

REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 22, 2021

Be it remembered on the 22nd day of February 2021 at 10:03 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
Trey Ellis	Judge
Sharon May	County Treasurer
Susie Spring	County Clerk

Absent: Casey Russell Commissioner Pct. #4

Also Present: Regina Vieth, New York Life
Cindy Price, New York Life
Shaun Windle, Shaun Windle Lawn Service
Eric Chadwick

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 had any comments.

4. Consider Bids for Lawn Maintenance Contract

Two bids were received both addressed the Ground Keeping Requirements contained in the application to bid. One bid was from Shaun Windle Lawn Service and the other was from Eric Chadwick.

Both bids were comparable. The difference between the two was \$50/month. Eric Chadwick's bid was \$700/month and Shaun Windle was \$750/month.

The Commissioner's required liability insurance or bonding. Shaun Windle stated he had the insurance and Eric Chadwick agreed to obtain it. Judge Ellis made the motion to contract with Eric Chadwick due to the fact he lives in Farwell and was the lower bid. Commissioner Frye seconded and the motion passed. See attached bids

5. Consider New York Life Insurance for County Employees

Regina Vieth presented the Whole Life Insurance that New York Life could offer County employees. It would be deducted from the employees bank account and not deducted from paychecks. The County would have no cost to offer this program. She presented a Simplified Issue but also discussed the Guaranteed Issue of Life Insurance.

The Commissioners discussed this opportunity for the employees. Judge Ellis made the motion to allow the agents from New York Life to present this opportunity to the employees. Commissioner Wilkins seconded and the motion passed.

6. Read and Approve Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Upon reading of the Minutes of the last meeting, on a motion by Frye, seconded by White to approve the Minutes of the Regular meeting on February 8, 2021 with the corrections suggested, the motion passed.

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

Sharon May reported the Accounts Payable List for February 17th and 22nd . Motion by White, seconded by Frye to approve payment of the Accounts Payables as presented. Motion carried. See attached.

8. Consider Treasurer's Report-Sharon May

Motion by Wilkins, seconded by Frye to approve the Treasurer's Payroll Report for February 15, 2021. Motion carried. See attached.

9. Consider Request from Bovina ISD for Permanent School Fund

Bovina ISD has requested \$115,693.97 from the Permanent School Fund. The remaining amount in the school fund designated for Bovina

ISD is \$110,132.55. Upon motion by Frye to payout the remaining \$110,132.55, seconded by Wilkins, the motion passed.

10. Consider Resolution and Opposition to SB234 and HB749

Judge Ellis was contacted by the Texas Association of Counties in regard to this issue. These bills would effectively silence county officials by prohibiting groups like TAC or other organizations or lobbyists from contacting Texas legislators on issues in support of county officials.

TAC is requesting County Commissioners adopt a resolution in opposition to these bills. Upon motion by Frye to adopt the resolution, seconded by Wilkins, the motion passed. The resolution will be sent to the legislators representing this area. See attached.

11. Consider Interlocal Agreement between the Regional Defender Office Local Government Corporation and Parmer County, Texas

This agreement allows indigent defendants in Parmer County accused of capital murder offenses to obtain legal services. Cost to the County is \$1,972.00. Upon motion by Wilkins, to approve this agreement, seconded by White, the motion passed. See attached.

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

Sheriff Geries reported 22 inmates as of today. He indicated that 4 inmates from Deaf Smith County are now housed in the Parmer County Jail.

Sheriff Geries discussed a proposal to integrate his jail software with the software in the patrol cars. At present it is not integrated and is less efficient. He presented the proposal from Southern Software, Inc. which is the vendor for the jail portion of his current software. They have proposed discounting the entire cost of obtaining the software and charging only installation and maintenance of the system. Cost to the Sheriff's Department would be \$7,155.00. This money is not budgeted but could be paid for by the money in his budget for computers.

Upon motion by Frye, seconded by White to accept this proposal, the motion passed. See attached.

The Sheriff reported that he had two employees that fell on the ice.

He stated that he and Robert Goff from Southwest Business Solutions were working on moving all the County emails to Microsoft from Plateau. He stated that this option is more secure for the County.

He and Judge Ellis reported on the water pipe freezing and bursting in the old jail connected to the Treasurer's office. Judge Ellis has already filed a claim with the County's insurance carrier. He is working with ServePro in an effort to preserve some records that were soaked in the incident. He also commended the job the inmates and the Sheriff's office did that helped get the water out of the old jail after the water had been turned off.

The Sheriff stated that a plumber would need to come and cap off the pipes that had broken.

With no further business to come before the court, Commissioner White moved to adjourn. Commissioner Wilkins seconded and adjournment was called at 12:05 o'clock P.M.

Esmeralda Vazquez
County Clerk *Deady*



Angus Ellis
County Judge