

MINUTES

On this the 26th day of July 2021 the Commissioners Court of Jack County, Texas met in Regular Session at 9:03 a.m. beginning with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the American flag and Texas flag with the following individuals present:

Brian Keith Umphress	County Judge
Gary Oliver	Commissioner Precinct 1
Henry Birdwell, Jr.	Commissioner Precinct 3
Terry Ward	Commissioner Precinct 4
Lisa Perry	County Auditor
Candace Crow	Assistant County Auditor
Brad Campsey	County Treasurer
Suzanne Brooks	Chief Deputy County Clerk
Tom Spurlock	Sheriff
Chris Reger	Chief Deputy Sheriff
Clyde Watson	Constable
Lynn Casteel	Elections Administrator
Tracie Pippin	District Clerk
Debra Tillery	County Judge's Assistant
Alinda Cox	County Extension Agent
Charlie Martin	County Extension Agent
Frank Hefner	EMC/IT

The following members of the public were in attendance:

Sheila Birdwell, Dalton Birdwell, Braydee Thorne, Bryce Thorne, Brian Smith, Amanda Richards, Brandi Barton, Brian Barton, and George Coyle.

Jack County 4-H members from Bryson along with leader Sheila Birdwell were in attendance to share with the Commissioner's Court recent contests that they have been a part of. Extension agent Charlie Martin introduced the young people and told of the events they were involved in- Livestock Judging and Meat Judging. Dalton Birdwell explained to the Court how he Judges pigs and cattle, Braydee Thorne explained meat judging & Bryce Thorne explained steer judging. They each told the Commissioners what they look for while judging. Alinda Cox told the Court there will be an Ice Cream social August 9th during the 4-H meeting.

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS

Commissioner Birdwell made a motion to pay all accounts and claims submitted for approval. Judge Umphress seconded and the motion passed unanimously (4-0).

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- (a) Approval of Minutes of Meeting for July 12, 2021;
- (b) Review and Acceptance of [Auditor's Monthly Reports](#);
- (c) Renewal of [Interlocal Agreement](#) for 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Point Services between Nortex Planning Services (Nortex) and Jack County;

Judge Umphress updated the Court on the 9-1-1 addressing agreement. Frank Hefner also added comments to update the court concerning the room at the LEC used by 9-1-1 addressing and their requirements. Frank is being asked to go to the LEC and reset the server sometimes in the middle of the night. There may be a necessity to bring in a shipping container for storage in the near future.

Judge Umphress made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ward and the motion passed unanimously (4-0).

TIMED AGENDA ITEMS

None.

APPROVAL IN FORM AND AUTHORIZATION FOR COUNTY JUDGE AND ELECTION ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE PROPOSED "ELECTION AGREEMENT AND CONTRACT FOR ELECTION SERVICES" BETWEEN JACK COUNTY AND JACK COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT FOR ELECTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 2, 2021

Election Administrator Lynn Casteel presented the Contract to the Commissioners for approval.

Judge Umphress made a motion to approve the contract. Commissioner Oliver seconded and the motion passed unanimously (4-0).

PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED CERTIFIED TAX VALUES FOR 2021 – SHARON
ROBINSON TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR

Sharon Robinson presented Certified Tax Values to the Court for review. The value of minerals and real property are down this year. Minerals have gone down considerably. The appraisal review board has met and a new person chosen to fill Kathy Conner's position upon her retirement.

There was discussion but no action.

DISCUSS AND APPROVE PAYMENT OF ACCRUED "COMPENSATION TIME" FROM
THE JACK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE OUT OF THE CORONAVIRUS AID RELIEF
AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT (CARES) FUNDS

Judge Umphress updated the Court on this matter. The Sheriff's Department has requested clarification on this, due to COVID 19 illnesses there were several who accrued comp time. There is approximately \$169,004 remaining in the CARES act available funds. Commissioners will need to discuss comp time and get something set in place to zero out the comp. The Employee handbook needs reviewing and needing to be revamped. Tracie Pippin gave input on Courthouse leave needing to be reviewed.

Commissioner Birdwell made a motion to approve the payment of accrued Compensation time and requests the new policy be placed on a future Commissioner's Court Agenda. Commissioner Oliver seconded and the motion was unanimous (4-0).

APPROVE THE PURCHASE FOR THE "FIREARMS READINESS AND TRAINING
PROGRAM" OF FIFTEEN (15) NEW PATROL CARBINES AND AMMUNITION IN THE
APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF \$30,000 FROM CORONAVIRUS AID RELIEF AND
ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT (CARES) FUNDS

Commissioner Oliver suggested that the purchase of vehicles would be a better use of the funds. Commissioner Birdwell reports that the 2 new vehicle purchases are included in the yearly rotation figured into the budget. Commissioner Oliver feels there is a need to wait until after budget time to make this decision.

Commissioner Birdwell made a motion to approve the purchase of guns for the "Firearms Readiness and Training Program" not to exceed \$27,500. Judge Umphress seconded and the motion passed (3-1). Commissioner Oliver against.

APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF FIFTEEN (15) MOTOROLA HAND-HELD RADIOS WITH
BLUETOOTH MICS IN THE APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF \$45,000 FROM THE
CORONAVIRUS AID RELIEF AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT (CARES) FUNDS

Commissioner Oliver would like clarification that 15 radios are necessary.

Judge Umphress made the Motion to approve the purchase of 15 handheld radios. Commissioner Birdwell seconded and the motion was unanimous (4-0).

APPROVAL IN FORM AND AUTHORIZATION FOR COUNTY JUDGE TO SIGN A
COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION
SERVICE AND JACK COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING A CONTINUED
PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN COUNTY GOVERNMENT REPRESENTING THE CITIZENS
RESIDING IN JACK COUNTY AND AGRILIFE EXTENSION FOR A TERM OF FIVE (5)
YEARS

Commissioner Birdwell made a motion to approve the [agreement](#). Commissioner Ward seconded and the motion was unanimous (4-0).

DISCUSSION OF STATUS OF COUNTY TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FUND
(CTIF) GRANT FROM TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Candace Crow updated the Commissioners on the current status of CTIF.
Discussion but no action.

DISCUSSION AND UPDATE OF COURTHOUSE ASSEMBLY ROOM RENOVATION FOR
THE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE/COMMISSIONERS COURT

Judge Umphress made the deal with the flooring company to have the carpet installed in the Assembly room, he has also received pricing on cooling units. Elzie Campbell sealed off windows in preparation for cooling units and the wiring is complete. There have been 2 Justice of the Peace jury trials which have been very successful. The assembly room has functioned very well and they anticipate more upcoming jury trials.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL IN FORM AND AUTHORIZATION FOR COUNTY
JUDGE TO SIGN A "MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT" BETWEEN JACK COUNTY
AND ZACHARY WALLEY FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACCEPTING THE DONATION OF
DEPUTY WALLEY'S NARCOTIC DETECTION DOG TO SERVE JACK COUNTY AS A
SHERIFF K9

Judge Umphress made a motion to sign the "[Memorandum Agreement](#)" to accept the donation of the Narcotic Detection Dog. Commissioner Ward seconded and the motion was unanimous (4-0).

DISCUSSION OF COMMISSIONER PRECINCT OPERATIONS

Commissioner Oliver reported his road hands have been busy mowing, he also told the Court his County truck has been giving him problems and there was discussion of giving him one of the older Sheriff's Department trucks when the new ones are purchased.

REPORTS, IF ANY, BY OTHER DEPARTMENT HEADS

No reports made.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Commissioners went into budget workshop at 11:35 a.m.

Judge Umphress looks to file a proposed budget by Friday and it can be voted on 17 days after being made public. He would like for the final approval to be the second Commissioner Court meeting in August which will be the 23rd.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Judge Umphress would like for Commissioners to review the rules and procedures of the Commissioner's Court to establish procedures for the future. This will be on the next agenda

Commissioner Oliver would like for there to be a referendum for the Public to be able to vote on tax abatements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business motion was made by Commissioner Oliver to adjourn. Judge Umphress seconded the motion to adjourn and the motion passed unanimously. (4-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

Gary Oliver, Commissioner Pct. #1

Darren Francis, Commissioner Pct. #2

Henry Birdwell, Jr. Commissioner Pct. #3

Terry Ward, Commissioner Pct. #4

Brian Keith Umphress, County Judge

ATTEST:

Vanessa James, County Clerk