

Mills County
Commissioners Court Minutes
July 10, 2023– 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 Jett Johnson, Commissioners Williams, Partin, Head and Wright, Deputy Clerk Shawnee Martinez, Deputy Clerk Julie Fincher, and See attendance sheet for audience listing.

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

1. Judge Jett Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:00 am noted the presence of a quorum; Judge Johnson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance with Commissioner Williams provided the opening prayer.
2. Review and Act on Minutes of June 26, 2023 – Commissioner Wright motioned to approve minutes, seconded by Commissioner Williams.

Motion carried 5-0.

3. Audience with Individuals – None
4. Review and Act on approving Accounts Payable – Commissioner Partin, questioned the cost for the door replacement on the east side of the courthouse and what it included. Guy responded with the total given in the report was the cost for all materials. Commissioner Partin and Williams questioned Terrell Harris from IDIQ about funds shown in the report under Courthouse repairs, this will be tabled until further consideration. Commissioner Partin motioned to accept accounts payable apart from the one-line item of restriction change with a second from Commissioner Wright.

Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Williams motioned to approve the corrected IDIQ report seconded by Commissioner Head.

Motion carried 5-0.

Consent Agenda – Commissioner Williams motioned to accept all consent agenda reports including the date change of October 10, 2022, to July 10, 2023, Quarterly Treasurer Report, with a second from Judge Johnson.

Motion carried 5-0.

- a. Monthly County Treasurer Report
- b. Quarterly County Treasurer Report
- c. Quarterly Investment Report
- d. MCAD Monthly Collection Report
- e. County Clerk Report
- f. District Clerk Report
- g. County Tax Collector
- h. County Extension Report
- i. Facilities Report
- j. Sheriff's Office

- k. Justice of the Peace
- l. County Judge's Receipts
- m. Hamilton EMS
- n. Veteran's Service Officer

Action Agenda

5. Consider and Act on Burn Ban – Judge Johnson discussed communicating with surrounding counties and mentioned others had the burn ban on due to how dry and no rain recently. Judge Johnson motioned to enact the burn ban as of 12:00pm June 10, 2023, seconded by Commissioner Wright.

Motion carried 5-0.

6. Consider and Act on Budget Amendments – Commissioner Wright made the motion to approve all budget amendments with a second from Commissioner Williams.

Motion carried 5-0.

7. Consider and Act on changing pay scale for Senior Jailer position – Judge Johnson suggested waiting until the new budget cycle to discuss and consider changing the pay scale. Judge Johnson motioned to table this until the new budget cycle with a second from Commissioner Wright.

Motion carried 5-0.

8. Consider and Act on approving Surety Bonds for Deputy Anthony Pool – Judge Johnson motioned to approve the surety bond with a second from Commissioner Head.

Motion carried 5-0.

9. Consider and Act on job title for Mills County Custodian – Mills County Custodian positioned to be renamed to Facilities Manager. Guy Burns approached commissioners with a job description with all duties mentioned that accommodate the facilities manager's position in which he currently does. Commissioner Williams motioned to approve the title change from County Custodian to Facilities Manager with a second from Commissioner Head.

Motion carried 5-0.

10. Consider and Act on Interlocal Agreement with Regional Public Defender for Capital Cases – If a capital murder trial was to happen in Mills County this agreement provides travel and investigation. Motioned to approve by Judge Johnson with a second from Commissioner Partin.

Motion carried 5-0.

11. Consider and Act on Courthouse entrance door replacements – Guy Burns approached the commissioners and explained the severe rot that is on the bottom of all doors and is working on contacting different vendors for quotes. The historical commission must approve before there are any changes, with a value of security for the courthouse. Commissioner Williams mentioned taking this issue as an emergency budget amendment due to security issues. Guy Burns suggested temporarily closing the east entrance due to the conditions of the doors and table the replacements until further contact and information are discovered. Commissioner Williams motioned to table discussion on courthouse entrance doors and to close the east entrance to courthouse temporarily with a second from Judge Johnson.

Motion carried 5-0.

12. Consider and Act on blind installation – Installation takes roughly 20-30 minutes per blind to install. Guy Burns has already distributed blinds throughout the courthouse. Prominence has given an estimate of \$3,000.00 to come in and install within one day to complete. Judge Johnson mentioned how this cost has been budgeted prior if agreed upon. Judge Johnson motioned Prominence Painting blind installation be approved with a second from Commissioner Wright.

Motion Carried 3 -2. Commissioner Head and Commissioner Partin opposed.

13. Consider and Act on declaring roll up blinds as scrap – Commissioner Wright motioned to declare blinds as scrap with a second from Judge Johnson.

Motion carried 5-0.

14. Consider and Act on Hardware Recycling Approval – More information is needed from Goldsmith which is not present via zoom during this meeting today. Judge Johnson motioned to table with a second from Commissioner Wright.

Motion carried 5-0.

15. Consider and Act payment for the LEC battery backup system. – Chief Deputy Garza presented a copy of the check showing this was paid for a total of \$14,975.00 from the Sheriff's Office Commissary fund. Judge Johnson motioned to approve the payment for the LEC battery backup system with a second from Commissioner Wright.

Motioned carried 5-0.

16. Consider and Act on creating CR 224 from Private RD 224. – Commissioner Head mentioned he completed the requirements, postings and signatures needed to consider and act on this item and has no issues with continuing and taking over in Precinct 2. Commissioner Head motioned to adopt Private Road 224 to County Road 224 in Precinct 2 with a second from Commissioner Wright.

Motioned carried 5-0.

17. Consider and Act on expenses for material for C.R 549, Precinct 3. – Commissioner Partin is requesting \$12,500.00 for the expense to continue improvements for CR 549 out of the shared road equipment budget. Commissioner Williams motioned to approve the expense for the materials for CR 549 Precinct 3 from the road and bridge budget line item 1540317 in the amount of \$12,500.00 with a second by Commissioner Wright.

Motion carried 5-0.

18. Consider and Act on the new EMS building. – Discussion only Guy Burns stated they are still on schedule for the August 1, 2023, completion and mentioned the electrical work is behind schedule but is said to be completed at the end of this week. Central Texas Telephone Company will install internet July 11, 2023, and the painting crew painted the installed bay doors, the floor is left to be done, cleaned, polished along with the final touches of appliances. Adding bumpers to the bay doors which would be cost covered by BASIC IDIQ and completing the landscape. Landscaping is to give it a finished look only. Commissioner Williams talked about the cost of each door and the damage that was done during installation, if we are going to accept and keep the damaged doors at the building, the county should get a discount. Terrel Harris will be reaching out with a solution and reporting back to Guy Burns. We are not accepting the damaged doors- IDIQ will replace the damaged doors.

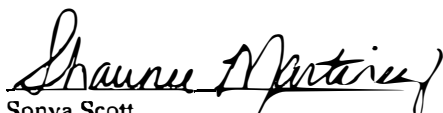
19. Discuss Budget – Judge Johnson mentioned he is currently still working on the budget and at this time there is still not a Chief Appraiser hired for Mills County but spoke with an interim appraiser Lori Fredrick. Judge provided estimated not certified tax rate for the upcoming year. Dates were provided referring to for reports to be submitted for budget approval: July 12, 2023 Deadline for the Notice of Grievance, July 24-27, 2023 Deadline for Potential Salary Grievance committee, If there are no grievances, the salaries will be submitted to the Goldthwaite Eagle by July 24, 2023, July 26, 2023 will be the Eagle publication of elected official salaries and July 28, 2023 Mills County Appraisal District is expected to deliver the certified tax rolls. There will be upcoming budget meetings but stated he will keep the commissioners, and all posted on the dates. Commissioner Partin requested information on wind turbine valuations and abatements. Judge Johnson concurred with Commissioner Partin and agreed to put it on the next Commissioners Court agenda to be discussed after doing research.

20. Commissioners' Request and Reports. – Commissioner Wright Precinct 1 stated they have been working on county roads 315,316,318 replacing materials and replacing tin horns on county roads 411 and 423. Commissioner Wright then mentioned how precinct 1 and the City of Goldthwaite have always lent a hand to one another when needed along with materials, they have asked to use the nomadic roller for an estimated three days. Commissioner Head reported precinct 2 has been spot shredding on the taller Johnson grass and have filled potholes. Commissioner Partin reported precinct 3 has also been shredding on county road 267. Commissioner Williams worked on the low water crossing CR 530, sprayed Johnson grass and bladed on country road 536 and working on precinct equipment. Commissioner Williams then stated the dump trailer had been delivered to precinct 4, when it was raised and closed a piece broke off. The company was called, and brand-new pieces were delivered to fix the issue with no extra cost to the county.

21. County Judges Report. – Recognition to Lori King, appointed by the board Texas Department of Motor Vehicles board regarding approving customer service including infrastructure and policies. Reminder of workshop today at 2:00pm today June 10, 2023, on precinct share equipment and policy procedures. Veteran Service Officer, Craig Wright emailed Judge Johnson and a statement expressing his appreciation for the donations from the individuals from the grand jury to the Office of Veteran Service. Craig Wright has started a “rainy day” fund for monetary requests from veterans along with holiday expenses in which these donations help tremendously. Solar eclipse meeting July 11, 2023, at 1:30 pm for those who are interested in attending.

22. Adjournment. – Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Wright with a second from Commissioner Head.

Motion carried 5-0.


Sonya Scott
Mills County Clerk
By: Shawnee Martinez – Deputy Clerk



June 10, 2023