

Mills County
Commissioners Court Minutes
December 12, 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 Jett Johnson, Commissioners Williams, Partin, Garren and Wright, County Clerk – Sonya Scott, Deputy Clerk Shawnee Martinez, and County Attorney Gerald Hale. County Treasurer Summer Campbell, 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 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 while Commissioner Williams provided the opening prayer.

2. Review and Act on Minutes of November 18, 2022 and November 28, 2022. – Commissioner Garren motioned to approve minutes from November 18th and November 28th 2022 with a second from Commissioner Williams. Motion carried 5-0.

3. Audience with Individuals – Ed Smith addressed the court on line-item number 6.

4. Review and Act on approving Accounts Payable – Commissioner Garren motioned to approve accounts payable with a second from Commissioner Williams. Motion 5-0.

Consent Agenda – Motion to approve by Commissioner Williams with a second from Commissioner Garren. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Consider and Act on Burn Ban - Judge Johnson spoke on rain chances for the next couple of days being good, burn ban will remain off. No action taken.

6. Consider and Act on a line-item transfer – Ed Smith addressed the court, stating the appraisal budget is part of the tax identity with a portion given back to the county. Budget report with; Surplus Tax, Road and Bridge Tax he is unable to find. Justification was if the county needed anything, the budget needed to be available. Takes responsibility for not having the report and information. Amount missing is \$32,375.00. First payment due is January 1, 2023. Line-item transfer will be done to complete this situation. Judge Johnson motioned to approve appraisal to transfer funds with a second from Commissioner Williams. Commissioner Williams motioned to approve office supply expense budget of \$1500.00 be transferred to Judge's travel expense with a second from Commissioner Garren. Motion carried 5-0.

7. Consider and Act on approving Surety Bonds for reelected county officials – Judge Johnson motioned to approve Surety Bonds for reelected county officials with a second from Commissioner Garren.

- Kimberly Avants – Justice of the Peace
 - Sonya Scott – County/District Clerk
 - Jason Williams – County Commissioner Precinct #4
- Motion carried 5-0.

8. Consider and Act on approving Surety Bonds for county employees – Commissioner Garren motioned to approve Surety Bonds for county employees with a second from Commissioner Williams.

- Julie Fincher – Deputy Clerk
- Jo Nowell – Deputy Clerk
- John J Fincher – Deputy Sheriff
- James Purcell – Deputy Sheriff
- Zachary Sandlin – Deputy Sheriff
- Kaleb Hopson – Deputy Sheriff
- Bruce Mulloy – Deputy Sheriff

Motion carried 5-0.

9. Consider and Approve the County’s Public Fund Investment Policy – Appointing two individuals with strong financial backgrounds. County Treasurer Summer Campbell provided that this has to be discussed and approved annually. To be voted on by February 27th after bids are sent in. Commissioner Williams motioned to approve the Public Fund Investment Policy with a second by Commissioner Garren. Motion carried 5-0.

10. Consider and Act on Microsoft and Email Licensing – Commissioner Williams brought up information that was presented last meeting, and stated that he and Judge Johnson had a meeting with Texas Association of Counties. Monthly cost will be \$920.00, backups will be done with only a fee. Commissioner Williams spoke with Matt from Texas Association of Counties and he offered to help with changes to domain. County Treasurer Summer Campbell mentioned each office had their own licensing and depending on what the department wants to pay for is what each department will have, also stating there is money in the budget to move forward. Commissioner Williams, would like to see an official numbers report before making a motion. Judge Johnson motioned to table this until a further date with a second from Commissioner Garren. Motion carried 5-0.

11. Consider and Act on appointing elected office to the Hill Country Action Association Executive Board – Commissioner Williams would like to step down from the board of twelve years and suggest that Judge Johnson be appointed. Commissioner Williams motioned to approve appointing Judge Johnson to the elected office to the Hill Country Action Association Executive Board with a second by Commissioner Garren. Motion carried 4-0.

12. Discussion and presentation from Ryan Shaer from Way Service on Courthouse HVAC controls system – Proposed to put in a NEW HVAC system. This program controls the all-thermostats courthouse (17 total). If this fails, each room will have to be controlled individually. New system total is \$60,650.00 and can be controlled by internet access of application. No lifetime warranty, but a one-year maintenance warranty is included. Judge Johnson mentioned for the \$60,650.00 will have to be requested and put up for bid. Commissioner Partin asked Shaer if the thermostats can be set and if it still working at this time, Shaer stated yes, they can but all individually and manually, would not be energy efficient nor convenient. The system the courthouse has now is 15 years old, lifespan said to be 20-25 years. Option two would be, change out the entire front end with new system for \$30,000.00 and still use the old system on back end. Facilities Manager Guy Burns mentioned the past three years he has only had to make one call for repairs. County Treasurer Summer Campbell stated this system update is not in budget for this physical year. Judge Johnson motioned to table until the beginning of the new year with a second from Commissioner Garren. Motion carried 5-0.

13. Consider and Act on old EMS Building – Auction was held on courthouse property Dec 8, 2022 at 10:00am and no buyers showed. Judge Johnson motioned to table this until the beginning of the new year with a second by Commissioner Garren. Motion carried 5-0.

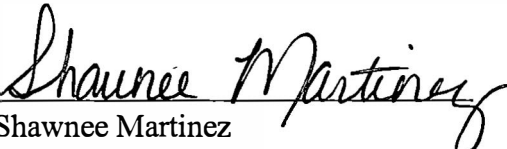
14. Consider and Act on New EMS Building – Facilities Manager Guy Burns informed the court that the concrete company has set forms and dug the footers needed, electrician and plumber will begin Wednesday or Thursday of this week. Concrete company will return on the week of December 21, 2022 to install rebar and pour the slab. No action needed.

15. Presentation to Commissioner Jed Garren – Retiring at the entire of this year, has seen over the wind turbine project, road repairs along with wild fires etc. Garren was presented a flag by Judge Johnson that flew at the state capital. Commissioner Williams, Wright Partin spoke and gave thanks for all his hard work and dedication.

16. Commissioners Request and Reports – Commissioner Wright, said thank you to Facilities Manager Guy Burns for putting up lights at senior center, Commissioner Garren met with Bluebonnet Company in which they stated they would fix the roads that were tore up from the work travel and stated there is tin horns being put in. Commissioner Partin also mentioned his crew is also putting in tin horns where they are needed, he is down one hand for the remainder of the year. Commissioner Williams stated in many counties there are employee issues trying to keep hires. There is a MCAD meeting on December 13, 2022 that Commissioner Williams is attending which is presenting the ENCORE project and the lawyer will be making a presentation.

17. County Judge's Report – Judge Johnson is still looking at more LCRA grants to bring in, and stated he has received many compliments from locals and others on how great the courthouse looks.

18. Adjournment – Commissioner Williams motioned to adjourn with a second from Judge Johnson. Motion Carried 5-0.


Shawnee Martinez
Mills County Clerk

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