

Mills County
Commissioners Court Minutes
May 8, 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 were Judge Johnson, Commissioners Mike Wright, Dale Partin and Jason Williams, County Attorney – Gerald Hale (arrived late) and County Clerk –Sonya Scott; present via Zoom: Terrell Harris – Basic IDIQ, Wayne Barr – Eckert & Co., and Jackie Brooks. Commissioner Head was not present for this meeting. Audience sign-in sheet is attached to the minutes.

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

Agenda: -

1. Judge Johnson called the meeting to order noted the presence of a quorum; Judge Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Williams provided the opening prayer.
2. Review of minutes - Minutes of April 24, 2023 and May 1, 2023– Commissioner Williams moved to approve minutes as presented with a second from Commissioner Partin. Motion carried 4-0.
3. Audience with Individuals – none
4. Review and Act on Accounts Payable – a few questions with regards to judge's receipts on county road installation permits that will need to be clarified. Commissioner Partin noted that the installation fees for culvert installation should not be in the Judge's receipts. Money should be credited to the appropriate precinct that completed the work. Judge Johnson moved to approve with a second by Commissioner Wright. Motion carried 4-0.

Consent Agenda was reviewed by the Court as follows:

- a. Monthly County Treasurer Report
- b. MCAD Monthly Collection Report
- c. County Clerk Report Clerk
- d. District Clerk Report
- e. Tax Assessor
- f. County Extension Reports
- g. Facilities Report
- h. Sheriff's Office
- i. Justice of the Peace
- j. County Judge's Report
- k. Hamilton EMS
- l. Veterans Services Officer

motion made by Commissioner Williams to accept the consent agenda with a second by Commissioner Wright. Motion Carried 4-0.

5. Consider and Act on Audit report from Eckert & Co. for fiscal year ended September 30, 2023 - Wayne Barr addressed the Court. Mr. Barr reported that financial statements were presented fairly. Audit was a good clean opinion with no deficiencies on any internal controls. Commissioner Williams moved to approve the audit report as presented with a second by Judge Johnson. Motion carried 4-0.
6. Consider and Act on approving Surety Bond for Deputy Bruce Mulloy – Judge Johnson moved to approve the bond with a second by Commissioner Wright. Motion carried 4-0.
7. IT update from Goldsmith Solutions – Sam Goldsmith addressed the Court. No action needs to be taken. Email and domain migration was completed last week with one outstanding item at this time. Goldsmith is working with the Sheriff's office and the State to address the issue. Goldsmith has been reviewing the RFP's for the camera system that were opened in Court to see if the proposals met the criteria. Follow-ups and interviews need to be completed. Pricing is varied and Goldsmith is working on comparisons that will need to be discussed with the Sheriff and Court. Goldsmith will come back to the Court with a recommendation at a later date. It is estimated that a meeting would be in the next two weeks. Panic button system is being integrated with our email system and the fire alarm panel. Guy Burns noted that the fire alarm company will be here tomorrow to complete this installation process.
8. Consider and Act on IT Electrical Issues at LEC – hand out provided by Sam Goldsmith. Batteries are behind replacement schedule by 2 years. Battery system failed during testing last week. Electrical panels were not installed as intended on the architectural plans. No warranty left on the batteries. System is out of date and no longer supported. Sheriff Hammonds would like a narrative from Goldsmith to present to the architect to see if the subcontractors responsible deviated from the architectural plans. One of the contractors that worked on the building of the LEC has submitted a bid for the new camera system. Proposal is under 50,000 so no RFP is required. Sheriff Hammonds will have to look for the funding to fix the battery replacements. Goldsmith proposed talking with the Sheriff and the architect to try and recoup some of the cost. Sheriff Hammonds noted that the Central Texas Council of Governments might be able to help with the cost. Judge Johnson moved to table this motion with a second from Commissioner Williams. Motion carried 4-0. Sheriff and Guy Burns will do research and bring information back to the Court.
9. Consider and Act on new phone for the DA's office and add license to current contract – The District Attorney's office has requested for a phone to use in their office. Commissioner Wright moved to add a phone to the DA's office. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. Commissioner Partin asked if we really have the money available. Motion carried 4-0.
10. Consider and Act on recycling approval - Goldsmith provided a list of old computers and electronics would be recycled through a dell recycle program at no cost. Judge Johnson moved to declare the items as scrap for recycling. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
11. Consider and Act on hard drive destruction approval – Goldsmith provided a handout regarding hard drive destruction. Disposal meets the state requirements for hard drive disposal. Sheriff Hammonds provided that CJIS allows the destruction by bullet as long as documentation is obtained. It was noted that the shredding service that we currently contract with also provides this service. Guy Burns will check the cost of the service from our current contracted vendor. Judge Johnson moved to table this item for more research. Commissioner Wright seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

12. Consider and Act on Courthouse flood lights proposal. – Guy Burns addressed the court regarding replacing our current flood lights with LED lights. Lights cost between \$350-\$400 each and we have 8. Several of our current lights are in need of replacement. LED's would save money in the long run. Building maintenance fund has the money per Judge Johnson. Guy Burns can also order the lights and change them out without using the proposed contractor. Commissioner Wright would like to know the cost if Guy Burns installed the lights. Commissioner Wright moved to have Guy Burns do more research and to table this item. Commissioner Partin seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

13. Consider and Act on Courthouse window blinds proposal. – Current blinds are deteriorating. Guy Burns presented samples for Commercial blinds that meet the Historical Commissioner standards. Texas Historical Commission standards have to be met with the decision for replacement. There are 171 windows in the courthouse with 11 different sizes. Judge Johnson has also been doing some research on blind replacements. Judge Johnson moved to table this item so more research can be done. Commissioner Wright seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

14. Consider and Act on exterior window painting and interior wall repair proposal.- Guy Burns addressed the Court. This project was originally discussed last year after the hail damage. The North and West sides have been repainted after the hail damage. The South and East sides receive the most sun and are in need of painting. Texas Historical Commission recommends repainting every 7 years. We are behind schedule. Prominence Painting is on TIPS so bid process is not necessary. Judge Johnson noted that the funds to make these repairs were included in the budget. Motion was made by Judge Johnson to use Prominence Painting and Remodeling for \$58,068.60 to make repairs and paint as described in the bid. Second provided by Commissioner Williams. It was noted that no other bids were requested. Motion carried 4-0.

15. Consider and Act to establish Grievance Committee of 9 Citizens (TLGC 152.014(2)) – This is an annual election for the grievance committee. Judge Johnson moved to establish a grievance committee of 9 citizens and 9 alternates as we have done in the past 4 years. Second provided by Commissioner Wright. Motion carried 4-0.

16. Selection of Grievance Committee members. – James Bonnet Jr., Jaclyn Brooks, Josie Smith, Jennifer Allen, Julie Pendergraph, Joel Scott, Deborah Watson, Gordon Dyer, David White. Alternates will be: Michael Kilian, Kevin Miller, Carolyn Tamplen, Hannah Darden, LaDonna Feist, Erin Simmons, Robbie Buse, Williams Fisher, Cordelia Watson.

17. Consider and Act on declaring items from all four precincts as surplus. – Commissioner Williams provided a handout listing equipment and sale options. From a workshop, the Commissioners have all noted surplus equipment that is no longer in use. Court may set a minimum amount for bids. County Attorney noted that a minimum amount for bids is not required. In the past, Court has used Live Oak Auctions for surplus items. Commissioner Williams moved to declare the list of equipment as surplus items. Commissioner Partin seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. Court discussion regarding minimum bids. Commissioner Williams moved to sell all items at Live Oak Auction in the June sale with a minimum to be decided to next court. Judge Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

18. Consider and Act on declaring two car doors and a John Deere heater serial no. TY0110T 463085 as salvage from Precinct 2 Barn. – Judge Johnson moved to declare the items as salvage with a second by Commissioner Wright. Motion carried 4-0.

19. Consider and Act on new EMS building. – Terrel Harris of IDIQ present via Zoom. Proposal submitted by IDIQ with Guy Burns Terrel Harris addressing the Court. Guy Burns noted that there is \$134,000 left in the ARPA fund (unconfirmed as Treasurer is not present). We will be approximately \$17,000 short to complete the proposal. Commissioner Williams asked if we have asked for bids from local contractors. Discussion also on reconfiguring slab/square footage to lower the cost. IDIQ noted that this proposal would take approximately 3 weeks to complete. Discussion regarding modifying the bid to keep the cost within the funds left to be spent. Commissioner Williams requested more information. No action taken.

20. Commissioners' Reports and request

Commissioner Wright, Pct. 1 – working on CR. Rollings Oaks has poured one entrance on their subdivision. Meeting with Doug Moresco of Rolling Oaks tomorrow.

Commissioner Head, Pct. 2 – absent

Commissioner Partin, Pct. 3 – installing tin horns. With the amount of rain, two roads around Priddy have washed out completely and focus of work has shifted to work on washed out roads.

Commissioner Williams, Pct. 4 – No rain of measure on the west end of the county. Blading, hauling material and rock crushing too. Dealing with washouts and culvert clean outs in the areas that did receive rain.

11. Judge Johnson – State track meet this weekend. TDEM noted a solar meeting at the Law Enforcement Center on Wednesday. Solar eclipse is in April 2024. TDEM is expecting a few thousand people to descend on Mills County for this event. All Commissioners can attend the meeting but County business can not be discussed. Expect Budget paperwork later this week. Judge will be out of the office Thursday and Friday.

12. Commissioner Wright moved to adjourn; Commissioner Partin seconded. Motion Carried 4-0


Sonya Scott, County Clerk
Mills County Clerk

May 8, 2023

