

Mills County  
Commissioners Court Minutes  
Regular Session  
May 13, 2024– 9:00 a.m.

This regular session of the Mills County Commissioners Court opened in due form of law at 9:00 am in the Mills County Commissioners' Courtroom located at 1011 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Goldthwaite, Texas 76844.

Present in the Courtroom were Judge Johnson, Commissioners Mike Wright, Robert Head, Dale Partin and Jason Williams, County Attorney Gerald Hale, County Treasurer Summer Campbell, and County Clerk –Sonya Scott; present via Zoom: Kim Avants – Justice of the Peace and Court Coordinator Jackie Brooks. Audience sign-in sheet is attached to the minutes.

The meeting is available to the public to view on the Mills County YouTube channel.

Agenda: -

1. Judge Johnson called the meeting to order noted the presence of a quorum; Judge Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Williams provided the opening prayer.
2. Review of minutes - Minutes of April 22, 2024– Commissioner Wright moved to accept as presented with a second from Judge Johnson. Motion carried 5-0.
3. Audience with Individuals – none
4. Review and Act on Accounts Payable–Judge Johnson moved to accept Accounts Payable with a second from Commissioner Williams. Motion carried 5-0.

Consent Agenda was reviewed by the Court as follows:

- a. Monthly County Treasurer Report – Commissioner Williams noted the Sheriff Department disbursements seem high. Treasurer offered to print a detail of expenditures.
- b. MCAD Monthly Collection Report – Commissioner Williams noted that the collection is lower than has been in previous years. Judge Johnson will reach out to MCAD and provide a report back to the Court.
- c. County/ District Clerk Report Clerk
- d. Tax Assessor
- e. County Extension Reports
- f. Facilities Report
- g. Sheriff's Office
- h. Justice of the Peace
- i. County Judge's Report
- j. Hamilton EMS
- k. Veterans Services Officer

Judge Johnson noted that in previous Commissioner Court an approval was made for payment of the 1888 Jail mortar work. Work has been completed and payment is authorized. Motion made by Commissioner Williams to accept the consent agenda with a second by Commissioner Head. Motion Carried 5-0.

5. Consider and Act on approving Surety Bond for Deputy Treasurer Debby Grba and Deputy Bruce Mulloy - Judge Johnson moved to approve the bond with a second from Commissioner Wright. Motion carried 5-0.

6. Consider and Act on application for unclaimed capital credits - Judge Johnson moved to approve unclaimed capital credits with a second from Commissioner Partin. Motion carried 5-0.

7. Consider and Act on the Management Control Agreement between the Sheriff's Office and Mills County – Discussion of Management Control and LEC. Sheriff Pool addressed the Court. One of the deficiencies that was noted by the DPS Audit was that this agreement was not in place. Sam Goldsmith noted that IT has reviewed the agreement, and the language is standard. Judge Johnson moved to approve the agreement with a second provided by Commissioner Head. Motion carried 5-0. Kirk Fulk was present with the Sheriff to answer any legal questions. Commissioner Partin noted that the County Attorney is the legal representative for all county departments. Fulk noted that there is a handshake agreement for representing the Sheriff and no money was exchanged. County Attorney noted that if retained by the Sheriff then Fulk would be representing the County. Representing the County is the role of the County Attorney and Kirk Fulk does not fill that position. Commissioner Williams moved to get into close session. No second.

Judge Johnson moved to approve the agreement with a second provided by Commissioner Head. Motion carried 5-0.

8. Consider and Act on the Sheriff's Office Criminal Justice Information Policy – Law Enforcement must have a policy in place for accessibility to the CJIS system. Sheriff Pool addressed the Court. Policy was provided to the Sheriff from the DPS and is a required document. Sam Goldsmith noted that the policy has been reviewed and Goldsmith has nothing to add.

Judge Johnson moved to approve the policy as presented. Commissioner Wright provided the second. Motion carried 5-0.

9. Discussion and possible action regarding flooding issues in Mills County- Judge Johnson provided a summary. Insurance was contacted on Sunday afternoon. We have a \$25,000 deductible that has already been met. Calvary Construction is here for treatment and water removal. Possible workshop or two later this week to discuss plan for repairs. (one for roads and one for facilities.) Commissioner Partin noted that the sump pump was not working during the last two floods. Can bore a line that will empty to the street. This will be a gravity flow safety net for if the sump pump does not work. Money will have to come out of savings. Work will be two-three weeks before work could start. Boring would take one day. Guy Burns clarified that the county will have to pay for the pipe. Heart of Texas Mechanical has been called and is working on a solution. Connor Knox from Calvary Construction is present to address the Court. Getting bids to remove drywall that contains asbestos. There is asbestos in the drywall that takes special procedures for removing the drywall. Plaster and concrete holds moisture longer than drywall. Will be taking daily reading to monitor the progress. Workshop scheduled for Friday at 8:00am.

The sump pump is working now. Courthouse doors have been worked on as well. This will be part of the insurance. Laminate has peeled in the Clerk's office basement cabinets due to humidity. There will also be refinishing of the historical furniture was damaged.

Roads that are still closed: 250, 308, west side of 235. Working on 250 low water crossing this week. , west end of 235 – ½ mile stretch that needs to be done. Commissioner Williams volunteered to help Commissioner Head or Wright as needed to open the roads. Scott McCoy has the same water issue with regarding hauling. Commissioner Wright noted that he has one land owner that has offered to donate some material. Workshop Friday morning May 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am. Discussion to have a special meeting instead of a workshop. Will be a workshop only. Meeting will not be streamed. County Treasurer noted that we will have to find the money to pay for this project.

Guy Burns addressed the Court with regards to ADA approval and how would people access the courthouse during renovation. Guy Burns will get a proposal for having Heart of Texas do all of the work. Commissioner Williams moved to approve the 4 inch boring. Motion dies for lack of second. Commissioner Partin moved to approve a 6 inch bore. Commissioner Head provided the second. Motion carried 5-0.

Guy Burns added that the County will dig the hole at the lift station.

10. Consider and Act declaring assorted plywood concrete forms as scrap (pct 2) -Commissioner Head has some rotting forms that he would like declared scrap and dispose of them. Commissioner Wright moved to declare as scrap and to be disposed of. Judge Johnson provided second. Motion carried 5-0.

11. Discussion of Budget Goals and Calendar for 2024-2025 fiscal year. Judge Johnson would like to have several workshops with the new County Attorney and the new Sheriff regarding budget. Commissioner Wright requested the Commissioner elect be allowed to be a part of the budget workshops as well. Commissioner Williams asked what are the goals. Judge Johnson would like to lower tax rate. Commissioner Partin noted that he does not see that as a possibility due to the damage that has happened.

12. Commissioners' Reports and request

Commissioner Wright, Pct. 1 – Busy with flooded roads. Road with TDEAM Holly Ragsdale. Met with several landowners regarding donating road materials. Working in the field as only one hand at this time.

Commissioner Head, Pct. 2 – flooding, working on roads as allowed. Lots of locals helping to remove debris off the roads. Very thankful for a community that steps up and helps when needed.

Commissioner Partin, Pct. 3 – roads are washed out. Time working on flooding issues. Making roads passable. Spending lots of time at the courthouse working with Guy on drainage. Very thankful that there was no loss of life.

Commissioner Williams, Pct. 4 – Dispatchers did an amazing job with the stress and volume of the storm. Attended a budget training last week with Commissioner Head. Worked on CJIS report

meeting with Sheriff Department. Mills Central Appraisal District issues that may be worked out. Received a letter from De La Express. 690 miles from premium basin though the north end of Mills county for a gas line. Working on roads etc.

13. Judge Johnson – CTIF grant – needs two weeks notice. Project solar farm has lots of misinformation in the county. If anyone has questions, please contact the Judge’s office.

19. Judge Johnson moved to adjourn; Commissioner Head seconded. Motion Carried 5-0

  
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Sonya Scott, County Clerk  
Mils County Clerk



April 9, 2024