

Mills County  
Commissioners Court Minutes  
Regular Session  
July 22, 2024– 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 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Goldthwaite, Texas 76844.

Present in the Courtroom were Judge Johnson, Commissioners Mike Wright, Robert Head, Dale Partin and Jason Williams, County Attorney – Gerald Hale, County Treasurer Summer Campbell, and County Clerk –Sonya Scott; present via Zoom: Kim Avants – Justice of the Peace and Court Coordinator Jackie Brooks. 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 July 8, 2024, July 11, 2024, and July 18, 2024– Commissioner Williams moved to accept as presented for July 8 minutes with a second from Commissioner Partin. Motion carried 4-0 (with Commissioner Wright abstaining). Judge Johnson moved to approve the July 11, 2024 minutes with second from Commissioner Head motion carried 3-0 with Commissioners Williams and Wright abstaining. Commissioner Williams moved to approve July 18, 2024 AM meeting with second from Commissioner Wright 4-0 with Commissioner Head abstaining. Judge Johnson moved to approve the July 18 1pm minutes with Second from Commissioner Wright 4-0 with Commissioner Head abstaining.
3. Audience with Individuals – none
4. Review and Act on Accounts Payable –Commissioner Wright moved to accept Accounts Payable with a second from Judge Johnson. Motion carried 5-0.
5. Consider and Act on Hamilton Ems Interlocal Agreement and budget. Patrick Cobb addressed the Court. Judge Johnson and the Judge from San Saba have agreed to split the cost of the third ambulance based on call volume from 3 years average. San Saba 53% and Mills County at 47%. Total cost to Mills County \$367,500. Commissioner Partin voiced concerns that we are under contract and this falls outside of the existing contract. Cobb provided that there are no other changes and he will submit a new page to the contract. Commissioner Williams moved to approve the Hamilton EMS interlocal with an increase of 117500, with a second from Commissioner Wright. Motion carried- 4-1 with Commissioner Head voting against.
6. Consider and Act on engagement letter from Eckert & Company for the Mills County audit – Judge Johnson moved to approve the engagement letter with a second from Commissioner Wright. Motion carried 5-0.
7. Discussion on hiring a contract EMC coordinator and/or FEMA coordinator- Judge Johnson will add to his duties the EMC coordinator. Hollee Ragsdale addressed the court. She does not understand

or recommend splitting these duties. Judges are automatically the Emergency Management Director. The county does not have a person that assists with grants, goes to fires, etc. These are roles that are assigned duties to the EM coordinator. FEMA could also be a duty to the EM coordinator. Judge will always have to be involved in this process. The County Treasurer will always be involved in these processes. Discussion on publishing salary with a stipend/supplement for the Treasurer to manage the FEMA process. Discussion is for a stipend of 30k for Treasurer and \$5k for the deputy treasurer as a supplement. Judge will make the changes for the publication in the Eagle. Judge Johnson agrees that a fulltime EMC would be a good position for the county next budget cycle.

8. Consider and Act on hiring a contract EMC coordinator – Hollee Ragsdale addressed the Court. County Judge is the Emergency Management Director by statute. Judge Johnson moved to move the EMC duties from the Sheriff's office to the Judge's office effective January 1, 2025. Commissioner Partin made the second. Motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Williams voting against.

9. Discussion on 2024-2025 budget calendar – Certified tax rolls should be out today. Once we have the certified numbers we will be able to move forward with the Budget. Commissioner Partin noted that we will probably be running a huge deficit this year. Asking all elected officials to review and make cuts where possible. Commissioner Williams noted that this budget does not have any capital improvements other than replacing a maintainer. Commissioner Williams is willing to match Precinct 3 to \$20,000. Commissioner Wright will lower his from \$50,000 to \$10,000. Discussion only. No action taken.

10. Consider and Act to allow Precinct 1 insurance check in amount of \$61,483.33 for loss of 1989 Caterpillar Motor Grader serial no 61M12950 to be placed in miscellaneous income for Precinct 1 – Commissioner Wright noted that this money will stay in Precinct 1's budget. Commissioner Wright moved to keep this money in miscellaneous income with a second from Commissioner Partin. Motion carried 5-0.

11. Consider and Act on Subdivision Variance, Precinct 2 – Commissioner Head provided that Wesley Head is requesting a variance. County Attorney provided that subdivision regulations require this process to be filed. Suggested building in a exception clause to our subdivision regulations. Judge Johnson noted that will look into Commissioner Williams moved to accept the Subdivision variance with a second from Commissioner Head. Motion carried 5-0.

12. Discussion on FEMA project – Hollee Ragsdale noted that she met with the Sheriff and submitted the notice. Next step will be an exploratory call with FEMA. Site inspections will be after the exploratory call. Ragsdale estimates that it will be first part of August before we next meet with FEMA.

13. Commissioners' Reports and request

Commissioner Wright, Pct. 1 – all roads are open. some are still very rough. Making repairs as possible. Have received materials. Having some health problems. Will be off this Friday. His road hands are doing an excellent job.

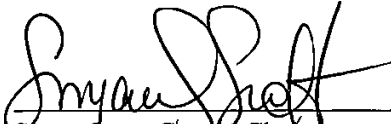
Commissioner Head, Pct. 2 – working on roads and repairs. Adding tin horns.

Commissioner Partin, Pct. 3 – still working on getting repair bills. Need to work on maintainer. Topped roads, spot repairs. Need to shred so can possibly recover some materials. Should strive for a balanced budget. Goals is to have a balanced budget.

Commissioner Williams, Pct. 4 – using rock crusher for the last 2 weeks – goes to precinct 1 next. Some maintenance issues on rock crusher – have ordered parts. Working on roads. Maintenance on haul truck and trailer. Worked on budget, need public to know that working as quickly as possible to repair the roads. Met with contractor regarding curb at law enforcement center. Don't know if we will get this done in this budget cycle.

14. Judge Johnson – World wide computer system that caused many issues. CTCOG meeting this Thursday. Sheriff elect and current sheriff going.

15. Commissioner Wright moved to adjourn; Commissioner Head. seconded. Motion Carried 5-0

  
Sonya Scott, County Clerk  
Mills County Clerk



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