



**ANDREA CARDENAS**  
*AUSTIN COUNTY CLERK*

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

PH: 979-227-3144  
FAX: 979-865-0336

**COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES**

**September 23, 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  
Bobby Rinn, Commissioner, Precinct 2  
Leroy Cerny, Commissioner, Precinct 3  
Chip Reed, Commissioner, Precinct 4  
Kimberly Benjamin, Deputy Clerk

**OPENING**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**INVOCATION**

**PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL AND CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM**

**CONSIDERATION/ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Change agenda item #12 to Discussion and action as appropriate to add full time position to Road and Bridge. Remove 18e. from Executive Session agenda. People could not attend meeting and will be at next Commissioners Court.

Approve amended agenda.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Cerny, passed (4-0)*  
**Order #24-262**

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

Commissioner Reed thanked San Felipe Frydek Volunteer Fire Department who responded to a burn pile fire. They were in full force to put it out.

Per Judge Lapham, will move to #5.

- 5. Open Bids for S.O. SUV replacement vehicle, consideration and action as appropriate.**

Received bids from Ryan Ford and Cavender Auto Country.

Per Judge Lapham, Donald Darracq (Sheriff's Office) will review bids and come back.

- 6. Open Bids for Pct. 1 Building and action as appropriate.**

Received bids from Premier Builders – \$195,024 and TSG Industries, LLC – \$252,392.84. Base with Grand Total = \$446,457.

Per Billy Doherty (County Auditor), the \$446,457 is with all add-on options.

- 7. Consideration and action to accept restitution payment of \$520 for 20 tons of limestone, Pct. 2.**

Per Commissioner Rinn, for West Ueckert Road.

*Motion to Accept: Commissioner Rinn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0)*  
**Order #24-263**

- 8. Consideration and action to award contract to Texas Land & Right of Way for acquisition services for Sectors 2 & 3 of the GLO CDBG-MIT Allen's Creek Drainage Improvement Projects, Contract #22-085-007-D235.**

Per Shannon Hannath (Road and Bridge Administrative Assistant), went out for bids a few weeks ago and only received one bid. Went out for bids again and received three bids. Langford reviewed bids and Texas Land & Right of Way is the one chosen from bids. Request for approval.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Cerny, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-264**

- 9. Discussion regarding Road & Bridge bids and action as appropriate.**
- a. Road Material/Gravel**
  - b. Hauling**
  - c. Asphalts, Liquid Asphalts, Emulsions & Dust Control**
  - d. Corrugated Culverts**
  - e. HDPE Culvert Pipe**
  - f. Concrete/Cement**
  - g. Fuel (Gasoline and Diesel)**
  - h. Surface Treatments, Asphalt Laydown & Asphalt Milling**

Per Shannon Hannath (Road and Bridge Assistant), some prices went up, some stayed the same and some went down. One is extremely high.

Accept all bids.

*Motion to Accept: Commissioner Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-265**

**10. Consideration and action to approve Amendment No. 1 to the professional engineering services contract for CDBG-MIT #24-065-031-E486**

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Cerny, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-266**

Judge Lapham asked where in process is County on Grant. Per Shannon Hannath (Road and Bridge Administrative Assistant), environmental still needs to be done. Still trying to work out some kinks on Peschel and Pyka Roads.

Per Commissioner Cerny, had some trouble with right of way entries for some people. Changed scope of work to change some of drainage issues to more important parts.

Commissioner Lamp thanked Shannon Hannath (Road and Bridge Administrative Assistant) for finding grants and assisting to manage once grants are awarded.

**11. Consideration and action to approve drainage plan for VITAL LINK, I-10 at Bartlett Rd, Pct. 4.**

Per Jonathan Hopko (County Engineer), VITAL LINK has gone outside of their scope of impervious area and past their timeframe for their permit. Has submitted another drainage plan and given an update. Requested another permit. Drainage plan has been approved. Recommends Court approve drainage plan.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0)*  
**Order #24-267**

**12. Discussion and action as appropriate to add a part-time administrative position to Road & Bridge, Pct 1.**

Approve adding a full-time position to Road and Bridge, Pct. 1.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Lamp, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0)*  
**Order #24-268**

2. **Consideration regarding Uniform Contract and action as appropriate.**
  - a. **Departments Participating**
  - b. **Uniform Logo**

Hilda Gomez (County Auditor's/Treasurer's Office) presented different options and pricing to Court.

Per Commissioner Cerny, would prefer a darker, 100% cotton, Class 2 shirt with Class 3 vest.

Will bring back to Court.

No action.

3. **Discussion and action to approve 2024-2025 Compensation Order.**

Per Judge Lapham, added an extra operator position to Road and Bridge, Pct. 1.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Rinn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0)*  
**Order #24-269**

4. **Discussion and action to approve 2024-2025 Certificate Pay for the following departments:**
  - a. **Sheriff's Office**
  - b. **Jail**
  - c. **Telecommunications/Dispatch**

Per Donald Darracq (Sheriff's Office), no increase to Certificate Pay, but additional people added to list. All numbers were included in budget.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Lamp, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-270**

*#5 continued.*

Per Donald Darracq (Sheriff's Office), received bids from Ryan Ford and Cavendar. Ryan Ford misquoted tax, but can work with them to remove tax. Ryan Ford's bid is lowest bid.

Ryan Ford – \$45,109.51 (with tax)  
Cavender – \$45,175.01

Per Donald Darracq (Sheriff's Office), can work with Ryan Ford to correct tax.  
Recommend going with low bidder.

Approve purchase of 2024 Ford Expedition from Ryan Ford not to exceed \$45,109.51.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0)*  
**Order #24-271**

Donald Darracq (Sheriff's Office), inquired when financing will be discussed.

Judge Lapham asked Billy Doherty (County Auditor) where in budget could funds come from. Per Billy Doherty (County Auditor), may be able to take funds from Jail Salary lines. Per Judge Lapham, will add to payment of claims not to exceed \$45,000 to Ryan Ford for 2024 Ford Expedition.

*#6 Continued.*

Per Commissioner Lamp, bids are out of budget for project. Cost more than anticipated.

Approve to not award a bid on building.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Lamp, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-272**

**13. Discussion and action to approve partial payment for materials for Pct. 4 Building.**

Pay partial payment of \$74,534 for Precinct 4 building.

*Motion to Pay: Commissioner Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-273**

**14. Discussion regarding burn ban and action as appropriate.**

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0)*  
**Order #24-274**

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

- a. Consideration and action to authorize a one-time variance from Subdivision Regulations to divide a 1.161-acre tract from a 4.00-acre tract on Long Branch Road, Pct. 2.
- b. Consideration and action to approve and sign interlocal agreements for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, to serve Austin County Citizens:
  - i. Colorado Valley Transit, Inc.
  - ii. Colorado Valley Transit, Inc. (JARC)
  - iii. Combined Community Action
  - iv. Emergency Medical Services/Industry

- v. Library Services/Gordon Memorial Library
  - vi. Fire Fighters Association
  - vii. Focusing Families
  - viii. USDA/Soil and Water Conservation Services
  - ix. Texana
  - x. Youth and Family Services
- c. Consideration and action to approve and sign Interlocal Law Enforcement Agreements for Fiscal Year 2024-2025
  - i. Bellville
  - ii. San Felipe
  - iii. Sealy
  - iv. Wallis
  - v. Sealy I.S.D
- d. Consideration and action to approve Required Schooling Application for Travis Koehn, District Attorney, to be held December 03 – 06, 2024 in Austin, Texas
- e. Consideration and action to approve Required Schooling Application for Brandy Robinson, Assistant District Attorney, to be held December 04 – 06, 2024 in Austin, Texas

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Lamp, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-275**

- 16. Budgetary and Financial claims – action as appropriate.
  - a. Payment of Claims

Will come back after Executive Session.

- 17. Written end-of-the-month reports submitted by County Offices
  - a. Statutory County Court – August 2024
  - c. AgriLife – August 2024
  - d. JP, Pct. 2 – August 2024
  - e. Constable, Pct. 1 – July and August 2024

*Motion to Accept: Commissioner Cerny, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-276**

Court recessed at 10:08 a.m.

- 18. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**  
 In accordance with Texas Local Government Code §551.071, §551.125 and §551.129, a closed meeting will be held concerning the following items:
  - a. Real Estate
  - b. Real Estate
  - c. Economic Development
  - d. Legal Matter

**e. Legal Matter**

Court reconvened at 12:31 p.m.

**19. Action as appropriate on Executive Session.**

No action on 18a-d.

*#16a-ei. Continued.*

16a. Payment of Claims – Per Billy Doherty (County Auditor) total = \$101,535.931.45. Need to add Ryan Ford not to exceed \$45,000. Need to add Chip Reed – \$500 (for reimbursement for an invoice).

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Cerny, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-277**

**b. Fund Transfers**

September 10, 2024 – \$195,000,170.32 (C1804 Grant Funds) and September 23, 2024 – \$1,500,000. Per Billy Doherty (County Auditor), \$839,283.64 is payroll items.

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-278**

**c. Budget Amendments**

Per Billy Doherty (County Auditor), no Budget Amendments.

**d. County Auditor's review of finances**

Per Billy Doherty (County Auditor), revenues were budgeted at \$21,523,508. Currently budget with adjustments is \$21,982,365.21. Fiscal Year to date, County has collected \$22.6 million. Puts County \$652,000 above and beyond. Most of funds are grants and insurance proceeds still not accounted for. Right now, roughly at \$949,000. Will break even or right out of the negative.

**e. County Treasurer's**

**i. Payroll and Escrow Report – 09.20.2024**

*Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0).*  
**Order #24-279**

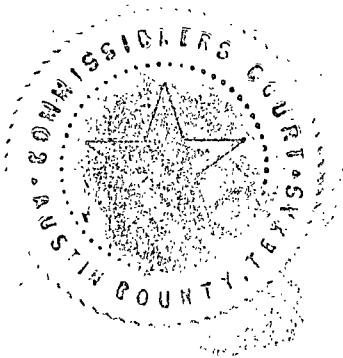
**20. Commissioners Court Inquiry.**

*Motion to Adjourn: Commissioner Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Cerny, passed (4-0).  
Order #24-280*

Court adjourned at 12:47 p.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 September 23, 2024.**



Date: October 2, 2024

Andrea Cardenas

**Andrea Cardenas, Austin County Clerk  
Clerk of Commissioners Court  
Austin County, Texas**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

**Kimberly Benjamin, Deputy Clerk**

FILED

2024 OCT -2 AM 9:12

*Andrea Cardenas*  
COUNTY CLERK  
AUSTIN COUNTY CLERK