 2025 RACIAL PROFILING REPORT

Sheriff Langwell presented the 2025 Racial Profiling Report. Ben Bentley 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 ACCEPTANCE OF A \$500.00 GRANT FROM THE TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF PROPERTY AND EVIDENCE INVENTORY TECHNICIANS

Sheriff Langwell reported this \$500.00 grant was awarded to the Sheriff's Department. He plans to use these funds to help purchase a stainless-steel evidence processing table. Chris Prock made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Gary Alexander. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE THE FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE HUTCHINSON COUNTY LIBRARY

Nancy Criswell, Library Director, presented the plan. Gary Alexander made a motion to approve the above state agenda item, seconded by Chris Prock. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Plan has been made part of the minutes.

UPDATE ON ARP GRANT PROJECTS

Commissioner Alexander and County Attorney, Craig Jones reported they can't get ahold of anyone about the Borger Annex door project.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE BURN BAN OR RESCIND BURN BAN

Alan Wells, EMC, reported no action taken at this time. He did report that the Canadian Bridge Fire was started by construction workers on the bridge. They have put in an additional fire break on the east side of the bridge. They will also let the Disaster Declaration expire at this time.

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

Chris Prock submitted a schedule though June 4, 2026 for the Borger Library Clubroom. Chris Prock 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 LINE ITEM CHANGES, TRANSFERS, AND/OR BUDGET AMENDMENTS

None at this time.

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

None at this time.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE DONATIONS TO HUTCHINSON COUNTY

Judge Irwin presented a \$100.00 donation to the Hutchinson County Museum. Chris Prock made a motion to approve the \$100.00 donation to the Hutchinson County Museum with a thank you to Richard Mason, seconded by Gary Alexander. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Donation has been made part of the minutes.

DISCUSSION OF COUNTY JUDGES' AND COMMISSIONERS' PRECINCTS DAILY OPERATIONS

Commissioner Alexander put some No Parking Signs behind 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)

Convened into Executive Session at 9:51 a.m.
Reconvened into Regular Session at 10:05 a.m.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE CONTRACT FOR SALE OF OLD STINNETT HIGHWAY PROPERTY TO PPCO

Gary Alexander made a motion to approve the contract for the sale of the Old Stinnett Highway, the actual sale had already been approved, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Contract has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE ANY ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

No other action from Executive Session.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

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 10:10 a.m.




CINDY IRWIN – COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:


KELLY RATLIFF – COUNTY CLERK