

MINUTES

On this the 13th day of May, 2024 the Commissioners Court of Jack County, Texas met in Regular Session at 10:00 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
Kenny Salazar	Commissioner Precinct 2
Henry D. Birdwell Jr.	Commissioner Precinct 3
Terry Ward	Commissioner Precinct 4
Suzanne Brooks	Deputy Clerk
Frank Hefner	EMC/IT
Brad Campsey	County Treasurer
Lisa Perry	County Auditor
Sharon Robinson	Tax Assessor-Collector
Scott Simonton	Chief Jail Administration
Chris Reger	Chief Deputy
Jeff Miller	Reserve County Constable
Michael Francis	Investigator
Clyde Watson	County Constable
Jessica Bailey	Justice of the Peace
Tammy Miller	SO Administrative Assistant
Jean Straughn	Deputy Clerk

The following members of the public were in attendance: Jacksboro Mayor, Craig Fenter, Mike Smith & Ernesto Galindo (TAC)

PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public spoke.

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS

Judge Umphress made a motion to pay all [accounts and claims](#) submitted for approval. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Salazar and passed unanimously. (4-0) Commissioner Oliver abstained.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- (a) Approval of Minutes of Meeting for April 2024;
- (b) Review and Acceptance of Tax Assessor/Collector [Report](#) for April 2024;
- (c) Ratification of Contract with TAC ARTS Program or HUB to produce & report 1095 Forms;
- (d) Recognition of [Howard Dean Berry](#) of Jack County in celebration of his 100th Birthday;
- (e) Reception of Certificates of Completion for educational training for Lisa [Perry](#), Kim [Dungan](#) and Candace [Crow](#) in Auditor's Office;

Tax Assessor/Collector Sharon Robinson gave her report for the month of April.

Judge Umphress made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ward and passed unanimously. (5-0)

TIMED AGENDA ITEMS-10:15

10:16 a.m. Recognition of Deputy David VanderKaay of Jack County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit efforts with criminal interdiction.

David VanderKaay was unavailable due to recent surgery. Judge Umphress recognized Deputy VanderKaay's efforts in a recent drug and stolen vehicle arrest. Chris Reger informed the court of the incident that prompted this recognition. Dashcam video evidence was shown. The Commissioner's Court was also praised for approving the funding for equipment used in this incident. There have been 2 stolen vehicles confiscated recently due to the use of the license plate recognition system.

10:41 a.m. timed agenda ended.

PRESENTATION OF “EXCELLENCE IN SAFETY AWARD” TO JACK COUNTY BY RISK
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT ERNESTO GALINDO

Mr. Galindo with TAC spoke to the court on the Safety award which was presented to Jack County for 2023 and congratulated the County for their hard work and efforts in achieving this award. Tammy Miller brought the plaque and banner to show the Commissioners.

PRESENTATION OF THE GALAXY DATA CENTER TOUR AND CONSIDERATION TO
JOIN GLOBAL SITE LOCATION INDUSTRIES (GSLI) PROMOTION PROGRAM

Judge Umphress shared information about the BITCOIN mining operation program and CRYPTO currency and their visit to the facility in Spur, Texas. The County Judge would like for the Commissioner’s Court to consider checking in to this and to work alongside the EDC. Frank Hefner presented a video.

Commissioner Birdwell would like to see a presentation, he is interested in anything that would lower the tax burden on the citizens of the County.

Mayor Craig Fenter would like to form a committee as soon as possible whether this avenue is pursued or not, for the growth of businesses in the county.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF AN ESTIMATE TO PURCHASE AND
REPLACE A 4-TON PACKAGE UNIT WITH INSTALLATION FOR THE LEC JAIL FROM
RED LINE FOR THE ESTIMATED COST OF \$22,876.00

Scott Simonton reported to the court that he had tried to get more bids but was unsuccessful. He did ask Red Line to look at the cost of just repairing the unit which would cost around \$9,000 and would only have a 90-day warranty with this service. Red Line also adjusted the cost of the purchase of a 4-ton unit to \$20,326.

Motion was made by Commissioner Salazar to purchase the 4-ton unit for the adjusted cost of \$20,326.00. Commissioner Ward seconded and the motion passed (3-2).

Commissioner Birdwell will work alongside Scott Simonton to check on unit 7 repairs/replacement.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF “LOCAL RABIES CONTROL AUTHORITY” AND AN
ALTERNATIVE FOR JACK COUNTY

Motion was made by Commissioner Birdwell to make the Jack County Animal Control Officer the Local Rabies Control Authority and a representative from Jack County Sheriff’s Office as an alternative. Commissioner Salazar seconded and the motion passed (5-0).

DISCUSSION AND BUDGET GOAL SETTING FOR FY 2024-2025

Judge Umphress handed out budget packages to department heads. Budget workshop will begin next Commissioner Court meeting.

DISCUSSION OF COMMISSIONER PRECINCT OPERATIONS

Discussion made, no action taken.

REPORTS, IF ANY BY OTHER DEPARTMENT HEADS

Frank Hefner gave updates on the radio system for the Sheriff’s Office. They had a radio burn out this weekend and efforts are being made to repair it as quickly as possible. The equipment needs to be updated soon. Frank will start working on RFP.

Constable Clyde Watson gave an update on TECO report.

Deputy Scott Simonton gave updates on Purple Wave auction. Everything listed was sold.

Auditor Lisa Perry reported the outside audit is going well.

The Jack County Sheriff runoff election will take place at the end of the month and Sheriff office audits will need to take place.

Discussion made, no action taken.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Recognize David VanderKaay since he was unavailable for this meeting.

GSLI presentation and forming a committee.

Budget workshop.

The next Commissioner Court meeting will be Wednesday 29th due to the Memorial Day holiday (Monday) and the runoff election (Tuesday).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business motion was made by Commissioner Birdwell to adjourn.

Commissioner Oliver seconded the motion to adjourn, and the motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 1:22 p.m.

Brian Keith Umphress County Judge

Gary Oliver, Commissioner Pct. #1

Kenny Salazar, Commissioner Pct. #2

Henry Birdwell, Jr. Commissioner Pct. #3

Terry Ward, Commissioner Pct. #4

ATTEST:

Vanessa James, County Clerk