

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HUTCHINSON

On this 13th day of July 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
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

Dwight Kirksey 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 THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE MONTHLY AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDING MAY 31, 2026

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 ENROLLMENT IN THE MANDATORY CYBERSECURITY TRAINING FOR 2026-2027

Richard Hein, IT Director, reported that he would like to enroll in the KnowBe4 Cybersecurity Training that provides more than the minimum required training. The County has used them in the past. This service uses Spam Campaigns that will send fake emails/links to employees that mimic a real-world attack and if you fail you are subject to more training. He can also add his own training into the program such as how to use the “shared drive” and assign to specific people. KnowBe4 quote is \$5,512.00. This program has training for Cybersecurity, AI, HR and you can upload your own training and more. Ben Bentley made a motion to table the above stated agenda item, seconded by Chris Prock. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE ENROLLMENT IN THE TAC MANDATORY AI TRAINING COURSE

Richard Hein, IT Director, reported that he can enroll in the TAC AI training for completion by August. Dwight Kirksey made a motion to approve the enrollment in the TAC AI Training Course, seconded by Chris Prock. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Enrollment Form has been made part of the minutes.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE UPDATES TO THE NEWLY ADOPTED VACATION/SICK LEAVE POLICY

Amy Back, Treasurer, did want to clarify wording:

POLICY ON VACATION

Eligibility:

2. Appointed or Elected Officials, Part-time, and temporary employees shall not be eligible for vacation benefits. No change made to this wording. This page in the policy has been made part of the minutes.

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

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 INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR RURAL AMBULANCE SERVICE GRANT BETWEEN HUTCHINSON COUNTY AND THE CITY OF BORGER

Craig Jones, County Attorney, presented the amendments to the Interlocal Agreement for Rural Ambulance Service Grant Program established by HB 3000. The agreement will start July 1, 2026, for a term of 5 years. Ben Bentley made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement with amendments, seconded by Gary Alexander. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE ADDING SRO/DEPUTY POSITION TO THE SHERIFF’S OFFICE EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2026 FULLY FUNDED BY SFISD UNTIL HUTCHINSON COUNTY FISCAL YEAR BEGINS OCTOBER 1, 2026

Jerry Langwell, Sheriff reported meeting with SFISD and due to our budget start date and when school starts, they would like the service to become effective August 1, 2026 and are willing to fund the position fully starting August 1, 2026 to September 31, 2026. Dwight Kirksey made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Chris Prock. 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

Alan Wells, EMC/County Fire Marshall, reported that the drought index is an average of 538. No action taken at this time.

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

Chris Prock submitted a schedule through August 15, 2026, 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

Ben Bentley made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Gary Alexander. 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.

Judge Irwin reported that funds have been added to the airport budget to purchase 1-2 fuel trucks for the airport. This is a crucial need currently. We need to go out for bids and get the process started. There was a quote provided with specs needed for \$264,100.00. These specs will help with the bid process. Commissioner Prock asked if this would qualify for Ramp Grant funds and it does not. Commissioner Alexander asked if the funds need to be used to repair the emergency brakes on the existing trucks and it was suggested to fix 1 with the current budget funds.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE DONATIONS TO HUTCHINSON COUNTY

Judge Irwin presented the Hutchinson County Museum Monthly Box Donations for June 2026 in the amount of \$116.00. Chris Prock made a motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Ben Bentley. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Box Donations have been made part of the minutes.

DISCUSSION OF COUNTY JUDGES' AND COMMISSIONERS' PRECINCTS DAILY OPERATIONS

Commissioner Kirksey reported there will be a State Representative visit at the Fritch Library at 4p.m. Wednesday, July 15, 2026.

Commissioner Bentley reported he has found an Architect for the Stinnett Annex, D Scott Stark, that is local and has a good reputation. He received a proposal for a fixed fee of \$52,000.00 but if for some reason we decide not to use him we will only be billed for the work up to that point. Mr. Stark will put together the scope of work for the bids etc. All agreed to move forward.

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

None at this time.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

County Attorney – Craig Jones, County Attorney presented his budget requests. Budget proposal with notes has been made part of the minutes.

District Attorney – Mark Snider, District Attorney presented his budget requests. Budget proposal with notes has been made part of the minutes. Mr. Snider is retiring on August 31, 2026 and Assistant District Attorney, Clay Carr is requesting the Governors appointment.

County Judge – Cindy Irwin, County Judge presented her budget requests. Budget proposal with notes has been made part of the minutes. Commissioner Kirksey asked about the Mental Health increase and what that is. Judge Irwin explained we pay Potter County to hear our Mental Health cases unless they were taken to Oceans Behavioral Health.

Justice of the Peace Pct. 1 – Leslie Ford, JP 1 presented her budget requests. Budget proposal with notes has been made part of the minutes.

Justice of the Peace Pct. 2 – Amanda Wysong, JP 2 presented her budget requests. Budget proposal with notes has been made part of the minutes.

Constable Pct. 1 – Roman Alejandro, Constable Pct. 1 presented his budget requests. Budget proposal with no notes has been made part of the minutes. He is requesting an increase in his Equipment Maintenance line item to total \$10,000.00 for fitting his vehicle, firearms and uniforms.

Constable Pct. 2 – Angelica Hartranft, Constable Pct. 2 presented her budget requests. Budget proposal with partial notes has been made part of the minutes as well as number of calls and citations she has issued. She is requesting a line item be added for a part-time clerk and deputy for when she is out for vacations and training. She has also requested a salary increase to \$65,000.00 with explanation. Commissioner Kirksey asked if she could choose part-time help or a raise which she would choose. She said part-time help. Constable Hartranft also asked for a budget for a vehicle such as an F-150 due to serving on dirt roads etc. If this happened her fully outfitted Charger could go to the Sheriff's Department for their new SRO position. She would also take a vehicle as a trade from the Sheriff's Department as an option. The last bid received from the Sheriff for an F-150 was \$78,000.00. She would pay for any outfitting from her equipment budget. Commissioner Kirksey requested this all be placed on the Budget proposal so they can see all her noted requests. Constable Hartranft will do this and email it to the Judge and Auditor.

316th District Court – James Mosley, District Judge presented his budget requests. Budget proposal with notes has been made part of the minutes. Auditor said the Courthouse Security Fund has enough to cover the \$32,000.00 for suggested security improvements and leave \$8,000.00 in his Courtroom Improvements line item.

84th District Court – Not Present

EMC/County Attorney – Alan Wells, EMC presented his budget requests. Budget proposal with notes has been made part of the minutes. Auditor suggested Ambulance Service be changed to \$105,000.00 instead of the proposed \$125,000.00.

Road & Bridge – Duane Chisholm, R&B Supervisor presented his budget requests. Budget proposal with notes has been made part of the minutes. It was discussed to take the \$138,500.00 off the Road & Bridge Material line item for overlay on Cimarron Trail as it is not needed at this time. Commissioner Kirksey reported discussing with the Treasurer an interim position budgeted for a couple of months prior to Mr. Chisolm's retirement date to shadow the supervisor position. Commissioner Bentley also mentioned with multiple R&B employees retiring, adding a part-time line item to help while positions are being filled. Treasurer requested information from Mr. Chisholm on who all is retiring in his department and when.

Jail – Sheriff Langwell presented this his budget requests. Budget proposal with notes has been made part of the minutes.

Sheriff – Move to the next meeting.

Lesha Krieg, Auditor, requested direction on salary increase scenarios and they would like the same as it has been presented in the past a percentage raise options as well as a dollar amount across the board options. Judge Irwin wanted to clarify the raise goes to the salaried position not the person.

Lesha Krieg, Auditor, wanted to talk to the County Attorney about our copier contract with Visual Edge. It was discussed to go out for bid for copiers/copier vendors if we can get out of the contract with Visual Edge.

Commissioner Kirksey reported on the Nuisance Abatement Officer, when this person is decided they will be paid on each investigation such as \$75.00 per case. Treasurer suggested if it ends up being our EMC a \$10,000.00 stiped due to the investigation and paperwork involved as this will also be for septic nuisance abatement as well.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE MOTION TO ADJOURN

Chris Prock made the motion to approve the above stated agenda item, seconded by Gary Alexander. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously. Adjourn 11:25 a.m.



ATTEST:

Cindy Irwin
CINDY IRWIN – COUNTY JUDGE

Kelly Ratliff
KELLY RATLIFE – COUNTY CLERK

