

April 14, 2025

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 present were: Judge McDowell-Presiding; Commissioners Jackie Don May Jr, Phillip Gaines, David Simpson and John Walker. Also attending were: Margaret Dorman-Clerk of the Court; Nichole Mock-County Auditor; Renee Warren-County Treasurer; Cindy Brown-Tax Collector; Sherri Jones-District Clerk; Natalie Thomas-JP #1; Dee Dee Reeves; Rick Walden-JP #2; Leslie Timmons-County Attorney; Tim Reeves, Caden Walden, Carrie Gaines, Rhonda Scott, Belinda Daniels-Sheriff and employees; Barry Sanders, Terry Knight, Cecil Gaither, Kimberly Morgan, Louis Stas and Marcos Castillo.

Court was called to Order by Judge McDowell at 9:00 am. Commissioner May Jr then offered the opening prayer.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None were expressed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

John Walker made a motion which was seconded by David Simpson to approve the minutes as written for the March 2025 meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

COMPENSATORY TIME BALANCES APPROVED

David Simpson made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to approve the compensatory time balances for the period ending April 14, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

No action needed.

BUDGET TRANSFERS

No action needed.

BUDGET LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

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

- \$ 378.00 from Capital Case expense to Loss Control
- \$ 300.00 from External Audit Fees to Loss Control
- \$ 300.00 from R&B #3 Contract Labor to Conf Dues & Travel
- \$ 28,138.00 from SO Safety Equipment to Firearms & Safety Equipment

Motion carried unanimously.

BURN BAN

No action taken.

JUDGES REPORT

Judge McDowell reported on the recent criminal court docket call.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Judge McDowell informed the court that an offer had been made previously, but not accepted.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Commissioner Gaines expressed his thanks to his fellow members of the court and to the officials and employees for acts of kindness during his recent medical occurrence.

It was also reported that the fiber optic line on County roads D & 14 had been installed at the Ft Elliott School and the one on County Road O was now at the Kelton School. It was also mentioned that a line was installed at the jail.

INSURANCE REVIEW-Legacy Insurance Group

Mr. Chris Gibson, owner of Shamrock Legacy Insurance, met with the Court to discuss insurance coverage for property, General Liability and Auto. He presented costs and coverage amounts. No action taken.

PRPC-911 RENEWAL OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR SERVICE & EQUIPMENT FOR THE NEXT FISCAL BIENNIUM-Beginning September 2025-August 2027

Mr. John Schaumburg and Mr. Mike Peters from the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission presented the renewal Interlocal Agreement through Judge McDowell. After discussion, John Walker made a motion which was seconded by David Simpson to renew the Interlocal Agreement between Wheeler County and the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission for 911 services. Motion carried unanimously.

INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR OLDER VEHICLES CONSIDERED

After discussion, David Simpson made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to review the vehicle listings for all county owned vehicles prior to insurance renewal time and make a determination of what type of coverage, if any, to place on each vehicle. The age, mileage and Blue Book value will be used to make the determinations. It will also be the time to determine whether to keep the vehicle or send to auction. Motion carried unanimously.

PCT #4-ROAD BORE PERMIT GRANTED RICHLAND RESOURCES CORP-CO Rd T

John Walker made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to grant Richland Resources Corp a permit to bore County Road T, 2,025' west of County Road 20 on Co Rd T. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSTABLE PCT #2-purchase of 2 TOUGHBOOKS & PERIPHERALS FROM BAYCOM-JP TECHNOLOGY FUNDS-\$10,858.00

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by John Walker to approve the purchase of two (2) Panasonic FZ55 Toughbooks from Baycom. This would include the peripherals and using JP Technology Funds. The total purchase price will be \$10,858.00. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSTABLE PCT #2-purchase of 2 CopSync software programs from Kologik-\$2,450.00 each-JP Technology Funds

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Daryl Gaines to approve the purchase of 2 CopSync programs from Kologik with a purchase price of \$2,450.00 each and using JP Technology Funds. Motion carried unanimously.

SO-PURCHASE OF 12 MOTOROLA RADIOS FOR JAIL-South Plains Communications-\$17,037.18-SB 22 Funds

Jackie Don May Jr made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to approve the purchase of 12 Motorola radios from South Plains Communications in the amount of \$17,037.18 using SB 22 funds. Motion carried unanimously.
Clerks Note: The purchase of 12 radios approved in June 2024 was not made.

SO-COOPER ADAMS ADDED TO PAYROLL, FULL TIME DEPUTY SHERIFF, effective April 15, 2025

At the request of Sheriff Reeves, David Simpson made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to add Cooper Adams to the payroll as a full time deputy, effective April 15, 2025 and with a salary of \$23,76 per hour using SB 22 funds, non exempt status. Motion carried unanimously.

SO-BIDS TO BE SOUGHT FOR UPGRADE TO THE LOCKING SYSTEM AT THE WHEELER COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

At the request of Sheriff Reeves and after discussion, Jackie Don May Jr made a motion which was seconded by David Simpson to seek bids for replacement of the locking system at the Wheeler County Law Enforcement Center, with a purchase date after October 1, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

SO--HOBIE HILL TO ATTEND TEXAS REGISTERED POLICE ACADEMY-Asset Forfeiture Funds-\$7,253.00

At the request of Sheriff Reeves, Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by David Simpson to approve the application of Hobie Hill to attend a Texas registered police academy (Sponsorship Program) with a cost of \$7,253.00 and according to the terms in the application. Motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER-2024 ZERO LOST TIME AWARD APPROVED

County Treasurer Renee Warren, met with the Court and presented the award from Texas Association of Counties Risk Management Pool-Workers Compensation Program, recognizing Wheeler county for Zero Lost Time in 2024. Jackie Don May Jr made a motion which was seconded by David Simpson to accept the award. Motion carried unanimously.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION FORM 536 -fiscal year 2024-No long term debt

David Simpson made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to accept Federal Highway Administration Form 536 for fiscal year 2024 indicating that Wheeler County does not have any long term debt related to road & bridge projects. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES & PROCEDURES-American Rescue Plan Act

John Walker made a motion which was seconded by David Simpson to approve the Financial Management Policies & Procedures-American Rescue Plan Act. Motion carried unanimously.

DEMOLITION OF HOUSE ON COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY IN WHEELER APPROVED

Judge McDowell made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to approve the demolition of the house on the property owned by Wheeler County on the lot immediately east of the Wheeler Ambulance Barn. Motion carried unanimously.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING-10:35 AM

Phillip Gaines made a motion which was seconded by Judge McDowell to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 AM. Motion carried unanimously.