

JUNE 22, 2026 9:00 AM

The Wheeler County Commissioners Court met in Regular session on the above date at 9:00 AM with the following members in attendance: Judge Chalone Hefley, 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; Renee Warren-Treasurer; Cindy Brown-Tax Collector; Sherri Jones-District Clerk; Natalie Thomas-JP #1; Rick Walden-JP #2; Melissa Miles-County Attorney; Billy Hennig-Commissioner Elect; Kimberly Morgan-Chief Appraiser; Jeff Shortnacy-Constable #2; Kye Harper; James Hubble; Louis Stas; Ada Lester; Kelly May; Roger Pace; JoAnn Love and Lianne Halpern.

CALL TO ORDER

Judge Chalone called the Court to Order at 9:00 AM.

9:30 AM

1. Opening Prayer- Commissioner Jackie Don May Jr offered the opening prayer.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Margaret Dorman, County Clerk, addressed the Court concerning the web page maintained by the County Clerks office. She informed the Court that she had recently been notified by the Texas League of Women Voters that the Election page of the web site had been awarded an Outstanding Rating for 2026 for providing accurate, accessible information on a safe and secure site. She also offered her thanks to the efforts of Larry Gatlin, IT Director, for his part in maintaining the website for all of Wheeler County offices.

3. WHEELER COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMITTEE-2025 Distinguished Service Award acknowledged

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to acknowledge the 2025 Distinguished Service Award which was awarded by the Texas Historical Commission. Motion Carried unanimously. Members of the committee attending were: Ada Lester, James Hubble, Kelly May, Roger Pace, JoAnn Love.

4. FEE REPORTS ACCEPTED

John Walker made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to accept the County Treasurers Claim report in the amount of \$65,004.83. Motion carried unanimously.

5. COMPENSATORY TIME BALANCES APPROVED

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to approve the Compensatory Time balances for the period ending June 20, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

6. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

No action needed.

7. BUDGET TRANSFERS

Jackie Don May Jr made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to approve the following budget transfers:  
\$27,600.00 from Contingency Line Item to Capital Expenses-Agrilife Building  
\$42,500.00 from Contingency Line Item to Shamrock Annex-Earnest money for property purchase  
Motion carried unanimously.

8. BUDGET LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

John Walker made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to approve the below listed budget line item transfers:

|             |           |                                                 |
|-------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Co Judge-\$ | 125.00    | from Conf & Training Staff to Supplies          |
| Co Clerk-\$ | 242.00    | from Equip Purchase to Election Workers         |
| Treas -\$   | 200.00    | from Conf & Training Staff to Supplies          |
| SO          | 2,500.00  | from Fuel to Vehicle Expense                    |
| Jail        | 10,000.00 | from Prisoner Medical to Jail building          |
|             | 1,000.00  | from Cash Short/long to Jail building           |
| TAX AC      | 600.00    | from Computer Expense to Supplies               |
|             | 300.00    | from Dues & Publications to Supplies            |
| DistClk     | 700.00    | from Equipment purchase to Training official    |
| JP #2       | 833.00    | from Autopsy expense to Computer expense        |
| Non Dept-\$ | 136.00    | from Legal fees to Loss Control                 |
|             | 5,000.00  | from Indigent Defense County                    |
|             | 4,000.00  | from Indigent Defense District                  |
|             | 16.00     | from Property Ins to Public Officials Liability |
|             | 8,000.00  | to Indigent Defense Unindicted                  |
|             | 1,000.00  | to Attorney Ad Litem                            |
| R&B #4      | 2,000.00  | from Wages Employees to Wages PT                |
| SO          | 4,000.00  | from RLEG employees to RLEG-PT                  |
| JAIL        | 2,000.00  | from RLEG employees to RLEG-PT                  |

Motion carried unanimously.

9. BURN BAN

No action taken

10. COMMISSIONERS REPORT

No reports offered.

11. CONTRACT RENEWAL-PRITCHARD & ABBOTT INC 2027-2028

Jackie Don May Jr made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to approve the contract renewal between Wheeler County and Pritchard & Abbott Inc for the 2027-2028 term for software used in the Tax Collectors office. The fee for 2027 will be \$24,200.00 and for 2028 will be \$25,350.00. Motion carried unanimously.

BIDS AWARDED-ROAD MATERIALS-#RB 2026 3 (July 1, 2026-December 31, 2026)

Bids were received from the following:

Four Wheeler Farms; Reneau Family; David Seitz; Koetting Enterprises LLC and L&M Stone LLC

After discussion and review of the bids, John Walker made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to accept all bids that were submitted and approved. Motion carried unanimously.

13. TEXAS COUNTY & DISTRICT RETIREMENT SYSTEM-Contribution rate of 2027 set

Jackie Don May Jr made a motion which was seconded by John Walker to set the 2027 contribution rate at 7.23%. Motion carried unanimously.

14. EARLY RETIREMENT POLICY FOR VESTED EMPLOYEES 60 YEARS OR OLDER AND STAFF REDUCTION APPROVED

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to approve an Early Retirement Policy for vested employees 60 years of age or older and Staff Reduction Policy. Motion carried unanimously.

15. FUNDING AN EXPENDITURES FOR PUBLIC PURPOSE SERVICES ORDER APPROVED

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by John Walker to approve an Order Authorizing Expenditures for Public Purpose Services, specifically being: High Plains Food Bank-\$1,000; Shamrock Meals on Wheels-\$500; Wheeler Meals on Wheels-\$500; Wheeler Historical Museum-\$3,500; Pioneer West Museum-\$3,500; Old Mobeetie Texas Museum Association-\$3,500; and Panhandle Community Services-\$3,000 for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. Motion carried unanimously.

16. EMERGENCY DECLARATION OF DISASTER-NEW WORLD SCREWORM-7 days

Cecil W Gaither Sr made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to issue a Declaration of Local State of Disaster regarding the Threat of New World Screwworm for Wheeler County. The duration of the declaration is 7 days unless renewed. Motion carried unanimously.

17. PAYMENT OF BILLS

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr pay the bills as approved. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:57am, Cecil W Gaither Sr made a motion which was seconded by John Walker to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

18. Syntrio (Santa Rosa)-fiber optic cable-discussion and consultation with legal counsel

19. Deliberate potential sale, exchange, lease or value of real property in Wheeler County.

At 10:26 am Cecil W Gaither Sr made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to return to Open Session of Court. Motion carried unanimously.

20. POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING POTENTIAL SALE, EXCHANGE, LEASE OR VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY IN WHEELER COUNTY, TEXAS

No action taken.

21. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Cecil W Gaither Sr to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

CHALONE HEFLEY, COUNTY JUDGE

MARGARET DORMAN, COUNTY CLERK

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