

TYLER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
REGULAR MEETING
September 6, 2022 ---- 10:00 a.m.

THE STATE OF TEXAS ON THIS THE 6th day of September, 2022 the
Commissioners' Court in and for Tyler County, Texas convened in a Regular Meeting at the
Commissioners Courtroom in Woodville, Texas, the following members of the Court present, to
wit:

JACQUES L. BLANCHETTE	COUNTY JUDGE, presiding
JOE BLACKSHER	COMMISSIONER, PCT. #1
STEVAN STURROCK	COMMISSIONER, PCT. #2
MIKE MARSHALL	COMMISSIONER, PCT. #3
BUCK HUDSON	COMMISSIONER, PCT. #4
DONECE GREGORY	COUNTY CLERK, Ex-Officio

The following were absent: none thereby constituting a quorum. In addition to the above were:

JACKIE SKINNER	COUNTY AUDITOR
LEANN MONK	COUNTY TREASURER
LYNNETTE CRUSE	TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR
RENEE CRUSE	DISTRICT CLERK
BRYAN WEATHERFORD	SHERIFF
TRISHER FORD	JP, Pct. #1
TERRY ALLEN	CHIEF JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER
SONDRA WILLIAMS	CEO, TYLER COUNTY HOSPITAL

A motion was made by Commissioner Marshall and seconded by Commissioner Sturrock to come out of break from the public hearing and enter into regular session. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson all voted yes and none voted no.

After calling the meeting to order, Judge Blanchette stated "it is the practice of the court to exercise an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Anyone who may not be comfortable with the practice may wish to step out into the hall and rejoin once the portion of the agenda begins with public comments." Commissioner Sturrock delivered the invocation and then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Debra Winegar and Melda Siebe-stated the Tyler County Republican Women group had booked the Nutrition Center back in May for a game night on November 12th. They have handed out 100 invitations to find out the court had taken action to no longer rent the building. Commissioner Blacksher answered that public use of the building was a tremendous liability. This would have to be brought before the commissioners court.

TABLED ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S)- none

CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hudson and seconded by Commissioner Sturrock to receive the minutes of August 29, 2022. Commissioner Blacksher, Commissioner Sturrock, Commissioner Marshall and Commissioner Hudson all voted yes and none voted no.

Monthly Reports: none

RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/ORDERS: none

CONSIDER/APPROVE/INFORMATIONAL:

Budget Amendment/Line-Item Transfers- none

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** and seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock** to approve the **Accounts Payable/County Bills**. Commissioner Blacksher, Commissioner Sturrock, Commissioner Marshall and Commissioner Hudson all voted yes and none voted no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** and seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock** to **adopt FY2023 Budget**. A record vote was taken: Commissioner Blacksher voted nay, Commissioner Sturrock voted yes, Commissioner Marshall voted yes, Commissioner Hudson voted yes and Judge Blanchette voted nay. SEE ATTACHED

Commissioner Marshall motioned to ratify the 2022 property tax increase raising more revenue from property taxes than in the previous year, as reflected in the 2023 Tyler County Budget 111.008(c) LGC. **Commissioner Sturrock** seconded the motion. Commissioner Blacksher voted no, Commissioner Sturrock voted yes, Commissioner Marshall voted yes, Commissioner Hudson voted yes.

Commissioner Marshall moved that the 2022 property tax for Tyler County General Fund rate be increased by the adoption of \$.5619 which is a 11.9 % increase in the tax rate. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock**. Commissioner Blacksher stated he was not against the employees but taxpayers in Ivanhoe and Woodville school district was getting hit hard; the timing isn't good. Commissioner Sturrock added that this is the first time since 2017 that a rate above the no-new-tax rate was being proposed. Commissioner Marshall added the court made decision last year to pull \$700,000 out of reserve to put in the 2022 budget to keep from raising taxes but can't keep doing that. Commissioner Hudson stated values keep going up and drives the no-new-tax rate down which will eventually cant generate enough money to keep the county going. A record vote was taken: Commissioner Blacksher voted nay, Commissioner Sturrock voted yes, Commissioner Marshall voted yes, Commissioner Hudson voted yes and Judge Blanchette voted nay.

Commissioner Sturrock moved that the property tax for Farm to Market Control Fund rate be increased by the adoption of \$.2178 which is a 16.9% increase in the tax rate.

Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Commissioner Marshall stated this rate was also lower than the rate adopted last year. A record vote was taken: Commissioner Blacksher voted nay, Commissioner Sturrock voted yes, Commissioner Marshall voted yes, Commissioner Hudson voted yes and Judge Blanchette voted nay.

Commissioner Marshall moved that the property tax for Tyler County Hospital rate be increased by the adoption of \$.1800 which is a 17% increase in the tax rate. **Commissioner Sturrock** stated this was to cover the cost of indigent care that was the responsibility of the residents of Tyler County. Commissioner Marshall added that if “we didn’t have a hospital, we still have to pay the amount when people go to Houston or Beaumont”. Judge Blanchette commented he had re-visited the numbers and “might be a little bit much” by banking ahead and could maybe do a penny less. Sondra Williams reported \$384,000 uncertified amount with three months to go. A record vote was taken: Commissioner Blacksher voted yes, Commissioner Sturrock voted yes, Commissioner Marshall voted yes, Commissioner Hudson voted yes and Judge Blanchette voted yes

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** to adopt the **Order setting the 2022 Tax Rates of the County General Fund, County Farm to Market Flood Control Fund and Tyler County Hospital District**. **Commissioner Sturrock** seconded the motion. Commissioner Blacksher voted no, Commissioner Sturrock voted yes, Commissioner Marshall voted yes, Commissioner Hudson voted yes. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Sturrock** to terminate the **Lease Contract** between Tyler County and Representative James White with the House of Representatives as of October 7, 2022. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Blacksher**. Representative White has resigned and taken another position. This is to serve as a 30 day notice. Commissioner Blacksher, Commissioner Sturrock, Commissioner Marshall and Commissioner Hudson all voted yes and none voted no. SEE ATTACHED

Commissioner Marshall motioned to set FY2023 **fees charged for civil services** by the Tyler County Sheriffs and Constables and direct that the set fees be reported to the Texas Comptroller prior to October 15, 2022. The County Clerk reported the Sheriff and Constables requested no increase. **Commissioner Sturrock** seconded the motion. Commissioner Blacksher, Commissioner Sturrock, Commissioner Marshall and Commissioner Hudson all voted yes and none voted no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** and seconded by **Commissioner Hudson** to authorize the preservation of an Inquest Record Book 1921-1939 at a total cost \$1,115.00 from **Records Archive and Management Fund**. Commissioner Blacksher, Commissioner Sturrock, Commissioner Marshall and Commissioner Hudson all voted yes and none voted no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** and seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock** to approve renewal of the annual 2023 **Service Contract with Election Systems & Software** and Tyler County Clerk. Commissioner Blacksher, Commissioner Sturrock, Commissioner Marshall and Commissioner Hudson all voted yes and none voted no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** to approve the renewal of **2023 LeadsOnline TotalTrack Investigation System Service Package Contract** for Tyler County Sheriff’s Office. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Blacksher**. Commissioner Blacksher,

Commissioner Sturrock, Commissioner Marshall and Commissioner Hudson all voted yes and none voted no. SEE ATTACHED

Commissioner Hudson motioned to table awarding an **engineering firm for American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA” of 2021 Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. Commissioner Sturrock** seconded the motion. The committee had not been able to meet. Commissioner Blacksher, Commissioner Sturrock, Commissioner Marshall and Commissioner Hudson all voted yes and none voted no.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** and seconded by **Commissioner Blacksher** to approve the **County Clerk Records Management and Archive Plan**, allowing the continuation of the archive fee. Commissioner Blacksher, Commissioner Sturrock, Commissioner Marshall and Commissioner Hudson all voted yes and none voted no. SEE ATTACHED

COMMENTS BY COURT MEMBERS PERTAINING TO MATTERS OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT: Commissioner Hudson commented that it bothers him that there is so much contention as to more issues than just taxes. “We have no industry here”. People in the past have fought against industry here. County employees are not appreciated. There is no respect for county officials and employees. There is so much political drama; the contention needs to go away. “A house divided will fall”.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: A motion was made by Commissioner Blacksher and seconded by Commissioner Hudson to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters with the County Treasurer. Commissioner Blacksher, Commissioner Sturrock, Commissioner Marshall and Commissioner Hudson all voted yes and none voted no. The court entered into executive session at 10:43 a.m. No action was taken

BACK IN SESSION at 11:10 a.m.: A motion was made by Commissioner Sturrock and seconded by Commissioner Marshall to come out of executive session. Commissioner Blacksher, Commissioner Sturrock, Commissioner Marshall and Commissioner Hudson all voted yes and none voted no.

Formal action following Executive Session: none

A motion was made by Commissioner Marshall and seconded by Commissioner Hudson that the meeting adjourn. All voted yes.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING ADJOURNED: 11:20 a.m.

I, Donece Gregory, County Clerk and ex officio member of the Tyler County Commissioners Court, do hereby certify to the fact that the above is a true and correct record of the Tyler County Commissioners Court session held on September 6, 2022.

Witness my hand and seal of office on this the 26th day of September, 2022.

Attest: _____
Donece Gregory, County Clerk