

REGULAR SESSION MEETING FEBRUARY 27, 2023

Be it remembered on the 27th day of February 2023 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:

Isabel Izzy Carrasco	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
Awyna Sanchez, Tax Assessor-Collector
Amy Dudley
Yurbon Salinas
Mario Vidaurri
Gary Stowers-Friona FD
Honorable Gordon H. Green, District Judge, Retired
Honorable Kathryn Gurley, District Judge

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 and Discuss ARPA Funds for the Friona Fire Dept.-Gary Stowers

Commissioner Frye made a motion to discuss the matter. Judge Carrasco seconded, and the motion passed. Gary Stowers presented a

request for \$13,229.33 for supply line hose. This would allow the FD to use two trucks and reverse lay the hose which is much more efficient.

Commissioner Russell made a motion to approve the \$13,229.33 from the ARPA funds for this request. Commissioner Frye seconded and the motion passed with a majority vote.

5. Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting

Upon motion to approve the minutes with the corrections, from the special Meeting on February 17, 2023, by Frye seconded by Wilkins, the motion passed by majority vote.

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

Sharon May reported the Accounts Payable List for February 27th 2023. Motion by White, seconded by Russell to approve Payment of the Accounts Payable as presented. Motion carried by majority vote. See attached.

7. Consider Treasurer's Payroll Report-Sharon May

Commissioner Frye made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Payroll Report for February 15th 2023 Commissioner White seconded and the motion passed by majority vote. See attached.

8. Consider and Discuss Continuing Education Hours for JP Pct #1

Commissioner Frye made the motion to approve the Continuing Education Hours for JP Pct. #1. Commissioner White seconded and the motion passed by majority vote. See attached.

9. Consider and Discuss Following the Farwell School Schedule for Inclement Weather

Judge Carrasco discussed his rationale for having the Parmer County Courthouse employees follow the Farwell School schedule for inclement weather. He then made the motion for the Courthouse to follow the Farwell ISD schedule for inclement weather. Commissioner Frye seconded. The vote was 2 in favor and 3 against the motion. The motion did not pass.

10. Consider and Discuss the Texas Indigent Defense Commission (TIDC)

Judge Green and Judge Gurley discussed the Texas Indigent Defense Commission proposal to obtain a grant to help 13 rural counties in our

area obtain attorneys for indigent defendants. At present the County has a very difficult time obtaining attorneys due to the lack of attorneys in the area. This, coupled with heavy case loads have many attorneys refusing to take assignments.

The Commission is planning to set up an organization to employ attorneys and deploy them to the 13 counties as needed. The grant would pay for 80% of the cost of the organization the first year and 60% for the next two years. Counties would contribute to the organization base upon their respective caseloads. A main office is being considered in Plainview with a satellite office to be decided.

At present the County is paying for attorneys as appointed. Our rate of payment is relatively low but Judge Gurley said she would have to greatly increase that amount as time went on to obtain out of county attorneys to travel to our courts.

Commissioner Frye made the motion to join with the other counties to obtain attorneys for indigent defendants in Parmer County and to sign the Resolution thus stating. Commissioner White seconded and the motion passed with a majority vote. See attached.

11. Consider Any and all Matters Concerning the Parmer County Law Enforcement Center Including but not Limited to:
 - (A) Consider and Discuss Contracts with Lubbock County and Deaf Smith County to House Inmates

Sheriff Geske stated that the Parmer County jail is housing 19 inmates. Two are from Dawson County.

He presented an Intergovernmental Agreement Between Parmer County and Lubbock County for Housing of Lubbock County prisoners in the Parmer County Jail and an Intergovernmental Agreement between Parmer County and Deaf Smith County for housing of their prisoners. He stated the charge would be \$75 per day for Lubbock and \$45 per day for Deaf Smith. The actual agreement with Lubbock needs to be changed to reflect that as noted by the Commissioners. Upon a motion by Commissioner White to approve both agreements with the change to the Lubbock agreement, and a second by Commissioner Russell, the motion passed with a majority vote.

The Sheriff then reported on damage from the excessive winds from yesterday. He stated Hwy. 214 south of Friona was impacted with the worst conditions. Power poles were snapped and a multi-car wreck occurred.

With no further business to come before the Court, Commissioner White moved to adjourn. Commissioner Russell seconded and adjournment was called at 12:09 o'clock P.M.

Susie Spay

County Clerk



Osamu Kane

County Judge