

REGULAR SESSION MEETING APRIL 10, 2023

Be it remembered on the 10th day of April 2023 at 10:04 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
Charles Wilkins	Commissioner Pct. #2
Kenny White	Commissioner Pct. #3
Casey Russell	Commissioner Pct. #4
Sharon May	County Treasurer
Susie Spring	County Clerk

Absent: Kirk Frye Commissioner Pct. #1

Also Present:

Eric Geske, Sheriff
Awyna Sanchez, Tax Assessor-Collector
Amy Dudley

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

Call to Order

1. Prayer

Commissioner White 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. Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting

Upon motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on March 27, 2023, by Commissioner Wilkins, seconded by Commissioner Russell, the motion passed by majority vote.

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

Sharon May reported the Accounts Payable List for April 3 and 10, 2023. Motion by Commissioner Russell, seconded by Commissioner Wilkins to approve Payment of the Accounts Payable as presented. Motion carried by majority vote. See attached.

6. Consider Treasurer's Payroll Report-Sharon May

Commissioner White made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Payroll Report for March 31, 2023, Commissioner Russell seconded and the motion passed by majority vote. See attached.

7. Consider and Discuss the Office Located at 104 W. 7th in Friona, Texas

Judge Carrasco said that the Adult Probation Department informed him that they were no longer using this office. MHMR shared this space but are also not utilizing the space. Judge Carrasco discussed the fact that no contract for this building could be found and suggested the County no longer pay for this un-utilized space.

Commissioner Wilkins brought up the office building on 9th in Friona that housed the old JP #1 office and the DPS and Sheriff's office space in Friona. He wanted to consider moving those two offices into the space on W. 7th. He stated this would save the County money. Discussion took place. Commissioner White made a motion to table this decision until further research could be done. Commissioner Wilkins seconded the motion and it carried by majority vote.

8. Consider and Discuss Juvenile Probation Salary for Secretary

Judge Carrasco, who is a member of the Juvenile Probation Board, informed the Commissioners that the Board approved moving the Secretary position from a part time to a full time. For this budget year, there would be no additional cost to the County. The Judge indicated that a fund exists in the Juvenile Probation Office that has approximately \$200,000. The funding for the Secretary will come from this fund. The fund exists to pay for juveniles needing placement in facilities other than a criminal placement.

Judge Carrasco stated he talked with several other Judges and while this is common, usually not as much money is held. The Juvenile boards wants to decrease that fund to approximately \$150,000.

Discussion ensued as to how much this would cost including insurance and retirement funds. The question was also raised as to how much the Juvenile Probation Office receives from the state.

Based upon these unanswered questions, Judge Carrasco made the motion to table this issue until further information could be gathered. Commissioner Wilkins seconded and the motion passed by majority vote.

9. Consider and Discuss 2024 Parmer County Resolution in Support for the Regional Indigent Defense Improvement Grant Request.

This resolution was discussed and approved in the February 27, 2023 Regular Commissioner's Court meeting. The resolution is just now available for signing. The members of the Court signed the resolution. See attached.

10. Consider and Discuss Bonds for the District Clerk Deputy, County Clerk Deputy and County Treasurer Deputy

Commissioner Russel made a motion to approve all three Deputy Clerk bonds. Commissioner White seconded the motion and it passed with a majority vote. Bonds are filed in the County Clerk's Office.

11. Consider and Discuss Purchase off Road Grader for use in Precinct #4

Commissioner Russel is planning to purchase a John Deere Road Grader for \$360,000.00. It does not qualify for the buyback program so he is making a \$110,000.00 down payment and financing the remaining \$250,000.00.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wilkins to purchase the road grader for Pct. #4, seconded by commissioner White. The motion passed by majority vote.

12. Consider Any and all Matters Concerning the Parmer County Law Enforcement Center Including but not Limited to:

A. Consider and Discuss Mutual Aid Agreement with Castro County

Sheriff Geske stated that the Parmer County Jail is housing 16 inmates. Two are from Dawson County. Ten of the inmates have tested positive for COVID. The jail is on lock down until the infection is controlled.

Sheriff Geske discussed the three wrecks that occurred during the dust storm last Tuesday. He stated that conditions were impossible to see in or breath in, so that he is ordering goggles. He is researching respirators as well in order to be better prepared for the future.

The Sheriff also reported that the servers were down this weekend so that the phones in the Sheriff's Office were not working. The IT consultant was called and reset the servers to alleviate the issue.

Sheriff Geske presented a mutual aid agreement between Parmer and Castro Counties. Upon motion by Judge Carrasco to approve the agreement, seconded by Commissioner White, the motion passed by majority vote.

He stated he had nothing further to report and there were no questions.

With no further business to come before the Court, Commissioner White moved to adjourn. Commissioner Russell seconded and adjournment was called at 11:12 o'clock A.M.

Susie Spruy

County Clerk



W. Carrasco

County Judge