TYLER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

REGULAR MEETING

October 11, 2022 ---- 10:00 a.m.

THE STATE OF TEXAS ON THIS THE 11th day of October, 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

JOE BLACKSHER

STEVAN STURROCK

MIKE MARSHALL

BUCK HUDSON

COMMISSIONER, PCT. #3

COMMISSIONER, PCT. #4

COMMISSIONER, PCT. #4

COMMISSIONER, PCT. #4

COMMISSIONER, PCT. #4

COUNTY CLERK, Ex-Officio

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

TRISTA REDDEN
LEANN MONK
COUNTY TREASURER
TRISHER FORD
JUSTICE OF PEACE, Pct. #1

KEN JOBE JP #2, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

RENEE CREWS DISTRICT CLERK

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 mute their phone/computer (for those attending by teleconference) or step out into the hall and rejoin once the portion of the agenda begins with public comments." Mark Tolar delivered the invocation. Commissioner Marshall led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

A motion was made by Commissioner Marshall and seconded by Commissioner Hudson to receive the minutes of August 30th, September 26th, 2022. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock and Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no.

Commissioner Blacksher motioned to receive the monthly reports from the Juvenile Probation Department and Adult Probation Department, County Auditor, County Treasurer, County Extension and Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1. Commissioner Sturrock seconded the motion. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no.

RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS -

Commissioner Marshall motioned to adopt the Resolution for the 2023 Tyler County Indigent Defense Grant Program. Commissioner Blacksher seconded the motion. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Blacksher** and seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock** to proclaim October 2022 as **Domestic Violence Awareness Month** in Tyler County. Debra Toomov invited the court to the open house. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

The **annual outside audit** was presented by Robert Belt and Darla Dear. Mr. Belt named universities they have audited and 200 other counties during his career. The county is at a 58% reserve in fund

balance, which is a little over half of year in reserve. Mr. Belt stated, "That is excellent". A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** to accept the 2021 **Tyler County Annual Financial Audit,** as presented by Belt, Harris & Pechacek. **Commissioner Sturrock** seconded the motion. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

CONSIDER/APPROVE/INFORMATIONAL:

Budget Amendment/Line-Item Transfers were not presented.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Sturrock to renew the annual software maintenance- eFile with NetData/GHS for the County Clerk's office. Commissioner Blacksher seconded the motion. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Sturrock** and seconded by **Commissioner Hudson** to adopt the 2023 **retirement rate of 7.2%**, being the minimum rate. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Sturrock** and seconded by **Commissioner Marshall** to adopt the **1% COLA increased for retirees** with a one-time contribution of \$117,001.00 to TDRS. This will be effective January 1, 2023. The last increase received was back in 2009. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

Commissioner Marshall motioned to award the boring construction contract for the Tyler County SUD Water Line Project under the Harvey Infrastructure Grant 20-065-087-C248. Commissioner Sturrock seconded the motion. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no.

Kay Timme, representing the governing board of the Allan Shivers Library and Museum, requested **American Rescue Plan Act** (ARPA) fund support to assist with wiring cost of approximately \$81,000. Commissioner Blacksher questioned if it was a historical building. Mrs. Timme answered that it did not have a designation. Kay stated that her email requested \$150,000.00. Judge Blanchette recommended to take no action until a specific amount can be ascertained. Commissioner Blacksher recommended that Kay meet with Leslie Waxman, grant administrator. No action was taken.

Kay Timme requested the court to designate a main representative and two "at-large" nominations to serve on the advisory board for the Allan Shivers Library and Museum. No action was taken.

A motion was made by Commissioner Marshall to authorize submission for the routine reimbursement **2023 Airport Maintenance Grant** for the **Tyler County Airport. Commissioner Sturrock** seconded the motion. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Hudson** and seconded by **Commissioner Sturrock** to appoint Morgan Eason to the **Emergency Services District #2, Spurger (ESD#2)** filling the vacancy of Kozum Earl Mott. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

Commissioner Blacksher motioned to approve the temporary relocation expense in the amount of \$5000 to each of the owners in the "Buyout Program". This is a reimbursable expense from the **Disaster**

Recovery Grant to be paid out of Contingency. **Commissioner Marshall** seconded the motion. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

Commissioner Blacksher motioned to approve the employee appreciation and safety luncheon to be paid out of the Contingency for Miscellaneous fund. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** to ratify the **Order to Prohibit Outdoor Burning** (**Burn Ban**) to be effective until rescinded by Commissioners Court. **Commissioner Hudson** seconded the motion. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Hudson** and seconded by **Commissioner Marshall** to adopt the changes to the **Retiree Life Insurance Policy**, as presented by the County Treasurer, Leann Monk. Mrs. Monk read the changes aloud for the record. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

Commissioner Hudson motioned to approve a contract between Tyler County and Dedicated Medical with the purposes of using Dedicated Medical as a backup to the current provider for drug testing and physicals. Judge Blanchette seconded the motion to bring up for discussion. Judge Blanchette seconded the motion to bring up for discussion. This will in no way replace the current provided (Tyler County Hospital). The County Treasurer stated the occasional need for immediate drug test or physical; that, she was not asking to replace testing at the hospital but needed a backup plan. Commissioner Marshall stated there was some confusion on what was expected of the hospital was sending the test off for results but can process in-house much faster. Sondra Williams, hospital administrator stated they are now treating preemployment drug test like a DOT drug test; but can do a chain-of-custody at the hospital and get results same day or next morning for \$36. Amber Davis can do physicals on Saturdays but not guaranteed for DOT physicals. Mrs. Monk explained several variables that can cause issues with getting blood alcohol testing, such as scheduling, getting a physical, flu season, etc. Commissioner Marshall stated that is seems there is a policy problem that needs to be changed to be able to work with the hospital. A motion was made by Commissioner Marshall and seconded by Commissioner Hudson to table for further study. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED Commissioner Hudson motioned to approve the Tyler County Cell Phone Policy, being reviewed by David Iglesias, attorney and Texas Association of Counties (TAC). Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no. SEE **ATTACHED**

A motion was made by **Commissioner Hudson** and seconded by **Commissioner Marshall** to approve the changes to the current **Tyler County Compensatory Time Policy.** Leann Monk stated that persons were unaware of the FSLA limitation of 240 hours because it was not in the policy so employees kept accruing hours. She recommended that one policy be adopted and "we stick to it". She recommended that comp-time be used before vacation time, so that there is less liability to the county. She also explained that accrual is paid out at the new rate of when the budget take effect. Commissioner Sturrock suggested that HR software should flag those hours that are over 240 and pay out instead of allowing accrual. Commissioners Blacksher and Hudson vote yes. Commissioner Sturrock and Marshall voted no. Judge Blanchette voted to break the tie by voting in favor of the policy. Motion carried. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Hudson** and seconded by **Commissioner Marshall** to approve **recognition for years of service** to employees: Trisher Ford, Mary Walters and Melissa Carson. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Hudson** and seconded by **Commissioner Marshall** to receive the thank you letter **Caring is Sharing** for the donation of \$200 through the **Veterans Service Office.**Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no.

Commissioner Hudson motioned to approve the 2023 Tyler County Holiday Schedule; and change the schedule to reflect day after Christmas (being on payroll) be changed to Thursday. Christmas holiday will be Thursday, Friday and Monday. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Hudson** and seconded by **Commissioner Marshall** to approve the **2023 Payroll Schedule.** Commissioners Blacksher, Sturrock, Marshall and Hudson voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Hudson** and seconded by **Commissioner Marshall** for removal of the **Votocall Phones** from the County Treasurer's office. Leann stated she would like a simple landline phone. She said that present phones have options to drop-in, listening, record, page, etc. to which she was uncomfortable. Commissioner Hudson stated, "that we live in the age of technology; surely there is a way they (ATT) can fix the problem. Commissioner Blacksher called for the vote. All commissioners voted nay and none voted yes. Unanimously against

COMMENTS BY COURT MEMBERS PERTAINING TO MATTERS OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT: none

Executive Session was not held.

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: 11:15 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 October 11, 2022.

Witness my hand and seal of office on this the 12th day of December, 2022.

Attest:_	
Donece	Gregory, County Clerk