



**ANDREA CARDENAS**  
*AUSTIN COUNTY CLERK*

265 N. CHESLEY ST., STE. 7  
BELLVILLE, TEXAS 77418

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**COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES**

**February 12, 2024** Austin County Commissioners Court met in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Courtroom at the Austin County Courthouse with the following present:

Tim Lapham, County Judge  
Mark Lamp, Commissioner, Precinct 1  
Robert "Bobby" Rinn, Commissioner, Precinct 2  
Leroy Cerny, Commissioner, Precinct 3  
Chip Reed, Commissioner, Precinct 4  
Andrea Cardenas, County Clerk

**9:00 A.M. OPENING**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**INVOCATION**

**PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL AND CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM**

**CONSIDERATION/ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Remove agenda item #6 and #11 f, g, and h.

Approve amended agenda.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).*

**Order #24-033**

**1. Petitions or Requests from the Public.**

Per Commissioner Lamp, Texas Materials has been awarded contract to build bridge on Mill Creek. Commissioners Rinn and Lamp will attend construction meeting in Yoakum.

**2. Discussion to accept Rural Law Enforcement Resolution and action as appropriate.**

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Lamp, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*

**Order #24-034**

**3. Discussion and action regarding Matterhorn Express Pipeline, LLC road use agreement.**

Per Jonathan Hoptko (County Engineer), requested to add a road to the road list. Per Commissioner Reed, Matterhorn has been on several roads in Precinct #4 not on road list.

Per Commissioner Lamp, Matterhorn has been on Swearingen and Schaffner Roads without authorization.

Per Commissioner Rinn, Byler Balke Road.

Per Commissioner Cerny, Cross and Plum Creek, Old Columbus and Beckendorff Roads.

Per Commissioner Reed, Lezak (correct spelling), Bollinger, Orange Hill, Rexville, Wolchik, Saha, Klopsteck, Mound and Cannon Hill Roads.

Per Jonathan Hoptko (County Engineer), will present to pipeline and update map.

Add Swearingen, Schaffner, Byler Balke, Cross, Plum Creek, Old Columbus, Beckendorff, correct spelling of Lezak, Bollinger, Orange Hill, Rexville, Wolchik, Saha, Klopsteck, Mound and Cannon Hill Roads to road use agreement.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Rinn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-035**

**4. Discussion regarding construction/remodel of Wendt Street Building and action as appropriate.**

Daniel Sanchez (Shellback Construction) explained how the dehumidifiers will work to help with moisture.

Approve amendment to Shellback contract for a change order in the amount of \$9,156 for dehumidifier.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-036**

**5. Discussion and action to declare 2018 Ford F250 S.O. vehicle as surplus.**

Declare as surplus, waive 30-day delay and submit to Switzer Auction Services for auction.

*Motion to Declare: Commissioner Rinn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-037**

**6. Discussion and action regarding Austin County Policy Manual.**

**7. Discussion and action regarding Tyler Technologies Image Transfer Cost.**

Approve to pay \$9,730 to Tyler Technologies for images transfer.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Lamp, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0).*

**Order #24-038**

**8. Discussion and action to authorize a hardship variance for Auditor's Office Employee to either:**

- a. **Grant a 60 day extension from 02.25.24 anniversary date.**
- b. **Pay out 40 hours as the county does for EMS, SO, and Jail Departments.**

Approve a 60-day extension.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Lamp, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cerny, passed (4-0).*

**Order #24-039**

**9. Discussion regarding employee compensation committee.**

Per Judge Lapham, at last budget there was discussion to create an employee compensation committee. The committee should consist of about 5-6 people. Commissioner Rinn will head up the committee.

**10. Discussion to accept surveyed plat and approve survey affidavit for the following properties located in Pct. 2 and action as appropriate:**

- a. **Property near Rock House Rd adjacent to property owned/formally owned by Eldie & Earline Blezinger.**
- b. **Property near Yellow Rose Road adjacent to property owned or formally owned by Meier Ranch Land, LLC and JL T Operating LP.**

Per Commissioner Rinn, surveys done to define the easement as a County easement on Rock House Rd. and Yellow Rose.

Accept survey plats and approve survey affidavits for Rock House Road and Yellow Rose Road.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Rinn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Cerny, passed (4-0).*

**Order #24-040**

**11. CONSENT AGENDA - Items listed are of routine nature and may be acted on in a single motion unless requested otherwise by member of Commissioners Court.**

- a. **Discussion and action as appropriate regarding Texas Governor's Office grant application for FY 2024-2025 for the purpose of Tactical Team Communications Upgrade. (Sheriff Brandes):**
  - i. **Approval to submit application.**
  - ii. **Accept Resolution.**

- b. Discussion and action as appropriate regarding Texas Governor's Office grant application for FY 2024-2025 for the purpose of Rifle Resistant Armor Plates for First Responders. (Sheriff Brandes):
  - i. Approval to submit application.
  - ii. Accept Resolution.
- c. Discussion and action as appropriate regarding Homeland Security Grant Program grant application for FY 2024-2025 for the purpose of CERT Education I Media Equipment (Roy Mercer):
- d. Discussion and action as appropriate regarding Homeland Security Grant Program grant application for FY 2024-2025 for the purpose of Interoperable Communications. (Roy Mercer):
- e. Discussion and action to ratify an Interlocal Agreement between Bosque County and Austin County for the purchase of election equipment.
- f. Discussion and action to authorize a one-time variance from Subdivision Regulations to subdivide a 4 to 6 acre tract from a 38.74 parent tract on South Loop 497, pct. 2
- g. Discussion and action to authorize a one-time variance from Subdivision Regulations to subdivide a 2 acre tract from a 35.7 parent tract on Remmert Rd, pct. 4
- h. Discussion regarding employee compensation committee and action as appropriate.
- i. Consideration and action to add Private Road, Hendon Lane, Pct. 4, to Austin County 911 Rd Map.
- j. Consideration and action to add Private Road, Bella Lane, Pct. 1, to Austin County 911 Rd Map.
- k. Consideration and action to approve Temporary Access Agreement between Trey Werner and Austin County, Pct. 2
- l. Consideration and action to accept special donations for Knox Library Summer Reading Program per local government code 81.032:
  - i. \$250
  - ii. \$50
  - iii. \$50
  - iv. \$100
  - v. \$100
  - vi. \$250
  - vii. \$500
- m. Consideration and action to approve required schooling application for Lance Johnson, Constable, TCOLE Course, to be held July 15-19, 2024 in Huntsville, Texas.
- n. Consideration and action to approve required schooling application for Bryan Haevischer, Treasurer, to be held April 15-18, 2024 in San Marcos, Texas.
- o. Approval of Minutes:
  - i. December 27, 2023
  - ii. January 08, 2024
  - iii. January 12, 2024 Building/Construction Workshop
  - iv. January 12, 2024 Special Meeting

- v. January 22, 2024
- vi. February 02, 2024
- p. Consideration and action to declare the following Pct. 4 equipment as surplus:
  - i. Ingersoll Rand 2475 Padfoot roller- Serial Number: 9017399
  - ii. Marklift CH80 C - Serial Number: 7076

Approve a. – e. and i. – p. except for ov. January 22, 2024 minutes.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-041**

Per Commissioner Rinn, correction to January 22, 2024 minutes is to add Order #24-032 under the Motion to Adjourn.

Approve January 22, 2024 minutes with addition Order #24-032.

*Motion to Add: Commissioner Rinn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-042**

### **Addendum to Action Agenda**

#### **1. Discussion and action regarding dispatcher compensation.**

Per Don Darracq (Sheriff's Office), requests to change the 5 pay steps in Dispatch to 2 pay steps. Entry Level Dispatchers – \$22.27 per hour and Senior Dispatchers – \$23.17 per hour.

Approve change to Compensation Order for Dispatcher pay to 2 pay levels; Entry Level - \$22.27 per hour and Senior Dispatcher - \$23.17 per hour.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Cerny, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-043**

Per Commissioner Lamp, wants to know the cost to pay off Comp Time. Going forward Dispatchers will be paid overtime and comp time when accrued.

Don Darracq and Captain Scott Hicks (Sheriff's Office) will bring cost back to Court.

#### **12. Budgetary and Financial Claims - action as appropriate.**

- a. **Payment of Claims**

Total = \$3,397,536.19

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Lamp, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-044**

**b. Fund Transfers**

Total = \$2,666,598.56

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).  
Order #24-045*

- c. Budget Amendments**
- d. County Auditor's review of finances**

Per Billy Doherty (County Auditor), within budgetary constraints.

- e. County Treasurer's**
  - i. Payroll and Escrow Report - 01.26.2024**

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).  
Order #24-046*

**13. Written end-of-the month reports submitted by County Offices.**

- a. Criminal, Civil and Family Court - January 2024**
- b. Justice of the Peace, Pct. 3 & Pct. 4 - January 2024**
- c. Constable Pct. 1 - January 2024**
- d. Jail Population - January 2024**
- e. Agrilife Extension - December 2023**
- f. OSSF - January 2024**
- g. TxDMV - January 2024**
- h. Library - January 2024**

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Cerny, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0).  
Order #24-047*

**14. Commissioners Court Inquiry.**

Per Billy Doherty (County Auditor), suggests to pay for Tax Assessor-Collector's election equipment in the amount of \$7,500 from the 127.

*Motion to Adjourn: Commissioner Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).  
Order #24-048*

Court adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

**ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ON FILE WITH COUNTY CLERK AS PROVIDED BY  
COMMISSIONERS COURT**

I, Andrea Cardenas, Austin County Clerk, attest to the minutes of the Commissioners Court proceedings for February 12, 2024.



Date: Andrea Cardenas  
Andrea Cardenas, Austin County Clerk  
Clerk of Commissioners Court  
Austin County, Texas

**FILED**

2024 FEB 14 AM 11:19

*Andrea Cardenas*  
COUNTY CLERK  
AUSTIN COUNTY, TEXAS