

TYLER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
REGULAR MEETING
June 10, 2024 ---- 10:00 a.m.

THE STATE OF TEXAS ON THIS THE 10th day of June, 2024 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:

MILTON POWERS	COUNTY JUDGE, presiding
JOE BLACKSHER	COMMISSIONER, PCT. #1
DOUG HUGHES	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:

TRISTA REDDEN	ASST. COUNTY AUDITOR
BRYAN WEATHERFORD	SHERIFF
TINA SELF	JUSTICE OF PEACE, PCT, #1
MIKE HUGHES	JUSTICE OF PEACE, PCT. #3
JIM MOORE	JUSTICE OF PEACE, PCT. #4
TERRY ALLEN	JUVELILE PROBATION OFFICER
TINA CLEBURG	VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER
BROOKE MONTALBANO	ASST. CRIMINAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY

After calling the meeting to order, Judge Powers invited anyone offended by the court's practice of an invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to step out in the hall and return after the conclusion of the pledge. The invocation was delivered by Commissioner Hudson. He then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Robert Smith, real estate commercial land developer- different alternatives to the relief route between Warren and Colmesneil. There has been discussion about whether the route should follow where previously purchased right-of-way [railroad] by TxDOT years ago. Two other routes are being proposed by TxDOT and "now another is being looked at". He detailed his experience with consequences of bypassing a city which is detrimental for example NASA Road 1 in Webster, Tx. Mr. Smith gave an example of large businesses such as Walmart will move out to be around the new bypass. [Livingston and Huntsville]. "The economic development of Woodville is going to be slammed".

TABLED ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: Commissioner Marshall motioned to leave tabled consideration of additional **FEMA Module** being added to the IWORQ software. **Commissioner Blacksher** seconded the motion. All commissioners voted yes and none no.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hughes and seconded by Commissioner Blacksher to receive the minutes of April 15, 2024. All commissioners voted yes and none no.

Commissioner Hudson made a motion to receive the monthly reports from the **Juvenile Probation Departments, County Clerk, County Extension, County Auditor, Justice of Peace#1, Nutrition Center.** **Commissioner Blacksher** seconded the motion. All commissioners voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

PROCLAMATIONS/RESOLUTIONS/ORDERS:

The commissioners court gratefully acknowledges Gail Dowden for her 21 years of dedication to Tyler County. Mrs. Dowden is retiring from the Justice of Peace office and formally an employee of the Sheriff's department. Several of the Justices were there in support of her.

Tonya Sheffield, representing emergency management, presented some exceptional county employees that had went above and beyond to assist displaced families during the flooding disaster: Burtis Conner, Trina Conner and Erica Ramirez. The Judge and Commissioner Blacksher joined with their appreciation.

Commissioner Marshall motioned to adopt the order authorizing the sale of **fireworks for the Fourth of July** beginning June 24, 2024 to midnight of July 4, 2024. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Hughes**. Judge Powers read the Order into the record. All commissioners voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

CONSIDER/APPROVE/INFORMATIONAL:

Commissioner Blacksher motioned to approve the **budget amendment/line-item transfer for Road and Bridge #1**. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Marshall**. All commissioners voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Blacksher** and seconded by **Commissioner Marshall** to approve the **accounts payable/county bills**, as submitted by the County Auditor. All commissioners voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

Commissioner Hudson motioned to approve the **County Treasurer's monthly report**. **Commissioner Marshall** seconded the motion. All commissioners voted yes and none no.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Blacksher** and seconded by **Commissioner Marshall** to accept the monthly donation from **Riley Funeral Home** for senior activities at the Tyler County Nutrition Center. All commissioners voted yes and none no.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Blacksher** and seconded by **Commissioner Marshall** to approve the annual **maintenance for election equipment** with Election Systems & Software LLC. All commissioners voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

Commissioner Blacksher motioned to approve the Sam Houston Electric Cooperative (SHECO) **Contract for staging at the fairgrounds** during a disaster. **Commissioner Hudson** seconded the motion. All commissioners voted yes. SEE ATTACHED

Commissioner Marshall motioned to approve the **broadband development committee**: County Blacksher, Judge Powers, Kathy Bennett and Andrew Harmon, as presented by Andrew Harmon, representing DETCOG. **Commissioner Hudson** seconded the motion. All commissioners voted yes.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** and seconded by **Commissioner Hudson** to approve right-of-way for Spectrum. Judge Powers explained this will allow them to lay some lines underground to get service to people in town. Judge Power reported he had "checked" this with the Texas Historical Commission. All commissioners voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

Commissioner Marshall motioned to allow Tyler County retirees the option to continue their **vision insurance** through the **Tyler County Benefits Plan**, at their own expense. The entire cost will fall on the retirees being billed and paid annually to the Treasurer's office. **Commissioner Hudson** seconded the motion. All commissioners voted yes and none no.

Judge Powers expressed his personal feeling was that the two routes proposed by TxDOT would hurt Tyler County. Some of the TxDOT proposals "take out" several businesses in the Hillister area. Commissioner Blacksher added he had spoken with a TxDOT employee expressing this will hurt people if one of the two routes are chosen plus kill the economic development in the communities. Judge wants to encourage TxDOT to go with their original plan, years ago, of going down the railroad right-of-way. Judge commended David Luther, chief appraiser, for his help. He made a plea for citizens to make public comments and call their state officials. **Commissioner Blacksher** motioned to accept the donation of time and services of Steve Pittman and Greg Adams to complete an alternative option for the Highway 69 corridor to submit to TxDOT. **Commissioner Marshall** seconded the motion. All commissioners voted yes and none no.

A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** and seconded by **Commissioner Blacksher** to approve the engagement letter with **Crowe, LLP** (formally Belt Harris Pechacek), to provide the annual independent audit. All commissioners voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Hudson** and seconded by **Commissioner Marshall** to amend by striking out “going out for” and inserting the word “seek”. All commissioners voted yes and none no. **Commissioner Hudson** then made the motion to seek an **economic development grant** for improvements to the **Tyler County airport**. **Commissioner Marshall** seconded the motion. Andrew Harmon, representing DETCOG, proposed, if funded, the grant would create more jobs; improvements such as classrooms for the current aviation program recruiting from the high schools and community; and, new businesses such as a rental car company. The grant is focused on creating jobs and youth training to be in higher paying jobs. Judge Powers reported the proposed project of building a casino resort at the Alabama-Coushatta Reservation was going to bring 825 permanent jobs with an average salary of \$50,000 a year for each job. He thanked Andrew for what he does for Tyler County. All commissioners voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

A motion was made by **Commissioner Blacksher** and seconded by **Commissioner Marshall** to amend to approve purchase of six **automated external defibrillators (AEDs)** for all county buildings in the amount of \$12,290.28. A motion was made by **Commissioner Blacksher** and seconded by **Commissioner Hughes** to approve purchase of six **automated external defibrillators (AEDs)** for all county buildings in the amount of \$12,290.28. All commissioners voted yes and none no. Judge Powers announced this is to be paid out of emergency management funds.

Commissioner Marshall made a motion to accept a donation from **Tyler County Development Foundation** for improvements to the **airport terminal building**. **Commissioner Hudson** seconded the motion. **Commissioner Marshall** explained the development foundation plans to clean up the terminal building and install new flooring. Kathy Bennett, representing Tyler County Development and the Chamber of Commerce announced an air show and food truck festival. All commissioners voted yes and none no.

A motion was made by **Commission Marshall** to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Tyler County Precinct #3 and **Colmesneil ISD** for **parking and storage of county equipment and materials on school property**. **Commissioner Blacksher** seconded the motion. All commissioners voted yes and none no. SEE ATTACHED

Item Q: No action was taken to seek bids for petroleum products, road & bridge materials and hauling of road materials.

The assistant criminal district attorney updated the court as to the finding of a breach of the contract between i3Verticals and the sheriff's department for software. She pointed out issues that were explained in a letter to the software company. **Commissioner Marshall** motioned to submit a letter to i3Verticals for **breach of contract**. **Commissioner Hudson** seconded the motion. All commissioners voted yes and none no.

Commissioner Blacksher motioned to approve the Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency Use **Agreement** for real properties to set up a **FEMA Disaster Center** in Tyler County. **Commissioner Marshall** seconded the motion. All commissioners voted yes.

COMMENTS BY COURT MEMBERS PERTAINING TO MATTERS OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT: **Judge Powers**- expressed a great participation in workshops and public meetings concerning the proposed TxDOT routes. **Commissioner Blacksher**- reported there was more participation in the meetings held in Tyler County than those in Lumberton, Tx.

Executive Session: Not held

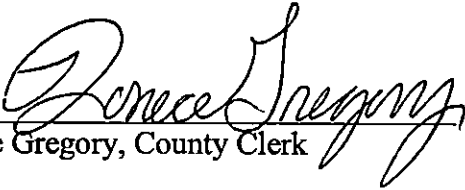
A motion was made by **Commissioner Marshall** and seconded by **Commissioner Hughes** that the meeting adjourn. All voted yes.

Commissioners Court
June 10, 2024

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING ADJOURNED- 10:52 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 June 10, 2024.

Witness my hand and seal of office on this the 1st day of August, 2024.

Attest: 
Donece Gregory, County Clerk

