

Mills County
Commissioners Court Minutes
November 28, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

This regular session of the Mills County Commissioners Court opened in due form of law at 9:00 am in the Mills County Commissioners' Courtroom located at 1011 4th Street, Goldthwaite, Texas 76844.

Present in the Courtroom: Judge Johnson, Commissioners Williams, Wright, Partin, and Garren, County Attorney – Gerald Hale, County Clerk – Sonya Scott, Deputy Clerk – Shawnee Martinez, and Treasurer – Summer Campbell. Present via Zoom: Jacki Brooks, Michael Pritchard, The Goldthwaite Eagle, and Justice of the Peace – Kim Avants. See attendance sheet for audience listing.

The meeting is available to the public to view on the Mills County YouTube channel.

1. Judge Johnson called the meeting to order noted the presence of a quorum; Judge Johnson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance with Commissioner Williams providing the opening prayer.
2. Review of minutes November 14, 2022- Commissioner Garren made a motion to approve with correction with a second from Commissioner Williams. Motion carried 5-0.
3. Audience with Individuals – none
4. Consider and Act on approving Accounts Payable – Commissioner Garren moved to approve accounts payable with a second from Judge Johnson. Motion carried 5-0.
5. Consider and Act on Burn Ban – Commissioner Williams is in favor of leaving the burn ban off currently. No action needed. All commissioners agreed to leave the burn ban off.
6. Consider and Act on Proclamation thanking Priddy Elementary School for their Veterans' Day presentation. Priddy Elementary did a great job for the Veteran's and all that attended. Judge Johnson read the proclamation to the Court. Judge Johnson made a motion to approve the proclamation with a second from Commissioner Garren. Motion carried 5-0.
7. Consider and Act on Microsoft and Email Licensing. – Taken out of order – Sam Goldsmith presented handout to Court. Asking the Court to consider streamlining the email licensing for the county. There is no consistency currently between departments. Asking the Court to consider moving to Goldsmith solutions partnership agreement as this would be a faster response time. Cost savings is minimal but improvements will ensure compliance with license agreements. Recommendations provided for discussion and vote. Asking to move to a uniform naming convention for all county emails. There is no additional cost for this transition. Recommendations exceed budgeted amount for emails; however, there is additional monies available in the budget from the IT budget. Commissioner Partin wanted to know if we need to contact TAC with regards to this move. Commissioner Partin moved to table this decision to a later date. Judge Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.
8. Consider and Act on moving Fire Panel to integrate with Secure Tech – Fire panel was hit by lightning and has not been repaired but is budgeted in this fiscal year. Goldsmith recommends using the wireless communication for emergencies that the County already has in place. The fire alarm would

trigger a message to the Law Enforcement in the same manner as our current panic button set-up. There is no monthly cost. Only a set-up cost that would be one time. Total project cost is \$721.00. There is cost for repairing the fire panel. The quote provided is only for the IT portion of this change. Goldsmith would recommend getting the fire panel first and then focus on the moving of the relay. There is one phone line in the courthouse through frontier. The alternative is to convert to a cell phone connection for that line. The one line for Frontier is currently budgeted. Commissioner Williams made a motion to move the fire panel to SecureTech. Commissioner Garren provided the second. Motion carried 5-0.

9. IT Update Report – Taken out of order – Sam Goldsmith presented to the Court a general IT update. See packet provided. Will be asking about streamlining Microsoft and email licensing (agenda item 7). Have met with Judge Johnson and Sheriff Hammonds with regards to the technical issues at the Jail/Law Enforcement Center. This will be on the next agenda for Commissioners Court to possibly go forward. Will be presenting at future date, technical specifications for the camera/security system for the Court's consideration. No other questions or discussion.

10. Consider and Act on appointment of Jed Garren for Mills Central Appraisal District Board - Commissioner Williams has served for some time. Commissioner Williams made motion to appoint Commissioner Jed Garren to the Mills County Appraisal Board. Judge Johnson provided the second. Commissioner Garren abstained from voting. Motion carried 4-0

11. Consider and Act on Chapter 59 Asset Report for the Attorney General's Office. - Sheriff Hammonds addressed the Court regarding the asset forfeitures that are required to report to the Attorney General's office annually. It is not a required to come to court annually, but the Sheriff wanted to have this information recorded in Court. The funds are from seizures from felony offenses in the County. Proceeds are split 50/50 with the District Attorney's office. Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the report and Commissioner Partin provided the second. Motion carried 5-0.

12. Discussion on amending road use agreement with Swift Current Energy and Castle Gap Wind Power – Michael Pritchard on Zoom and introduced William Kelsey and Jason. Requesting an amendment from the February 2022 agreement that was approved in Court. Mr. Kelsey addressed the Court that the project is progressing and doing very well. Mr. Kelsey noted that there are a few roads that were included in the original agreement that were never used and would therefore like to amend the agreement to remove those roads from the agreement. Delivery routes changed after an agreement with a private landowner. Commissioners Garren and Jason of Swift Current met to discuss the proposal. Commissioner Garren noted that the next agreement needs to be more restrictive, and he feels that Swift Current has not completed that requirement as intended in the agreement. Mr. Kelsey would like to meet with Commissioner Garren and determine a set of recommendations for the Court to review. Commissioner Partin wanted to know why TxDot was not included in this conversation originally – no response provided. The wide heavy roads damage the edges of farm to market roads. Commissioner Partin volunteered to be a part of the assessment and discussion for recommendations. No action at this time – listed as discussion only.

13. Consider and Act on declaring Veterans Service Officer's HP printer serial no. 5LJ23A as salvage. Judge Johnson moved to change the language from salvage to scrap with a second from Commissioner

Garren. Motion carried 5-0. Judge Johnson provided the motion to declare as scrap. Second provided by Commissioner Garren. Motion carried 5-0.

14. Consider and Act on declaring Maintenance Facility Manager's HP OfficeJet Pro 8610 printer serial no CN48NDW1MN as scrap. -Motion by Commissioner Williams to declare as scrap. Second by Judge Johnson. Motion carried 5-0.

15. Consider and act on old EMS building - Judge Johnson provided that the required notices have been posted. There is a public auction set for December 8, 2022. Commissioner Partin asked if this could be a Special Meeting. There can be two members of the Court present. Commissioner Partin noted that he possibly will be there as an individual to bid on the public auction. Same procedure as last time with a lowered minimum bid. County Attorney noted that the contract needs to be updated from the last public auction. \$45,000 is the new minimum bid. No action taken – information only.

16. Consider and Act on new EMS – Commissioner Williams that cement work should start sometime next week. No action.

17. Commissioners request and reports:

Pct 1 Commissioner Wright: Thank you to Commissioners Williams and Partin for grading roads and training new hand while Commissioner Wright was unavailable.


Pct 2 Commissioner Garren: worked on equipment and roads

Pct 3 commissioner Partin: Just finished main street and 6th street in Mullin that needed repairs. Positive feedback from Mullin citizens.

Pct 4 Commissioner Williams: work on CR 527 and helped Commissioner Wright.

18. Judges report: Burn ban is lifted but please still report that burns to the law enforcement. Christmas lights are up and look great. Inquest last week. Rains were great and holiday was great.

9. Commissioner Garren to adjourn; Commissioner Williams second. Motion Carried 5-0


Sonya Scott
Mills County Clerk



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