

## **REGULAR SESSION MEETING SEPTEMBER 11, 2023**

Be it remembered on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023 at 10:00 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:

Awyna Sanchez, Tax Assessor-Collector  
Eric Geske, Sheriff  
Amy Dudley  
Jake Owens, YellowHouse Machinery

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 Adopting the 2024 Budget

Judge Carrasco called a Public Hearing on the Tax Rate to order at 9:30 AM this morning and the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 AM. No members of the public attended and no discussion was had.

Judge Carrasco made the motion to adopt the proposed 2024 Parmer County Budget. Commissioner Frye seconded the motion and a vote was held.

The vote was unanimous with 5 Ayes and 0 Nays.

5. Consider and Discuss Adopting the 2023 Parmer County Tax Rate

Judge Carrasco made the motion to adopt the proposed 2023 tax rate as follows:

General Fund Tax Rate	0.3091
Farm to Market Tax Rate	<u>0.0899</u>
Total Tax Rate:	0.3990

Judge Carrasco made the motion to adopt the proposed tax rate. Commissioner Wilkins seconded and a vote was held.

The vote was unanimous with 5 Ayes and 0 Nays.

6. Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting

Upon motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on August 28, 2023, by Commissioner White seconded by Commissioner Russell, the motion passed by majority vote.

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

Sharon May reported the Accounts Payable List for September 6<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> 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.

8. Consider Treasurer's Payroll Report-Sharon May

Commissioner Frye made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Payroll Report for August 30<sup>th</sup> 2023 Commissioner Russell seconded and the motion passed by majority vote. See attached.

9. Consider and Discuss

Susie Spring, County Clerk presented the list of Election Judges and Alternates for the 2023-2024 Election years. See attached. Judge Carrasco made a motion to approve of the Judges and Alternates.

Commissioner Frye seconded. The motion passed by majority vote. See attached.

10. Consider and Discuss Purchase of Road-grader for use in Pct. 1

Commissioner Frye introduced Jake Owens who presented the cost of the grader for Pct. 1. He stated that this purchase is part of the buy-back program which allows the trade in of the old grader and a \$180,000.00 trade in allowance.

Total cost with the allowance is \$210,000.00. See attached. Mr. Owens stated that it could be financed by John Deere or a Bank out of Wichita Falls that has a County Division. Discussion was held to discuss obtaining financing locally. Commissioner Frye stated that he would check with Security State Bank in Farwell to see which option was better for the County. He also has the option of paying the total outright without financing.

Commissioner White made a motion to purchase the road-grader with the decision as to how best to pay for it left to Commissioner Frye of Pct. 1. Commissioner Russell seconded and the motion passed with a majority vote.

11. Consider and Discuss Bids to Install HVAC in District Clerk's Office

Judge Carrasco presented two bids; one from Rick's Comfort solutions and one from White Service Company. The bid from White is \$1,500.00 less than the one from Rick's. Judge Carrasco said the lead time from White's is longer, about two weeks. See attached.

After discussion, Judge Carrasco made a motion to accept the bid from White's Service Company and to use ARPA money for project. Commissioner Frye seconded and the motion passed with majority vote.

12. Consider and Discuss Sealcoat Bids for the Courthouse Parking Lot

Sheriff Geske has researched having the Sheriff Office's parking lot resealed. Judge Carrasco ask Berma Construction to include adding the Courthouse parking lot to the bid. He presented a bid of \$15,521.00. This only included a portion of the north parking lot. To include the total lot would be approximately \$2,000.00. See attached.

After discussion, commissioner Frye made a motion to accept the bid for the entire Courthouse parking lot and for the funds from the ARPA money be used to pay for the project. Commissioner Wilkins seconded and the motion passed with a majority vote.

13. Consider and Discuss Parmer County Burn Ban

After discussion in regard to the forecast of possible moisture for the area, Judge Carrasco made the motion to table this issue until the next Commissioners' Meeting. Commissioner Wilkins seconded and the motion passed by majority vote.

14. Discuss Juvenile Probation Inter-Local Agreement

In keeping with his effort to keep the commissioners informed about the Juvenile Probation Office in Parmer and Bailey County, Judge Carrasco advised the Court that the Juvenile Probation Board has signed an inter-local agreement with Cochran County to assist them with their juvenile program until that county can recruit another probation officer.

This will cost Parmer and Bailey Counties no monies. No equipment from Parmer or Bailey will be utilized. The Probation Officer will simply go as needed every other Friday or every Friday for half-days to Cochran County and assist them in supervising juveniles on probation.

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

Sheriff Geske stated that the Parmer County jail is housing 36 inmates. 21 of which are from Lubbock County.

He is preparing the Courthouse Security Plan for review by the District Judge. A Courthouse Security board will be appointed by the Judge to review the plan. Once approved it will be brought to the Commissioners for approval.

Sheriff Geske stated that to his knowledge all Parmer County Schools will seek waivers from having armed guards on campus and utilize armed teachers trained in open carry and guardian training.

He announced that SCAP grant money of \$14,000.00 has been approved for his office to receive.

Treasure Sharon May announced that open enrollment for employees would be held September 27<sup>th</sup>

With no further business to come before the Court, Commissioner White moved to adjourn. Commissioner Russell seconded and adjournment was called at 11:03 o'clock A.M.

*Sue Spey*  
County Clerk



*Robert [unclear]*  
County Judge