

March 9, 2026 9:00 AM

The Wheeler County Commissioners Court met in Regular Session on the above date to consider the below listed agenda items. Members attending were: Judge McDowell, Commissioners Jackie Don May Jr, Phillip Gaines, Cecil W Gaither Sr and John Walker. Also attending were: Margaret Dorman-Clerk of the Court; Nichole Mock-County Auditor Leslie Timmons-County Attorney; Cindy Brown-Tax Collector; Tim Reeves-Sheriff; Rick Walden-JP #2; Sherri Jones-District Clerk; Larry Gatlin-IT Director; Britt McCarter-Maintenance; Kimberly Morgan-Tax Appraiser; Louis Stas-Wheeler Times; Taire Knight-County Star News; Annette Walden-HR Director; and Ann Graham, Misty Copeland, James Hubble, Ada Lester, Roger Pace-Wheeler Historical Committee; Kevin Meek-AgriLife Extension Agent; Kristen Moudy-Wheeler EDC Director.

Judge McDowell opened the Court meeting at 9:00 am and then Commissioner May Jr offered the opening prayer.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None were offered.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jackie Don May Jr made a motion which was seconded by Cecil Gaither Sr to approve the minutes as written for the February 2026 meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY FEE REPORTS

John Walker made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to approve the monthly fee reports for February 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

COMPENSATORY TIME BALANCES APPROVED

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to approve the compensatory time balances as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET AMENDMENT APPROVED-Sheriff Department

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by John Walker to approve a Budget Amendment in the amount of \$97,072.00 from the Asset Forfeiture Fund program for purchasing vehicles or vehicle equipment. Motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET TRANSFERS

No action needed.

BUDGET LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

Jackie Don May Jr made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to approve the following budget line item transfers:

JP #2 -\$750.00 from telephone to computer expense  
EmergComm -\$490.00 from Ambulance service to Emergency Service Dist No. 1  
AttyAdLitem-\$750.00 from Attorney Ad Litem to Contract reporter CPS

Motion carried unanimously.

BURN BAN

No action taken.

JUDGES REPORT

Judge McDowell reported on the following:

Primary Election-thanks to Margaret Dorman, County Clerks office staff and election workers  
He attended a Judges & Commissioners meeting last week and met with State Senators and Representatives  
Offered thanks to Sheriff Reeves, Commissioner Gaines & Britt McCarter for repairs of the sewer at the jail  
Reminded the Court about obtaining a TDA chemical license

No action needed.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

It was reported that some attended a recent <sup>meeting</sup> in Canyon and 10 youth would be going to Houston for the stock show.  
No action needed.

WHEELER COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMITTEE-Discussion on revitalization and ownership of 1940 Wheeler County Jail  
Ada Lester, Chairman of Wheeler County Historical Committee, and committee members met with the Court to discuss some ideas for the revitalization and use of the 1940 Wheeler County Jail on US highway 83. She mentioned that the Friends of Wheeler County Historical Commission would like to request that the Commissioners Court not consider destruction of the building for one (1) year so that the committee could use the time to seek and apply for preservation funding opportunities, structural feasibility studies and consideration of potential community uses for the building.  
No action was taken.

SPS/XCEL ENERGY POTTER TO BECKHAM 345KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

A letter and map concerning an application to be filed by SPS/Xcel Energy to design and construct the Potter to Beckham 345-kV transmission line project. The letter requested feed back concerning environmental and land use constraints or other issues of interest within the study area.  
No action was taken.

PCT#2-CONSTRUCTION OF 4-H AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS FACILITY APPROVED-\$34,975.00

Commissioner Gaines presented a proposal and information concerning construction of one 30'x50' building for use as a Ag Mechanics Program building. The proposal was from Gober Post Frame Construction, Seminole, Oklahoma. The bid includes the building, insulation, concrete slab, electrical, labor and installation work.  
After discussion between the court and auditor, Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to approve the proposal from Gober Post Frame Construction in the amount of \$34,975.00 for construction of a 30'x50' building adjacent to the Wheeler County Show barn in Wheeler. Motion carried unanimously.

DORI ROOT-LIPSCOMB COUNTY JUDGE APPOINTED TO BOARD OF TEXAS PANHANDLE CENTERS, BEHAVIORAL & DEVELOPMENTAL HEALTH

Judge McDowell made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to appoint Dori Root, Lipscomb County Judge to the board of the Texas Panhandle Centers Behavioral & Developmental Health. The term will be from February 1, 2026 through August 31, 2027. Motion carried unanimously.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Cecil W Gaither Sr to pay the bills as approved. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-Shamrock Annex

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Cecil W Gaither Sr to enter into Executive Session at 9:36AM  
Motion carried unanimously.  
Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by John Walker to return to Regular Session at 10:40 am. Motion carried unanimously.  
No action taken.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Cecil Gaither Sr to adjourn the meeting at 10:41 AM. Motion carried unanimously.

JUDGE PAT MCDOWELL

MARGARET DORMAN, COUNTY CLERK

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_