

April 13, 2026

The Wheeler County Commissioners Court met in Regular session on the above date at 9:00 AM 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; Natalie Thomas-JP #1; Rick Walden-JP #2; Tim Reeves and Tyler Kincaid-Sheriff Department; Larry Gatlin-IT Director; Kimberly Morgan, Garry Holder, Taire Knight, Louis Stas, Crystal Hermesmeier, Dan Sams, Julie Reed, Chalone Hefley, Barry Sanders, Dale Kidd, Britt McCarter, Troy Potts, Amando Lujan and Ryan McCormick, representative for the PACE program.

Court was called to order by Judge McDowell who then offered the opening prayer with special remembrance for the recent passing of Ken Daughtry, former Emergency Management Director.

PUBLIC HEARING-PACE PROGRAM-9:01 AM

No one appeared for the public which was attended by Ryan McCormick representative for the program.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None were offered.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cecil W Gaither Sr made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to approve the minutes as written for the March 2026 meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

6. APPROVAL OF MONTHLY FEE COLLECTION REPORTS AND DISBURSEMENT REPORT

Jackie Don May Jr made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to approve the monthly fee collection reports for March 2026 and the County Treasurer disbursement report covering the period of March 24, 2026 through April 9, 2026 in the amount of \$318,865.09. Motion carried unanimously.

7. APPROVAL OF COMPENSATORY TIME BALANCES

Jackie Don May Jr made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to approve the compensatory time balances for employees as of April 11, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

8. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

No action needed.

9. BUDGET TRANSFERS

No action needed.

10. BUDGET LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

No action needed.

11. BURN BAN

No action taken.

12. JUDGES REPORT

Judge McDowell stated that this would be his last commissioners court meeting and expressed his thanks for the opportunity to serve as Wheeler County Judge.

13. COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Commissioner Pct #1 mentioned the small rain amount we received recently.

14. PAT MCDOWELL-LETTER OF RESIGNATION, effective April 15, 2026

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Cecil W Gaither Sr to accept the Letter of Resignation presented by Pat McDowell, with an effective date of April 15, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

CHALONE HEFLEY APPOINTED WHEELER COUNTY JUDGE FOR UNEXPIRED TERM-April 16, 2026 through December 31, 2026

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to appoint Chalone Hefley to serve as Wheeler County Judge, effective April 16, 2026 through the unexpired term ending December 31, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

CHALONE HEFLEY, COUNTY JUDGE BOND APPROVED

No action taken. Clerks Note: Bond was not presented for approval.

PCT #3--EIGHT (8) ROAD BORE PERMITS APPROVED WITH CITY OF SHAMROCK-Water Lines

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to approve the below listed road bore permits between Wheeler County and the City of Shamrock for a water line:

- A. Co Rd 16-Co Rd Q and Co Rd 16 intersecton
- B. Co Rd 16-60' N of FM 592
- C. Co Rd Q -Co Rd Q and Co Rd 16 intersection
- D. Co Rd R-80' West of Co Rd 16
- E. Co Rd S-80' West of Co Rd 16
- F. Co Rd T-120' West of Co Rd 16
- G. Co Rd V-2500' West of US 83
- H. Co Rd Z-1800' West of US 83

Motion carried unanimously.

18. PCT #3-ROAD BORE PERMIT GRANTED BRAD KOEPKE-Water line-Co Rd X & Kellerville Highway, North of Heald Church

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to approve a road bore permit to Brad Koepke to bore under County Road X, north of the Heald Methodist Church. Motion carried unanimously.

19. PCT #4-RAYDEN CRUZ ADDED TO PAYROLL, Part time, effective May 21, 2026, \$17.00 hourly

John Walker made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to add Rayden Cruz to the precinct #4 payroll as a part time employee, effective May 21, 2026 with an hourly salary of \$17.00 per hour. Motion carried unanimously.

20. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF WHEELER AND WHEELER COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT-Law Enforcement-Approved

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to approve an Interlocal Agreement between Wheeler County, Wheeler County Sheriff Department and the City of Wheeler for Law Enforcement services beginning May 1, 2026 through March 31, 2027. Annual fee will be \$56,650.00. Motion carried unanimously.

21. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF SHAMROCK AND WHEELER COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT-Law Enforcement-Approved

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Cecil W Gaither Sr to approve an Interlocal Agreement between Wheeler County, Wheeler County Sheriff Department and the City of Shamrock for Law Enforcement services beginning May 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027. Annual fee will be \$56,650.00. Motion carried unanimously.

WHEELER COUNTY PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY (PACE) PROGRAM established in County

Mr. Ryan McCormick met with the Court to answer any questions or address concerns for creation of the Wheeler County Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program. After discussion, Cecil W Gaither Sr made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to approve the following:

- Resolution establishing the Wheeler County Pace Program
 - Report for Proposed Wheeler County Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program
 - Professional Services Agreement between Wheeler County and Lone Star Pace LLC
 - Allowing County Judge to execute all documents and take any necessary actions to carry out transactions
- Motion carried unanimously.

FLOCK TRAFFIC CAMERAS-Temporary Placements-Pct 1&2 barn and Wheeler Sheriff Office

At the request of Sheriff Reeves, Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to approve the Property License Agreements for temporary placement of Flock traffic cameras at the Wheeler County Sheriff Department and the Precinct 1 & 2 barn on Highway 152, with the understanding that they will be removed when permanent cameras are installed. Judge McDowell will sign the agreements. Motion carried unanimously.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to approve the bills for payment and pay accordingly. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-Texas Government Code §551.072

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Cecil W Gaither Sr to enter into Executive Session as allowed by Texas Government Code §551.072 at 9:25 am. Attending:all 4 Commissioners, Nichole Mock, Barry Sanders, Crystal Hermesmyer, Troy Potts, Judge Elect Chalone Hefley. Motion carried unanimously.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION-9:45 AM

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to return to Regular Session at 9:45 AM. Motion carried unanimously.

No action taken concerning Shamrock EDC update or Real Estate in Shamrock

ADJOURMENT OF MEETING

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to adjournment the meeting at 9:50 AM. Motion carried unanimously.

PAT MCDOWELL, COUNTY JUDGE

MARGARET DORMAN, COUNTY CLERK

APPROVED: _____