

# MINUTES OF COMMISSIONER'S COURT

August 14, 2023

Be it remembered that on August 14, 2023, the Honorable Commissioners Court met in Regular Session with these members present, to-wit: County Judge Kevin Brendle. Commissioners, Dennis Wyatt, Precinct #1; Mike Smith, Precinct 2; Charlie Morris, Precinct #3; Greg Arnold, Precinct #4, Danay Carnes, County Clerk and Brandi Abbott, Treasurer. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by County Judge, Kevin Brendle. The meeting opened with a prayer by Harry Bob Martin, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag and the Texas Flag.

Whereupon the following business was transacted and is now placed of record in the minutes of said Court:

**The following Consent Agenda Items were submitted to the court for approval:**

- Minutes of the July 10<sup>th</sup> Commissioners Court meeting were reviewed along with the minutes of the Special Meeting and Budget Workshop of July 24, 2023.
- Sheriff Terry Braly presented the Sheriff's Department report.
- Patti Hager, J.P. presented report.
- Rebecca Haney, Tax Assessor Collector presented the Tax Office report.
- Danay Carnes, County and District Clerk, presented the Clerk's office report.
- Brandi Abbott, County Treasurer presented the treasurer's report.
- Ronda Dalton, 4H Adult leader presented 4H report.
- County Commissioners reported on road conditions in their precincts.
- Approved the Schedule of Fees for Compensation of Appointed Counsel for Indigent Criminal Defendants.
- Renewal of Western Surety bond for Marilyn Taylor, Deputy Tax-Collector and Nathan Allen, Deputy Sherriff was submitted for approval.
- Approve purchase of Motor Grader Blades for Precincts 1 & 2 that may exceed the county spending policy.
- Approve purchase of a tire for precinct 1 front end loader that may exceed the county spending policy.

Charlie Morris made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items as submitted. Mike Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Action Agenda**

**Court recessed at 10:20**

**Court resumed at 11:05**

1. Public Comment – none
2. On a motion made Dennis Wyatt and seconded by Greg Arnold the court voted unanimously to approve recommendation made by Texas AgriLife Extension Service District Administrator Lorrie Coop to hire Amanda Spiva for the Dickens CEA-ANR position.
3. Ruby Combs presented the Dickens Museum Annual Report.
4. Donnice Carruth presented the Spur Dickens County Library Annual Report.
5. Harry Bob Martin presented the Dickens County Historical Commission Annual Report.
6. The Dickens County Historical Commission was presented with the Dickens County Distinguished Service Award from the Texas Historical Commission.
7. Mike Smith made a motion to pay Gillespie Communications from ARPA funds for radio equipment and installation. Motion was seconded by Greg Arnold. Motion passed unanimously.
8. Danay Carnes, County and District Clerk, discussed employment of Deputy County and District Clerk.
9. Charlie Morris made a motion to approve bond from Goen and Goen for Deputy County and District Clerk. Dennis Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
10. Mike Smith made a motion to change policy regarding marking of Sheriff's Office vehicles, vehicles will now have visible permanent signs on all vehicles. Dennis Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
11. On a motion made by Greg Arnold and seconded by Dennis Wyatt the court voted unanimously to table bids for carport on east side of Courthouse Annex.
12. The Commissioners were updated on Cybersecurity Awareness Training.
13. Mike smith made a motion to go with option A for the Imposition of Optional Fees for calendar year 2024. Greg Arnold seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

14. Greg Arnold made a motion to approve an increase in juror pay to \$20/ day for day one and \$58/ day thereafter for petit jury service. Charlie Morris seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
15. Charlie Morris made a motion to approve Interlocal Agreement for E9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Point Services. Dennis Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
16. Commissioner's Court reviewed the Sheriff Department's Limited Compliance Review from the Texas Commission on Jail Standards.
17. On a motion made by Dennis Wyatt and seconded by Charlie Morris the court voted unanimously to approve the Order of Special Election on November 7,2023.

EXECUTIVE SESSION at 11:26

Out of EXECUTIVE SESSION at 12:08

Court recessed for lunch at 12:08

#### BUDGET WORKSHOP

Court reconvened at 1:44 pm

1. Rebecca Haney, Tax Assessor Collector presented the 2023 Dickens County Tax Rate calculations.
2. Commissioners Court discussed and planned any considerations for the 2023 Budget.
3. Charlie Morris made the motion to adopt the proposed No New Revenue tax rate of .76382, which will yield an approximate tax rate reduction of .07 for the 2023 Tax Rate. Dennis Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
  - ❖ Motion was made by Mike Smith and seconded by Dennis Wyatt to approve action on claims incurred against the county since the last Commissioner's Court. Motion passed unanimously.
  - ❖ Motion to pay Historical Commission bills was made by Charlie Morris and seconded by Greg Arnold. Motion passed unanimously.
  - ❖ No line item Transfers.
  - ❖ No budget amendments.

Motion to adjourn was made by Greg Arnold with a second by Dennis Wyatt. Motion passed unanimously.

Court adjourned at 4:55 PM.

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF DICKENS §

I, Danay Carnes, Dickens County Clerk, attest that the above and foregoing is a true and complete transcript of the Commissioners Court of Dickens County, Texas, at the time and place heretofore set forth as presented to me. DATED at Dickens, Texas, this the 18th day of August 2023.



Danay Carnes  
Danay Carnes