

REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 12, 2019

Be it remembered on the 12TH day of August 2019 at 10:15 o'clock A.M., there was Begun and Holden a Regular Meeting of the Commissioner's Court in the Courthouse, in the town of Farwell, with the following members present, To-wit:

Kirk Frye	Commissioner Pct. #1
Charles Wilkins	Commissioner Pct. #2
Kenny White	Commissioner Pct. #3
Casey Russell	Commissioner Pct. #4
Trey Ellis	Judge
Sharon May	County Treasurer
Susie Spring	County Clerk

When the following was had and done, To-wit:

Call to Order

1. Prayer

Judge Ellis led the Court in prayer to begin the meeting.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and the Texas Flag

The Court pledged their allegiance to the flags of the United States of America and the State of Texas.

3. Open Forum for Public Comments

No members of the public were in attendance.

4. Read and Approve Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Motion by White, seconded by Russell to approve the Minutes from the July 22, 2019 Regular Meeting with noted correction. Motion carried.

Motion by Frye, seconded by Russell to approve the Minutes from the August 8, 2019 Special Meeting with noted correction. Motion carried.

5. Consider Approval and Payment of the Accounts Payable – Sharon May

Sharon May reported the Accounts Payable List for July 19th and August 12th. Motion by White, seconded by Frye to approve Payment of the Accounts Payable. Motion carried. See attached.

6. Consider Treasurer's Report-Sharon May

Motion by Wilkins, seconded by Frye to approve the Treasurer's Payroll Report. Motion carried. See attached.

7. Consider Purposing the Parmer County 2020 Budget

Judge Ellis presented the 2020 Proposed Budget as approved at the August 8, 2019 Special Meeting. He wanted to reaffirm the vote. He made a motion to keep the current tax rate for 2020 and give the county employees a pay raise of 5% with the exclusion of the County Judge, four Commissioners and the County Attorney receiving no pay raise. Commissioner Frye seconded. Motion passed with Judge Ellis, Commissioner Frye, Commissioner White and Commissioner Russell voting in the affirmative and Commissioner Wilkins voting nay.

Judge Ellis reported that the tax rate remains the same at \$0.5492 per \$100 valuation. Two public hearings will be held on the proposed tax rate. One will be held on August 26th at 9:30 AM and one on August 30th at 9:30 AM.

The proposed budget will be posted on the county website and also in the County Clerk's office for public review. (See attached.)

8. Consider the Continued Support of the Parmer County Ag Extension Agent.

Michael Clauson, Texas A&M Extension Services has asked if Parmer County will continue to support an Ag Extension Agent. Motion by Frye, seconded by White to approve continued support of a County Extension Agent. Motion passed.

9. Consider the Parmer County Historical Commission Having a Plaque Dedication for the Courthouse as a National Registry of Historic Places.

Upon motion by White, seconded by Frye to allow a plaque dedication at a date to be determined, the motion passed. See attached.

10. Consider an Inter-Local Agreement Between Lubbock County and Parmer County for the Regional Public Defender for Capital Cases

This Agreement provides for the Texas Indigent Defense Commission Grant Funds to be utilized to provide for court-appointed counsel in Capital Murder cases in Parmer County. Cost to the County is \$1,072.00. See attached.

On motion by Wilkins, seconded by Russell, the motion to enter into this agreement passed.

11. Consider Waterline Placement Under a County Road

John Loucks has applied to place a water line south of county road DD on CR 13A. Upon a motion by Frye, seconded by White to allow placement of this water line, motion carried. See attached.

12. Consider Bonds for Teresa Carey (Tax Assessor Office) and Rose Longley (District Clerk's Office).

Motion by Frye, seconded by White to approve the bonds for these two County Employees. Motion carried.

13. Consider Reappointment of Robert White to Serve on the Central Plains Board

On a motion by Frye, seconded by Russell, to reappoint Robert White to the Central Plains MHMR Board, motion carried. See attached.

14. Report on Elections Seminar

Susie Spring, County Clerk reported on the election Seminar she recently attended in Austin. Of particular interest to the voters of Parmer County, a recent law states we can no longer hold Early Voting in areas outside of the County Courthouse unless they are open the entire two weeks of early voting for eight hours a day. This is a hardship in paying for and obtaining poll workers to full fill this new law. As a result, the amendment election to be held in November of 2019 will only have early voting at the County Clerk's office.

Additionally, there were numerous security measures the Secretary of State's office is requiring as well as on line reporting daily of voting activity.

Previously, the Election Security Audit by the State's contracted entity was voluntary, it has now been made mandatory.

She also reported that our new voting equipment is due to arrive on Wednesday of this week.

15. Consider Farwell ISD request for Permanent School Fund Monies

Upon motion by Frye, seconded by White to approve the Farwell ISD request for \$850,000.00 for construction projects from the Permanent School fund, the motion passed.

16. Consider Parmer County Burn Ban

On a motion by Wilkins, not to enact the county burn ban at this time, seconded by Judge Ellis, the motion passed.

17. Consider Parmer County Medical Insurance for Elected Officials and County Employees

Jerry Killian with the Employee Benefit Associates, Inc. presented the benefits and costs for the 2019-2020 renewal from the Texas Association of Counties Health and Employee Benefits Pool. A rate increase of 2.8% was proposed at a cost of \$905.60 per employee per month with all deductions and co-pays remaining the same as this year.

Upon a motion by White, seconded by Wilkins, to accept the proposed renewal from the TAC Health and Employee Benefits Pool, motion passed.

18. Consider Any and All Matters Concerning the Parmer County Law Enforcement Center

Sheriff Geries stated he has a jail population of 25 at present.

He reported that his office assisted the Bovina Police Department with the recent homicide. He stated that the Texas Rangers have been called into the case.

He also reported the Sheriff's office response to the fire in the northern part of the county recently.

He reported that a landing zone exercise for helicopters will be held this Friday.

He reported three transports this month.

He also attended the Sheriff's Convention last month.

With no further business to come before the court, Commissioner White moved to adjourn. Commissioner Frye seconded and adjournment was called at 11:52 o'clock A.M.



County Clerk





County Judge