

## REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 28, 2022

Be it remembered on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of November 2022 at 10:01 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:

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

Also Present:

Eric Geske, Sheriff  
Christian Campbell, PRPC Dispute Resolution Center  
Deanna Curtis  
Danny Campbell, Friona FD  
Jill Timms, Chief Appraiser  
Amy Dudley

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

### Call to Order

#### 1. Prayer

Commissioner Frye 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

There were no comments from the public.

#### 4. Consider Approval of PRPC Interlocal Agreement for Dispute Resolution Center

Christian Campbell presented the Interlocal Agreement with the PRPC Dispute Resolution Center for the upper 26 counties for the Texas Panhandle. They provide mediation for family cases and other civil

disputes. Under Texas Gov. Code 35, the County accepts payment for this with any civil case filed and without this agreement, this money is sent to the state. They propose keeping the money in the region and the Center will accept referrals for any civil cases the Counties sends to them requiring mediation.

Upon motion by White, seconded by Frye to participate in the interlocal agreement, the motion passed.

5. Discuss and Consider Donation for Bovina Splash Pad

Deanna Curtis reported that the Bovina Parks enhancement Committee has received a matching grant for \$150,000. The Committee is proposing to put a Splash Pad in the city park for a cost of approximately \$300,000. See attached.

The City of Bovina and the Bovina Development Council have each contributed \$50,000 toward matching the grant. Deanna has also contacted Cargill for a donation but has yet to hear back from them. She is here before the Commissioners to ask for a donation from the County.

A discussion was held that ARPA funds might not be the best option based upon restrictions on use of the money but, the Commissioners were in favor of the Splash Pad project.

Commissioner Frye made a motion to table this request until more information can be obtained on the usage of the ARPA money. Commissioner Wilkins seconded and the motion to table passed.

6. Consider ARPA Funds for Friona Fire Dept.

Danny Campbell reminded the Commissioners that they had previously approved thermal cameras for the Friona FD at \$16,736.00. Prior to ordering the thermal cameras, a new product came to light that enables a smaller version of the thermal that could be used by individual firefighters that also had an alarm that would sound if they were to become trapped or incapacitated. For an additional \$5,200 he could order nine of these instead of two cameras.

Commissioner Wilkins made the motion to rescind the previous approval for the two larger thermal cameras and approve the \$21,936.00 for the nine cameras. Commissioner Frye seconded and the motion passed. See attached.

7. Read and Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting

Upon motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on November 14, 2022, by Russell seconded by White, the motion passed.

8. Consider Approval and Payment of Accounts Payable-Sharon May

Sharon May reported the Accounts Payable List for November 28, 2022. Motion by Frye, seconded by Russell to approve Payment of the Accounts Payable as presented. Motion carried. See attached.

9. Consider Treasurer's Payroll Report-Sharon May

Commissioner Russell made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Payroll Report for November 15, 2022. Commissioner Wilkins seconded and the motion passed. See attached.

10. Public Hearing on Intention of the County to Adopt Amended Tax Abatement Guidelines and Criteria, Pursuant to Chapter 312 of the Texas Tax Code

Judge Ellis explained the need to amend the Tax Abatement Guidelines. No public comment was received.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on a Resolution Continuing Prior Resolution Electing to Participate in Tax Abatements and Amending the County's Tax Abatement Guidelines and Criteria, Pursuant to Chapter 312 of the Texas Tax Code, to make Updates in the Guidelines and Criteria.

Following discussion on amending and updating the tax abatement guidelines and criteria, Commissioner White made a motion to adopt the amended Tax Abatement Guidelines and Criteria. Commissioner Russell seconded and the motion passed. See attached.

Commissioner Frye made the motion to continue, renew, and extend the County's authorization to participate in tax abatements in accordance with Chapter 312 of the Texas Tax Code. Commissioner Wilkins seconded and the motion passed, see attached.

12. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the First Amendment to Tax Abatement Agreement with Lazbuddie Wind Energy, LLC, Pursuant to Chapter 312 of the Texas Tax Code

After discussion and reading of the amendment, Commissioner Frye made the motion to adopt the amendment. Commissioner Wilkins seconded. Commissioner Russell announced his intention to abstain as he has land interests in the area. The motion passed with the abstention.

13. Consider Re-scheduling Commissioner Court December 26, 2022 to December 19, 2022

Commissioner White made the motion to reschedule the meeting, Commissioner Frye seconded and the motion passed.

14. Consider Invoice from SPAG Ref. Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group

After discussion that the Regional Water Planning Group is a taxing entity itself, Commissioner Frye made a motion to reject payment of this invoice, Commissioner White seconded and the motion passed.

15. Consider Water Line Under County Road

Henry Clark has made an application to place a water line approximately .70 mile west of Hwy 214 on CR M. Commissioner Wilkins made the motion to approve the water line and Commissioner Russell seconded. The motion passed.

16. Consider Request from Parmer County Employees for Payment of Unused Vacation Hours

Two employees from Pct. 3 have requested payment for unused vacation hours. One had 100 hours and one had 40 hours. This issue was addressed last December by only allowing 40 hours to be paid. Hours can be carried over till next year but there is a limit on how many.

The Commissioners discussed that this is an unbudgeted issue and needs to be revised in the Employee Handbook. Judge Ellis made the motion to table this issue until more research could be done. Commissioner Frye seconded and the motion to table passed.

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

The Sheriff reported 40 inmates with 11 of those from Deaf Smith County and 10 from Dawson County.

He reported that his office has two positions open; dispatcher and deputy.

He also notified the Court that he is working with the Base in Clovis on an agreement to be able to utilize their explosive detecting and narcotic detecting dogs.

He informed the Court of a video upgrade at no cost to the county to allow video visitation with inmates that provides more flexibility.

With no further business to come before the Court, Commissioner White moved to adjourn. Commissioner Russell seconded and adjournment was called at 12:06 o'clock P.M.

*Susan Sprung*  
County Clerk



*Greg Ebbi*  
County Judge