

**Regular Meeting of the Commissioners' Court
July 31, 2023**

Be it remembered that the Honorable Commissioners' Court of Hemphill County, Texas met in a regular meeting on this the 31st day of July, 2023.

Those present and presiding were:

Lisa Johnson	-	Hemphill County Judge
Dawn Webb	-	Commissioner Precinct #1
Tim Alexander	-	Commissioner Precinct #2
Dale Schafer	-	Commissioner Precinct #3
Nicholas Thomas	-	Commissioner Precinct #4
Rosa Gandara	-	Chief Deputy Clerk and Ex Officio Member of Commissioners' Court

Others present were: Sheriff, Brent Clapp, Jail Administrator, Shannon Woodrum, Airport Manager, Bill Kendali, Tax Assessor/Collector, Chris Jackson and Jeffrey E. Heffelfinger.

Call to Order.

Judge Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. She noted that all members of the Court were present.

Approve Minutes from July 10, 2023.

Dawn moved to approve the minutes from the July 10, 2023 meeting as presented. Nicholas seconded the motion which carried unopposed.

Burn Ban.

No action was taken.

Public Comments.

No public comments were made.

Consider/Approve Bids for Clerk's Vault Rood Replacement.

Nicholas moved to approve the only bid received for Clerk's Vault Roof Replacement from Parsley's Roofing in the amount of \$78,700. Tim seconded the motion, which carried unopposed.

Consider/Approve Bid for Jail Locks Upgrade Project.

Tim moved to approve the bids for Jail Locks Upgrade Project as recommended by Southwest Architects, Inc. in the amount of \$472,479.00. Sustainable Security Solution Item 1 for \$394,997 and Item 4 for \$9,879, Coffee Heat & Air, LLC, Item 2 for \$5,344 and A1 Electric, Item 3 for \$11,769. Nicholas seconded the motion, which carried unopposed.

Consider/Appoint Judge Willis Smith to the Texas Panhandle Centers Board of Trustees.

Dale moved to re-appoint retired Judge Willis Smith to the Texas Panhandle Centers Board of Trustees. Tim seconded the motion, which carried unopposed.

Consider/Approve traffic study for Teas Circle or set speed limit.

Dale moved to set speed limit to 20 MPH at Teas Circle. Dawn seconded the motion, which carried unopposed.

Consider/Approve Interlocal Agreement between Hemphill County and Roberts County for jail services.

Nicholas moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement between Hemphill County and Roberts County for jail services. Tim seconded the motion, which carried unopposed.

Consider/Approve Interlocal Agreement between Hemphill County and Wheeler County for jail services.

Sheriff Brent Clapp explained the need for a new agreement with Wheeler County because we cannot keep inmates who have any mental issues in our jail. Nicholas moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement between Hemphill County and Wheeler County for jail services contingent upon approval from Kyle Miller, County Attorney. Dale seconded the motion, which carried unopposed.

Consider/Approve Airport Runway/Pavement Rehab Project and AWOS Replacement.

Judge Johnson moved to approve the Airport runway/pavement Rehab Project and AWOS replacement in the amount of \$265,000.00. Tim seconded the motion, which carried unopposed.

Budget Workshop.

Judge Johnson explained to the Commissioners Court the 2023-2024 calculated tax rates.

Vote to propose a tax rate for 2023 to support the 2023-2024 Budget (the proposed consideration will increase the tax revenue.)

Judge Johnson said she received the certified appraisal roll. Adjusted valuation for M&O is \$1,621,883,852 and road and bridge is \$1,624, 554, 202, which includes railroad stock of \$9,456,638. Judge Johnson said that with the numbers provided by Chris it was possible to keep the tax rate the same as last year. Judge Johnson explained that if the tax rate stays the same, it would generate a tax revenue in the amount of \$1,851,991 for road and bridge. \$5,084,605 for the M&O. The total tax revenue would be \$6,936,596 which is an increase of \$774,417. Tim moved to set the proposed tax rate at .3300 for M&O and .12 for Road and Bridge for a total tax rate of .45.

Schedule the Public Hearing on Tax Increase for 2023.

Tim moved to set the public hearing on Tax Increase for 2023 to be held on August 14, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Dawn seconded the motion, which carried unopposed.

Schedule the Public Hearing on the 2023-2024 Proposed Budget.

Dale moved to set the public hearing on the 2023-2024 Proposed budget to be held on August 14, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Tim seconded the motion, which carried unopposed.

Schedule the vote on the tax rate for 2023.

Dawn moved to set the public hearing on the tax rate for 2023 to be held on August 14, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Tim seconded the motion, which carried unopposed

Future Agenda Items

Judge Johnson said she will contact Bill Roy with Parsley's regarding the leak in the roof of the fire station.

Announcements

Judge Johnson spoke to the commissioners' court regarding some projects that are still pending with the Texas Department of Transportation which expire in July 2025. She announced that the Panhandle County Judges and Commissioners Meeting for the fall will be September 14, 2023 in Amarillo, Texas, reminding them to register. She also presented an estimate from Luke Mills for removal of dead trees around complex, campgrounds and across highway on the road to the walking bridge.

Approve Bills, Budget Amendments

Dawn moved to approve the computer generated bills. Tim seconded the motion which carried unopposed.

Tim moved to approve the hand stamped bills. Dale seconded the motion which carried unopposed.

Nicholas moved to approve an invoice from Alexander's Grocery & Deli for \$144.16. Dale seconded the motion, which carried with Tim abstaining.

Adjourn

Tim moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:49 a.m. Dale seconded the motion which carried unopposed.

The meeting took place at the city of Canadian, Texas on July 31, 2023.

ATTEST *Lisa Johnson* COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST *Sybil Anderson* COUNTY CLERK