

**THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**COUNTY OF LYNN**

On this, the 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023, the Lynn County Commissioner's Court of Lynn County met in a Regular Called meeting at 9:30 a.m., at the regular meeting place thereof in the County Court Room in the Courthouse in Tahoka, Lynn County, Texas, with the following members of court, to wit:

**Mike Braddock**  
**Matt Woodley**  
**John Hawthorne**  
**Don Blair**  
**Larry Durham**  
**Karen Strickland**

**County Judge**  
**Commissioner, Precinct One**  
**Commissioner, Precinct Two**  
**Commissioner, Precinct Three**  
**Commissioner, Precinct Four**  
**County Clerk and Ex Officio**  
**Clerk of the Court**

All being present, and the following member(s) absent: none, constituting a quorum of the Court present, at which time the following business, among other proceedings, was had:

County Judge, Mike Braddock, started the meeting with the pledge of allegiance to the United States and Texas flags, and County Commissioner, Matt Woodley, lead the invocation.

**Public Comments pertaining to agenda items**

County Judge gave the public an opportunity to discuss any related agenda items. No one from the public addressed the court.

**Consider and take action on the Indigent Defense Contract for District Court FY 2024**

District Judge, Reed Filley discussed the proposed contract for Indigent Defense for District Court FY 2024. Stated he, District Judge, has signed the contract, and that Artie Aguliar, District Court Appointed Attorney, has not gone up on his pricing for himself or his investigator. Reed mentioned that Garza County has a bigger case load than Lynn County, but most of those cases, individuals can afford attorney's and do not require a court appointed attorney, unlike Lynn County. Last year, Lynn County ended up paying more than Garza County in Indigent Defense. Reed stated that this year Lynn County is at 19.484%, Garza County is at 26.526%, and Dawson County is almost 54%. Judge Filley stated that Artie is asking for Lynn County to pay \$15,587.20 of his salary and \$5,845.20 of his investigator's salary for the FY 2024 for Indigent Defense. Commissioner Woodley made the motion and seconded by Commissioner Durham to accept the contract for Indigent Defense for District Court FY 2024. Motion carried all voted in favor.

**Discuss and act upon Order of Constitutional Amendments Election**

Karen Strickland, County Clerk, spoke to the court and said this election was order by the Governor, and we have to pass it through court to have this election in the county. Commissioner Blair made the

motion and seconded by Commissioner Durham to accept the Order of Constitutional Amendment Election. Motion carried all voted in favor.

**Discuss and act upon to set salaries, expenses, and other allowances of all elected county and precinct officers**

No one had any question or comments about setting salaries, expenses, and other allowances of all elected county and precinct officers. Commissioner Hawthorne made the motion and Commissioner Durham seconded to accept and set the salaries, expenses, and other allowances for all elected county and precinct officers. Motion carried all voted in favor.

**Discuss and act upon designating places for official posting for sales, probates and notices**

Judge Braddock stated that the posting for sales, probates and notices are posted in the posting board directly outside the North Courthouse doors, no one had any oppositions for changing the place for the posting. Commissioner Blair made the motion with Judge Braddock seconding the motion to keep the location for the posting at the posting board just outside the North Courthouse doors. Motion carried all voted in favor.

**Discuss and act upon designating place for sales of property**

Judge Braddock stated to the Court that normally the place for the sales of property is on the North steps of the Courthouse, if there is ever a problem with inclement weather, the sales are moved inside to the County Courtroom. No one had any objections of changing the location of the sales of property. Commissioner Durham made the motion seconded by Commissioner Hawthorne to keep the designated place for sales of property on the North steps of the Courthouse. Motion carried all voted in favor.

**Discuss and act upon designating place for Commissioners Court to be held**

Commissioner Hawthorne made the motion and seconded by Commissioner Blair to designate the place for Commissioner Court to be held in the County Courtroom. Motion carried all voted in favor.

**Consider and act upon designating day of week on which court will convene in regular term TEX. LOC. GOV'T CODE 81.005(a) and a time which court will convene (adding following dates to Regular Term) Tuesday September 3, and Monday September 16<sup>th</sup>**

Judge Braddock stated that we usually hold Commissioner Court on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month at 9:30 a.m. No one had any objections to change the time or days court will be held. Commissioner Woodley made the motion and Commissioner Blair seconded the motion to have Commissioner Court on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month at 9:30 a.m., adding Tuesday September 3<sup>rd</sup> and Monday September 16<sup>th</sup>, to the regular term. Motion carried all voted in favor.

**Consider and act upon holiday calendar for 2024**

Commissioner Woodley made the motion and Commissioner Blair seconded the motion to accept the 2024 Holiday Calendar, listed below. Motion carried all voted in favor.

Monday – January 1, 2024 – New Year's Day

Monday – February 19, 2024 – President's Day

Friday – March 29, 2024 – Good Friday

Monday – May 27, 2024 – Memorial Day

Wednesday – June 19, 2024 – Juneteenth  
 Thursday – July 4, 2024 – Independence Day  
 Monday – September 2, 2024 – Labor Day  
 Monday – November 11, 2024 – Veteran’s Day  
 Thursday & Friday – November 28 & 29, 2024 – Thanksgiving  
 Tuesday & Wednesday – December 24 & 25, 2024 Christmas

\*Commissioner Durham had asked about the Burn Ban and Judge Braddock stated that he took off the Burn Ban Friday afternoon.

**Discuss and act upon appointing Senior Commissioner as Judge Pro-tem for Commissioners Court for year 2024**

Commissioner Hawthorne made the motion with Judge Braddock seconding that motion to make Commissioner Blair, as Senior Commissioner, Judge Pro-tem. Motion carried all voted in favor.

**Discuss and act upon approving an order setting compensation for County Auditor**

Judge Braddock stated he had the order that is signed by the District Judge for setting the compensation for County Auditor at \$28,731.00. Commissioner Woodley made the motion and seconded by Commissioner Hawthorne to accept the order setting compensation for County Auditor. Motion carried all voted in favor.

**Discuss and act upon setting Sheriff and Constable Fees**

Sheriff, Wanda Mason, explained the fees to the court. She stated that when another county or attorney wants to serve a civil notice, subpoenas, summons, writ of attachment with property or persons and evictions, they pay the county to serve those. Writ of attachments with property at \$200 per each, the subpoenas at \$100 and Citations are \$100, also. Restraining Orders are \$75. Commissioner Hawthorne asked if all the things Sheriff just stated were all the things a Constable would be doing if we had one and Sheriff said yes, but since we do not have a Constable, the Sheriff and her deputies are the ones to do the serving. Sheriff also mentioned that the addresses need to be updated on the County Judge and the Sheriff’s Office, on the website. Commissioner Blair made the motion and seconded by Commissioner Durham. Motion carried all voted in favor.

**Consider and act upon Budget Amendments**

County Treasurer spoke to the court about the budget amendments she had, as follows:

Department	Account	Amount
220-400-5985	Insurance Claim	+\$37,000.00
220-500-5701	Repairs & Maint.	+\$37,000.00
409-510-5980	PCT 1	+\$58,000.00
409-520-5980	PCT 2	+\$98,000.00
409-530-5980	PCT 3	+\$28,000.00
100-500-4040	Transfer to Other Funds	+\$200,000.00
210-400-4601	Miscellaneous Income	+\$50,000.00
220-400-4601		+\$50,000.00
230-400-4601		+\$50,000.00
240-400-4601		+\$50,000.00
100-586-5990	Capital Outlay	+\$73,250.00
100-500-5195.00	Bank Fees	+\$54,200.00

100-423-4400	Fees of Office	+\$6,000.00
100-523-5990	Capital Outlay	+\$6,000.00
100-571-5710	Transportation	+\$53,000.00
100-571-5990	Capital Outlay	+\$87,167.00
100-572-5105	Overtime	+\$20,000.00
100-576-5701	Repairs and Maint.	+\$35,000.00
100-576-5810	Inmate Medical	+\$20,000.00
100-576-5990	Capital Outlay	+\$50,000.00

Commissioner Hawthorne made the motion and Commissioner Blair seconded the motion to accept the budget amendments. Motion carried all voted in favor.

**Approve County Finance Reports**

County Treasurer said she had an amended August Finance report. She stated she had not done the transfers for Local Match, CVA and Truancy, so she went back and added those to the August Report. Commissioner Hawthorne made the motion and Commissioner Blair seconded the motion to accept the amended August Finance Report. Motion carried all voted in favor.

**Approve Bonds**

Karen Strickland, County Clerk, stated there were no bonds to approve.

**Sheriff's Office to give report**

Sheriff Mason gave an update on the inmate totals, as follows:

Lynn – 27 inmates

Lubbock – 15 inmates

Scurry – 1, Female inmate, housed out.

Total – 43 inmates

**Approve and pay claims and payroll against the County**

Commissioner Durham made the motion and Commissioner Blair seconded the motion to accept and pay the claims and payroll against the County. Motion carried all voted in favor.

**Discuss any other items pertaining to County Business for information purposes only, no action may be taken on these items except to schedule them for future agenda**

Judge Braddock mentioned that the County's new IT company, Relevant Tec is here today, to get us all set and ready to go. Amy, County Treasurer, mentioned to the Commissioner's and Judge that there is a schooling in November that they need to sign up for. Juanell Jones, Lynn County News, stated that this is her last week with the Lynn County News, said her family has owned the Lynn County News for 44 years, she wanted to thank the county for always accommodating her and answering all her questions. She said for everyone to come over on Thursday from 1 – 3:30 p.m. for an open house. She had invited the new owner to come today, but she was unable to come. Christina Sherril is the new owner.

**Adjourn or recess meeting**

Commissioner Woodley made the motion with a second from Commissioner Hawthorne to adjourn the meeting 10:07 a.m. Motion carried all voted in favor.