

## **REGULAR SESSION MEETING AUGUST 14 2023**

Be it remembered on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of August 2023 at 10:05 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
Charles Wilkins	Commissioner Pct. #2
Kenny White	Commissioner Pct. #3
Casey Russell	Commissioner Pct. #4
Sharon May	County Treasurer
Susie Spring	County Clerk

Also Present:

Lupe Acevedo  
Steve Owens, TAC  
Rita Fife, TAC  
Altha Herington, Past Treasurer  
Eric Geske, Sheriff  
Awyna Sanchez, Tax Assessor-Collector  
Amy Dudley

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

### **Call to Order**

1. Prayer

Lupe Acevedo 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. Discuss Family Leave & Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

Rita Fife from TAC discussed the rules for the FMLA that would affect the County. The County has 50 employees and the addition of one more would require the County to offer FMLA.

She discussed the benefits for both the employees and management. She stated that the Act provides 12 weeks or 480 hours of FMLA time. She

suggests taking FMLA time concurrently with any vacation or sick time available. The actual amount of time must be documented from physician caring for the employee or their spouse if needed. In some instances, it may be under the 12 weeks. Each incident is separate. You may have an incident that takes only 4 weeks and later in the 12 month period one that qualifies for the remaining 8 weeks.

If we implement the program, she suggests basing it on a rolling 12 months, not a calendar 12 month period. She stated that part time workers that work 1250 hours in the past 12 months are eligible for FMLA. Part time workers working those hours count as one employee toward the 50+ employees for the FMLA requirement. Elected Officials are not counted in the 50 nor do they qualify for FMLA.

She also discussed the relationship between FMLA and Worker's Compensation. After numerous questions and discussion, Judge Carrasco thanked her for coming and answering the questions.

At the end of the presentation, Steve Owens introduced himself as the new safety person from TAC for our area.

5. Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting

Upon motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on July 24, 2023, by Judge Carrasco seconded by Commissioner Frye, the motion passed by majority vote.

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

Sharon May reported the Accounts Payable List for July 31<sup>st</sup> and August 4<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Motion by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Frye to approve Payment of the Accounts Payable as presented. Motion carried by majority vote. See attached.

7. Consider Treasurer's Payroll Report-Sharon May

Judge Carrasco made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Payroll Report for July 31, 2023. Commissioner Wilkins seconded and the motion passed by majority vote. See attached.

8. Consider and Discuss Monthly Contract with Rana Crow for the Parmer County Website

Judge Carrasco presented an updated contract for maintenance of the website by RC Web Design and Marketing. It is an increase of \$100 per month over the existing fee making the total \$200 per month.

On a motion by Judge Carrasco to approve the contract, seconded by Commissioner Russell, the motion passed by majority vote.

9. Consider and Discuss County Road and Bridge Fee

Each year this issue is brought before the Commissioners. The County has approved a \$10 fee on vehicle registrations for County Road and Bridge repair for quite some time. On a motion by Commissioner Wilkins to continue this fee, seconded by Commissioner White, the motion passed unanimously.

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

Sheriff Geske stated that the Parmer County jail is housing 32 inmates. 20 are Parmer County inmates. 12 are from Lubbock County.

He gave a status update on an interlocal agreement with the City of Friona to provide coverage of the city for the first two weeks of every month. Upon discussions with TAC, the agreement will be through the County not the individual deputies or Sheriff's Office. This will enable Friona to pay Parmer County and keep all insurances on property and deputies intact. The agreement will be brought to the Court for approval.

Sheriff Geske informed the Court of a Local Emergency Management meeting at 6:30 Wednesday August 16<sup>th</sup> at the XIT building in Bovina. He stated that all emergency alarm buttons in the Courthouse are working.

Commissioner White moved to adjourn. Commissioner Russell seconded and adjournment was called at 12:10 o'clock P.M. The Court will reconvene at 1:30 PM for the budget Workshop portion of the regular meeting.

At 1:30 PM, Judge Carrasco called the Budget Workshop to order with the following members present,

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

Sharon May, Treasurer, presented the budget with the revised numbers from the last meeting.

The Court reviewed the changes and discussed the following proposed budget items:

A full time Election Clerk

A full time CA assistant

Raising the part time employee minimum salary and additional labor in several departments

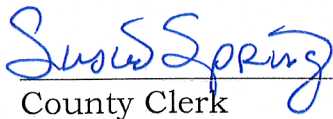
The Sheriff's Office salaries in light of Senate Bill 22

The projected raise for employees was discussed. General agreement was reached. With that issue decided, a proposed budget can be issued.

Judge Carrasco made a motion to accept the proposed budget with the agreed upon raise. Commissioner Frye seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

A discussion was held on the possibility of cancelling the County portion of the vehicle property tax. This will be brought up in the next meeting as the tax rate is set.

With no further business to come before the Court, Commissioner White moved to adjourn. Commissioner Frye seconded and adjournment was called at 5:15 o'clock P.M.

  
County Clerk



  
County Judge