

MINUTES

On this, the 27TH day of July 2026, the Commissioners Court of Jack County, Texas, met in Regular Session at 10:05 a.m., beginning with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the American flag and the Texas flag, with the following individuals present:

Brian Keith Umphress	County Judge
Ronald Fitzgerald	Commissioner Precinct 2
Henry Bridwell, Jr.	Commissioner Precinct 3
Terry Ward	Commissioner Precinct 4
Vanessa James	County Clerk
Suzanne Brooks	Chief Deputy Clerk
Lisa Perry	County Auditor
Brad Campsey	County Treasurer
Macauley Johnson	County Judge's Assistant/PIO
Cara Smith	County Treasurer's Assistant
Frank Hefner	EMC/IT
T-Bob Hauger	County Sheriff
Doug Angell	Chief Deputy
Ron Butler	TDEM

The following public members were in attendance: Anna Fitzgerald, Mike Ward, Curtis Henderson, Jack DeShazo, Mark Laird, Tami Murphy, Susan Elmore, Jess Elmore, Allie Truesdell, Harva Kuykendall, Mark Gipson, Joe Lake, Ashley Anderson, Sarah Huskey, Vickie Bruce, Casey McEnturff, James McEnturff, Rebecca Hite, Nicole Rose, Robert Vis, Taylor Nichols, Joe Paul Nichols, Jeff Jackson, Darrell Self, Kathy Pruitt, Sierra Boespflue, Mesha Rodriguez, Leah Vis, Chuck Bilby, Ed Holder, Lei Holder, Lacy Smith, Logan Smith, Kaden Smith, Kerry Cranford, Tommy Sizemore, Chrystal Reiten, Jack Downey, Brad Gary, Ricky Wade, David Walker, Mike Smith, David Gullbege, Kim Hilley, Bobby Miles, Amanda Dale, Don Sneed, William Manley, Sioux Trombley, Gretta Owens, Steve Moody, Jonathan Tabor, James Randell, Betsy Moore, Ken Alles, Tim Sanders, Karen Francis, John Barry IV, Kyle Russell, Connie Fellers, Jill Garcia, Charlie Edmonson, Don Haggart, Josh Drake, Britt Eason, Laura Gatlin, Bobby Gatlin, Gary Lobdell LeeAnna Furman, Jon Barnhart, George Coyle, Donna Handley, Mary Sandburg, Jim Harvison, Shawn Browning, Nathan Dudley, Tom Olle, Penny Olle, Matthew Lobdell, Jerry Henderson, Victoria Mraz, Tobert Bruce, Dana Rice and, Brenda Tarpley.

PUBLIC FORUM (LIMITED TO 5 MINUTES PER PERSON)

10:11 began

Many members of the [public](#) spoke to the Court.

11:36 ended

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS

Commissioner Birdwell moved to approve all submitted [accounts and claims](#). Commissioner Ward seconded the motion, which passed. (4-0)

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- (a) Approval of Minutes of Meeting for July 20, 2026;
- (b) Approval and Acceptance of Auditor's Monthly [Report](#);
- (c) Approval of the new federal mileage rate of 76 cents per mile;
- (d) Approval and renewal of County Property and Liability Insurance Coverage with Texas Association of Counties Risk Management Pool for Plan Year 2026-2027;

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

DISCUSSION OF COMMISSIONER PRECINCT OPERATIONS

Discussion made, no action taken.

REPORTS, IF ANY, FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS

Lisa Perry reported the audit is almost complete.

Discussion made, no action taken.

PRESENTATION BY THE JACK SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
(SWCD) TO JOIN THE UPPER TRINITY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Jerry Henderson with the Jack Soil and Water Conservation District spoke to the Court. The board of the Jack County Soil and Water Conservation District [recommends](#) joining the Upper Trinity Water Conservation District. Recommendation received.

The court asked to have this item on the minutes adjusted to show that this item pertains to the Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District.

Mr. Shaw with the Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District spoke to the Court. To join the district, it would require action by the legislature; then it could be put to a vote in November of 2027.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO JOIN THE UPPER TRINITY GROUNDWATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Members of the public spoke.

The court asked to have this item on the minutes adjusted to show that this item pertains to the Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District.

Commissioner Fitzgerald moved to postpone a vote on joining the Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District until after they gather more information.

Commissioner Fitzgerald modified the motion to table this item. Commissioner Ward seconded the motion.

Commissioner Fitzgerald and Commissioner Ward both withdrew their motions and second.

No action taken at this time.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND RECEIPT OF THE BKV DCARBON VENTURES
APPLICATION FOR TAX ABATEMENT

Judge Umphress acknowledges the receipt of an [application](#) for a tax abatement from BKV dCarbon Ventures.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND RECEIPT OF THE BKV POWER VENTURES JACK LLC
APPLICATION FOR TAX ABATEMENT

Judge Umphress acknowledges the receipt of an [application](#) for an abatement from BKV Power Ventures Jack LLC.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None mentioned.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Commissioner Birdwell moved to adjourn. Commissioner Fitzgerald seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (4-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

Brian Keith Umphress, County Judge

Gary Oliver, Commissioner Pct. #1

Ronald Fitzgerald, Commissioner Pct. #2

Henry Birdwell, Jr., Commissioner Pct #3

Terry Ward, Commissioner Pct. #4

ATTEST:

Vanessa James, County Clerk