

March 11, 2024

The Wheeler County Commissioners Court met in Regular Session on the above date at 9:00 AM to consider the following agenda items. Members in attendance were: Judge McDowell, Commissioners Phillip Gaines, David Simpson & John Walker-Commissioners Precincts 2,3 & 4, respectively. Commissioner Jackie Don May Jr was absent. Also attending were: Margaret Dorman-Clerk of the Court; Nichole Mock-County Auditor; Renee Warren-Treasurer; Sherri Jones-District Clerk; Johnny Carter, Carrie Gaines, Rhonda Scott and Belinda Daniels-Sheriff and Department; Natalie Thomas-JP #1; Ken Daughtry-Emergency Management; Dan Sams-Wheeler Mayor; Kristen Moudy-Wheeler EDC director; Barry Sanders; and Louis Stas-Wheeler Times.

Court was opened with a prayer offered by John Walker after Judge McDowell called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None were offered.

ACCEPTANCE OF MONTHLY FEE COLLECTION REPORTS

David Simpson made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to accept the February 2024 monthly fee collection reports for JP #1; JP #2; County Clerk; District Clerk and Tax Collector, and also the disbursement report submitted by the County Treasurer covering the period of February 27, 2024 through March 7, 2024 and totaling \$213,898.23. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 2024 MEETINGS

David Simpson made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to approve the minutes from the February 2024 meetings as written. Motion carried unanimously.

COMPENSATORY BALANCES APPROVED-period ending March 8, 2024

David Simpson made a motion which was seconded by John Walker to approve the compensatory balances for the period ending March 8, 2024 and shown by department. Motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

No action needed

BUDGET TRANSFERS

No action needed

BUDGET LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

No action needed

BURN BAN

No action taken.

JUDGES REPORT

Judge McDowell expressed his thanks to the County Clerk and employees for a successful and well run election on March 5, 2024. He also expressed his thanks to all fire departments, first responders, Commissioners and employees and TDEM staff for work during the recent wild fires both in and out of county.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Phillip Gaines expressed his thanks to all commissioners and employees for assistance throughout the county during the recent wild fires.

RURAL LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANT AGREEMENT (SB 22) APPROVAL-Award #1A-000000086

John Walker made a motion which was seconded by David Simpson to approve acceptance of the Rural Law Enforcement Grant Agreement (SB22), award #1A-000000086. Motion carried unanimously.

held March 18, 2024 at 9:00 AM.

RURAL LAW ENFORCEMENT SALARY ASSISTANCE GRANT DISCUSSION

Two options were presented for consideration. Option 1 would have higher salaries and less fund balance and Option 2 would have lesser salaries and higher fund balance.

No action was taken at this time. Another meeting will be held March 18, 2024 at 9:00 AM

COMPENSATORY HOURS AND PAYOUT APPROVED FOR FULL TIME DEPUTIES AND JAIL EMPLOYEES

TO BE PROCESSED WITH THE MARCH 15, 2024 PAYROLL

County Treasurer Renee Warren, presented the Sheriff Department and Jail compensatory pay out amounts for pre SB 22 implementation. The Sheriff Department totals \$22,826.72 and the Jail totals \$12,698.87.

John Walker made a motion which was seconded by David Simpson to approve the amounts listed for pre SB 22 pay out for the Sheriff Department and Jail employees. Motion carried unanimously.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF WHEELER AND SHERIFF DEPARTMENT APPROVED

David Simpson made a motion which was seconded by John Walker to approve the Interlocal Agreement between the Wheeler County Sheriff Department/Wheeler County and the City of Wheeler for law enforcement services within the city limits of Wheeler. The term will be April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025 with an annual payment of \$55,000.00, paid in 12 month payments. Motion carried unanimously.

AUDITOR-CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS APPROVED

Nichole Mock, County Auditor, submitted her continuing education hours certification for her completion of the County Investment Academy and Texas Public Funds Investment conferences.

David Simpson made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to approve her certifications. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF GRADING FIRE BREAKS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY AND/OR CRP PROPERTY FOR PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

David Simpson made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to research the possibility for grading fire breaks for Public Safety. Motion carried unanimously

PAYMENT OF BILLS

David Simpson made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to pay the bills as approved. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

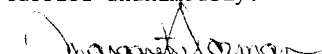
None needed.

TDEM STAFF AND COMMISSIONERS COURT-Workshop on documenting wildfire paperwork needed.

Hannah Hill and Jodie Terrazas met with the Court to offer information and guidance concerning the needed paperwork and submissal for the recent wildfires in the County. The County Judge, All 3 commissioners, Nichole Mock, Renee Warren, Ken Daughtry and Dan Sams attended the workshop.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by John Walker to adjourn the meeting at 10:36 AM. Motion carried unanimously.


MARGARET DORMAN, COUNTY CLERK

APPROVED: 4/8/2024

JUDGE PAT MCDOWELL