

Mills County
Commissioners Court Minutes
Regular Session
April 13, 2026– 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 Craig Sullivan, Robert Head, Dale Partin and Jason Williams, County Clerk –Sonya Scott, and Sheriff James Jones; present via Zoom: Court Coordinator Annette Watson, Justice of the Peace – Kim Avants, Goldsmith representative - Steve Wolaver, County Attorney Admin. – Kara McKinney,–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 with Commissioner Williams providing the opening prayer.
2. Review of minutes - Minutes of March 23, 2026 –Commissioner Head moved to accept as presented with the second from Commissioner Williams. Motion carried 5-0.
3. Audience with Individuals – Kevin Nowell of Goldthwaite Fire Department (will speak at agenda item)
4. Review and Act on Accounts Payable –Judge Johnson moved to accept as presented with a second from Commissioner Sullivan. Motion carried 5-0.

Consent Agenda was reviewed by the Court as follows:

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

Motion made by Commissioner Williams to accept the consent agenda with a second by Commissioner Head. Motion Carried 5-0.

5. Discussion of Sheriff's Office Monthly Report, and related matters - Sheriff Jones addressed the Court. Sheriff Jones has asked deputies to look for open doors in local businesses and have found multiple doors left unlocked and keys in new vehicles and ATV/UTVs making opportunities for theft. Sheriff's department is working with local businesses to help deter theft. Discussion only.
6. Discussion of Sheriff's Office Life-Saving Award, and related matters – Award to Jady Womack for a 911 call where a person was unresponsive and instructed the caller to start CPR and called for ambulance. Award presented for Life Saving Award.
7. Consider and Act on Proclamation Declaring April 12-18, 2026, as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week, and related matters – Judge read the Public Safety Emergency Proclamation. Judge Johnson moved to accept the Proclamation with a second from Commissioner Sullivan. Motion passed 5-0
8. Consider and Act on old invoice from Goldthwaite Volunteer Fire Department, and related matters –Kevin Nowell, Fire Chief for Mills County addressed the Court. The old invoice for 2024-2025 was never submitted to the County for payment for insurance. The amount is \$14957. Judge stated that there is no way to go back to a previous budget cycle to pay this invoice. Commissioner Williams said that we could address this in the current budget cycle. No other comments. No action. Commissioner Williams moved to not approve the old invoice with a second by Commissioner Head. Motion carried 5-0.
9. Consider and Act on Reimbursing Goldthwaite Volunteer Fire Department for Current Insurance, and related matters. – Current insurance was budgeted at 13500 and the bill had increased to 14,957. VFD is purchasing a new brush truck. This will make the cash flow very tight. No action taken on reimbursing VFD.
10. Consider and Act on Budget Amendment, and related matters – Commissioner Sullivan moving money from equipment to repairs and supplies. Commissioner Sullivan moved to approve the Line-Item Budget Amendment with a second from Commissioner Head. Motion carried 5-0.
11. Consider and Act on Burn Ban, and related matters - All fire chiefs agree to lift the burn ban. Judge Johnson moved to lift the burn ban with a second from Commissioner Partin. Motion carried 5-0.
12. Consider and Act on Application for Subdivision Variance, and related matters – Gerald Hale and Wesley Head present to address the Court. In Precinct 2, family land that is being redistributed. Wesley Head would like to purchase 7 acres from his cousin so that he will qualify for an Ag Exemption. This is not a subdivision. If subdividing less than 10, have to come to court. Commissioner Williams moved to approve the subdivision variance with a second from Judge Johnson. Motion carried 5-0.
13. Consider and Act to declare an office chair from County/District Clerk's office as Scrap, and related matters - Commissioner Williams moved to make the chair scrap with a second from Commissioner Sullivan. Motion carried 5-0.
14. Consider and Act on Notice of Joint Primary Runoff for May 26, 2026, and related matters – Standard notice required by law. Commissioner Williams moved to approve the notice for Joint Primary Runoff for May 26, 2026, with a second from Judge Johnson. Motion carried 5-0.

15. Consider and Act on Combining Precincts 2 & 4 and Precincts 9 & 11 for Joint Primary Runoff for May 26, 2026, and related matters – Standard notice required by law. Commissioner Head moved to approve with a second from Commissioner Williams. Motion carried 5-0.

16. Consider and Act on Leasing Voting Equipment to Mullin ISD for School Board Election, and related matters – Standard agreement that we have used in the past. Judge Johnson moved to approve the agreement with a second from Commissioner Head. Motion carried 5-0.

17. Consider and Act on Bid Notice for CR 189 (box car), and related matters – Commissioner Partin discussed the proposals that are included in the court packet. Does not have to be engineering designed. Cant find an engineer that would sign off on the project as they have all said it is not a supported design. If we go with a low water crossing, the county will have to replace fences on both sides. Project will start on June first with completion in August. Commissioner Partin moved to accept the bid proposals with a second from Commissioner Head. Motion Carried 5-0.

18. Consider and Act on Declaring 1984 Marmon Truck, VIN #1M9BEB18XE1004209 as surplus to be auctioned off at Live Oak Auction, and related matters – Commissioner Partin addressed the Court. Have had multiple batteries stolen. Commissioner Williams moved to declare the Marmon truck as surplus and to auction off with a second from Commissioner Sullivan. Motion carried 5-0.

19. Consider and Act on Opening Road Base Hauling Bids, and related matters – No bids received to open. No Action.

20. Consider and Act on Opening Concrete for Low Water Crossing – CR 508 bids, and related matters – Have one bid that will open during court. Emanuel Concrete and Construction – Boyd Diaz – bid opened during court - total of \$50,765.00 for the work to be completed. Commissioner Williams moved to the table until it has been read with a second from Commissioner Head. Motion carried 5-0.

21. Consider and Act to establish Grievance Committee of 9 Citizens (TLGC 152.015(2)), and related matters – Judge Johnson explained the process. This is

Michael Taylor, Amanda Arrisola, Gwenna Shaw, Shari Mix, Vicky Sutherland, Jacob Manzer, Warren Duren Jr., Wilmalene Proffitt, Jennifer Allyn

Alternates: Wayne Sachtleben, Carolee Smith, Melissa Reyes, Debi Williams, Deborah Freeland, Sabree Minard, Phillip Cox, Johnnie Martinez, and Chelsey Venter.

Judge Johnson moved to approve the selection of grievance committee with a second from Commissioner Head. Motion carried 5-0.

22. Selection of Grievance Committee members, and related matters – see item 21.

23. Commissioners' Reports and Requests:

Commissioner Sullivan, Pct. 1 – completed working on project on 423. Now working on CR 305. Possibly using some RAP materials to complete that project. Commissioner Williams and Commissioner Head switched months for use of the rock crusher.


Commissioner Head, Pct. 2 – working on 250, will start FEMA project on Monday. Working on a torn-up cattle guard on 329. Cattle Guard was hit and destroyed this weekend. Thankful for the rain.

Commissioner Partin, Pct. 3 - trying to figure out a way to find funds to use to complete FEMA projects that are not county funds. Need to do some ditch work. Iron dirt works hauling dirt for the precinct. Working on box car, bridge on 508 not finished.

Commissioner Williams, Pct. 4 – lot of blading in the 531,437,441, 532 491 and others around highway 45. Made culvert longer that kept getting smashed. Installed culvert. Attending wildfire training. Mowing at jones valley cemetery. Finished FEMA project 706.

24. County Judge's Report– Goldthwaite Grand march this week and Priddy's last week. Burn Ban lifted but do not burn on windy days and contact dispatch before you start burning. Calvary came and worked on projects last week. Approved two add-ons as part of the bid. Safety issues with two blocks and leaking in election room and treasurer's office total add-ons approximately 9000. Courtroom is completed. Guy Burns will do the painting on the weekends due to the fumes. No leaks from the recent rains. No charge on sealing the cracks on the southside steps. Calvary will be returning for a bid on the 1888 jail. The bars and window seals are the issues as there is rot.

25. Adjournment -Judge Johnson moved to adjourn Commissioner Head provided the seconded. Motion carried 5-0.


Sonya Scott, County Clerk
Mills County Clerk



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