

REGULAR SESSION MEETING JUNE 12 2023

Be it remembered on the 12th day of June 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
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
Jessica White, Election Clerk
Janelle Duffey, Ag-Ext.
Wendy Case, Ag-Ext.
Amy Dudley
John Schaumburg, PRPC
Vince Vasquez, First Bank and Trust
Micha Horn, First Bank and Trust
Juana Elizamarraraz, First Bank and Trust
Michael Clawson, Texas A&M
Connor Kilday, Lazabuddie Wind Energy

Present for Public Meeting:

Loraine Anthony
Loy McLellan
Elizabeth McLellan
Mary Stone
Sharon White
Patty Haile
Rhonda Murphree

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. Public Hearing on Vote Centers in Parmer County

Seven members of the public attended the hearing. Judge Carrasco invited those that were there to speak. Six of the public spoke in favor of Parmer County moving to Vote Centers. One person came to listen and did not speak.

Judge Carrasco thanked the members of the public for their attendance and their input. He stated that all comments he has heard outside of the hearing were also positive for moving to vote centers.

4. Open Forum for Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

5. Consider and Discuss Agreement for Road Use, Repair and Improvements between Lazbuddie Wind Energy, LLC and Parmer County

Connor Kilday presented the agreement for Lazbuddie 1 Wind Energy Road Agreement. He stated he had worked with our Attorney at Underwood law firm to obtain his approval for this agreement. Commissioner Frye indicated that 24" culverts were a necessity. Mr. Kilday made a note of this and assured the Court it will be done.

Commissioner Frye made a motion to approve the agreement. Commissioner White seconded and the motion passed with a majority vote. See attached Agreement.

6. Consider and Discuss Salary Contribution Agreement between Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Services and Parmer County

Michael Clawson gave a brief history of the Salary Contribution Agreement. It allows the Agrilife Extension employees to be Texas A&M employees with Texas A&M providing benefits and charging the County approximately 40% of that cost. Previous to 2017, Parmer County had a Cooperative Agreement with A&M. Under that agreement the County pays their portion of the salaries directly to the employees and Texas A&M provides benefits at no cost to the County.

After discussion by the Commissioners, Judge Carrasco made a motion to end the contract Agreement at the end of 2023. Commissioner Frye seconded the motion. It passed with a majority vote.

The understanding was that at the appropriate time for the 2024 fiscal year, the County and A&M would then enter into a Cooperative Agreement. See attached existing Amendment to the Salary Contribution Agreement and a proposed Cooperative Agreement.

7. Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting

Upon motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on May 22, 2023, by Commissioner White seconded by Commissioner Frye, the motion passed by majority vote.

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

Sharon May reported the Accounts Payable List for June 5th and June 12th 2023. Motion by Judge Carrasco, seconded by Commissioner White to approve Payment of the Accounts Payable as presented. Motion carried by majority vote. See attached.

9. Consider Treasurer's Payroll Report-Sharon May

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

10. Consider and Discuss Bids for Bank Depository

Two sealed bids were available for review. Judge Carrasco opened both bids. Representatives from First Bank and Trust were present. Judge Carrasco asked Vince Vasquez to present his bid package. He discussed the bid and answered questions. First Bank and Trust is currently the County depository.

Security State Bank also sent in a bid. No one from the bank was present. The Court compared the two bids. After comparison and discussion, Judge Carrasco made a motion to continue with First Bank and Trust for the four-year time period for bank depository for the County. Commissioner Wilkins seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

11. Consider and Discuss Budget Amendment to the 2023 County Budget

The Treasurer presented a Budget Amendments to the Capital Expenditure portion of this year's budget for Precinct #3. On a motion to approve the amendment by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Wilkins, the motion passed by majority vote. See attached.

12. Update on Legislature and Elections

Susie Spring, County Clerk provided the Court an update on the recently adjourned 88th Texas Legislative Session. She reported all Election changes are basically, unfunded mandates. The major impact to both her office and the Tax Assessor-Collector is that the last week of early voting will be a 78-hour week due to the mandatory opening of early voting for 12 hours Monday-Saturday and 6 hours on Sunday.

Other new laws will require re-printing of envelopes and applications as well as new signage at the polling places.

13. Consider and Discuss Resolution supporting Inclusion in the Texas County Wide Polling Place Program

Susie Spring, County Clerk informed the Court that the Secretary of State requires the Court to pass a resolution after hearing the public comments on moving to vote centers in order to be accepted into the program.

Commissioner Frye made a motion to approve the Resolution Supporting Inclusion in the Countywide Polling Place Program. Commissioner Russell seconded and the motion passed with a majority vote. See attached.

14. Consider and Discuss Water Line under County Road

Vick Christian applied to place a water line under County Road W past CR 10. One half mile east on CR W.

Judge Carrasco made a motion to approve the placement of the water line. Commissioner Russell seconded and the motion passed with a majority vote. See attached.

15. Consider and Discuss Interlocal Agreement for E9-1-1 and PSAP Equipment

John Schaumburg of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission presented the Inter-local Agreement and Resolution for Service and Equipment for the 911 system in Parmer County. This is a continuation of the contract that is in existence at present. See attached.

Commissioner Frye made the motion to accept the contract and the resolution. Commissioner Russell seconded and the motion passed by majority vote.

16. Consider and Discuss Declaration of Local State Disaster Due to Local Widespread Flooding

Judge Carrasco informed the Commissioners that he previously signed a Declaration that was temporary for 7 days. To extend it, it had to come before the Court, for a 30-day extension. Discussion was held on the requirements associated with moneys available for the disaster. There was general agreement that the road repair cost would exceed the money available.

Judge Carrasco made the motion to approve the declaration. Commissioner White seconded and the motion passed with a majority vote. See attached.

17. Consider and Discuss Parmer County Burn Ban

Commissioner Frye made a motion to remove the Burn Ban due to the recent rains. Commissioner Wilkins seconded and the motion passed with a majority vote.

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

Sheriff Geske reported that the Parmer County jail is housing 33 inmates. 14 of which is from Dawson County.

He stated that Hockley County may be added to the Counties requesting an Agreement for Parmer County to house some of their inmates.

He informed the Court of roof leaks from the recent rains in the Parmer County Law Enforcement Center due to a weld break from the new air conditioners that were placed on the roof. The air conditioning company has been contacted and they will be repairing the roof.

He discussed the recent Legislative session that granted the rural Sheriff Departments \$250,000 for employee salaries and equipment. Once he has the details and makes decisions on how to utilize the monies, he will bring it before the Court.

He also informed the court of a new law that School Districts must provide armed personnel on each campus. The details are not clear but the ISDs will be given monies to pay for this.

Judge Carrasco informed the Commissioners of a meeting for the Emergency Management Committee for Parmer County. The meeting will be tomorrow night, June 13th at 6:30 PM at the XIT Center in Bovina. He encouraged everyone to attend.

With no further business to come before the Court, Commissioner White moved to adjourn. Commissioner Russell seconded and adjournment was called at 12:35 o'clock P.M.


County Clerk




County Judge