

**MINUTES OF COMMISSIONER COURT, MOORE COUNTY, TEXAS
REGULAR SESSION, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023**

**STATE OF TEXAS {
COUNTY OF MOORE }**

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT ON THIS 13TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023 there came to be held a Regular Session of Commissioners Court of Moore County, Texas in the Commissioners Courtroom in the Courthouse in Dumas, Texas. The following persons were present to-wit: Rowdy Rhoades, County Judge; Daniel Garcia, Commissioner Precinct 1; Miles Mixon, Commissioner Precinct 2; Colt Farni, Commissioner Precinct 4 and County Clerk, Brenda McKanna.

Court having been opened according to law the following proceedings were had to wit:

Commissioner Vaughan was absent from the meeting.

During routine announcements and reports Judge Rhoades presented a Certificate of Membership from PRPC along with a letter of acknowledgment. Judge Rhoades also presented a notice from TAC in regards to Moore County earning a 2022 Safety Achievement Award from the TAC Risk Management Pool. Copy of certificate, letter and notice of award attached and made a part hereof by references.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mixon that the bills as presented by Kara Milligan, County Treasurer, be approved for payment and the County Treasurer is hereby directed to issue warrant-checks thereof. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia. Motion carried

There was one bill presented for special handling for approval:

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia to approve the payment to Judge Board, Visiting Judge in the amount of \$4,416.84. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mixon to approve the Temporary Cash Investments dated February 13, 2023 as presented by Kara Milligan, County Treasurer and the County Treasurer's Report of Cash Disbursements of the same date and duly recorded in the Commissioners Court Minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried. Copies of the Report and Temporary Cash Investments are attached and made a part hereof by references.

Jason Howell and Adam Tisdell presented some options for the court to consider in regards to indigent defense. Jason Howell is the Chief Public Defender for Armstrong and Potter County Indigent Defense. He stated he has five attorneys that work for him and he also has an oversight board, along with case managers and mental health case managers. Jason is very aware of the issues that small rural counties face trying to get new attorneys to come to their counties. He

stated they bring in attorneys that are right out of school and train them for two years and then help them setup their own practices. He stated there is grant money to setup public defenders offices. Adam stated the biggest concern they face is bringing attorneys to Moore County so they can do their job effectively. This is something they all do together or eventually this will be forced on small counties. The grant application is due by the end of May and the funding will be in October of this year. The first year is 80% funded and then next two years the project is funded at 60%. Judge Rhoades has some concerns about the attorneys passing on doing cases in Moore County and preferring Potter County. Adam stated the smaller counties have the ability to work with their District Judges so they can schedule their courts on different days in order not to have scheduling conflict with attorneys. Adam believes they will have control with the indigent program being based on the regional model. Judge Board stated one of the benefits is the judge will have a seat at the table to help alleviate a majority of the conflicts. There may be a problem with Moore County giving up some of the local control. It was stated they cover for each other and bring in other attorneys to help. Under the Managed Assigned Counsel (MAC) model most of the grant funding is much higher. Judge Board stated the smaller counties are getting funding at 66% and there is not a limit and as long as there is funding, they will continue to fund. Judge Allen asked how much input the District Judges would have in who is being appointed. Jason stated if any judge has a problem with any attorney they could come to Jason with the complaint and he would handle the appointments. He stated currently at this time this program is not setup to handle juvenile cases. Adam stated when Jason needs attorneys, he has not had any problems getting attorneys through the public defender program. Jason is sending attorneys to different areas specifically to recruit new attorneys. Jason stated to move forward with a proposal and they would need a letter of interest to get the process started. Commissioner Mixon stated he is always interested in any thing that would make it more cost efficient. Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia to give Judge Rhoades the authority to provide a letter of interest and ask for the study with the approval from the County Attorney. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Mixon. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mixon to approve the preliminary plat for Blue Mesa Development as presented by Justin Willis. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia. Motion carried. Copy of plat attached and made a part hereof by references.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mixon to approve a full-page ad in the Moore County New Press business guide for the airport and restaurant at a cost of \$475.00. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Farni to approve a new copier lease for the Extension Office at a cost of \$370.35 per month. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia. Motion carried. Copy of lease attached and a part hereof by references.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mixon to approve the Homestead Exemption for 2023 to remain the same as last year. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried. Copy of exemptions attached and made a part hereof by references.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mixon to approve the employment of Shari Stanford as the substitute librarian effective February 16, 2023 with a starting wage of \$10.00 per hour. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mixon to accept the appointment of Coy Barton as County Auditor at a salary set for the appointed auditor set by District Judge, Kim Allen with effective date of March 1, 2023. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried. Copy of order appointing attached and made a part hereof by references.

Brandon Cox, Airport Manager presented two proposals for the airport restaurant. Proposals presented were from Joe Tidwell and William R. Knight III, Crystal Knight and Wayne Knight dba All Points Travel Café.

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia to accept the proposal from William R. Knight III, Crystal Knight and Wayne Knight dba All Points Travel Cafe with a rental fee of \$750.00 per month with the understanding that a financial statement is presented on a yearly basis to adjust the rental fee as necessary. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried. Copy of proposals attached and made a part hereof by references.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mixon to approve the employment of Jeff Lovell at the airport effective February 22, 2023 with a salary of \$18.00 per hour with a \$40.00 per month cell phone allowance and a \$75.00 per month clothing allowance. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia to approve the JAG Grant Resolution. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried. Copy of resolution attached and made a part hereof by references.

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia to approve the Homeland Security Emergency Response Team Grant Resolution. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried. Copy of resolution attached and made a part hereof by references.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mixon to approve the purchase of a color copier/fax machine from SPC for the County Clerk's Office in the amount of \$7,578.83 with a 5-year service agreement with expenditure to be paid from County Clerk's Records Management Fund. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried.

Raymond Tate, Road & Bridge Supervisor gave a report on the department. Raymond presented a proposal for the purchase of an enclosed trailer that they could use to haul barricades instead of having to take several trailers to the work site.

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia to approve the purchase of an enclosed trailer in the amount of \$6,300.00 to be paid out of capital outlay with a budget amendment. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried. Copy of proposal attached and made a part hereof by references.

Motion was made by Commissioner Farni to approve the participation in the opioid settlements with Allegan, CVS, Walgreens and Walmart. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia. Motion carried. Copy of settlement agreements attached and made a part hereof by references.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mixon to approve the addendum to the LGS contract with the County Clerk, District Clerk and County Attorney with the software converting to a cloud base with an additional charge of \$206.00 per month to be paid out of special funds of each office. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried. Copy of addendum attached and made a part hereof by references. Motion carried.

At 10:33 A.M. motion was made by Commissioner Mixon that the court enter in Executive Session according to Govt. Code, Sec. 551.071 to discuss pending litigation. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried.

At 11:04 A.M. motion was made by Commissioner Garcia that the court reconvene in open court. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Mixon. Motion carried. Judge Rhoades stated no action taken on agenda during Executive Session and certifies to the agenda.


Motion was made by Commissioner Farni to take "No Action" on pending litigation. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia. Motion carried.

It appears there is no other business to come before the court. Motion was made by Commissioner Mixon to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia. Motion carried.

THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING MINUTES HAVING BEEN READ AND APPROVED, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT THEY BE AND ARE HEREBY APPROVED AS PRESENTED.



Commissioner Precinct 1, Daniel Garcia



Commissioner Precinct 2, Mile Mixon

"ABSENT"

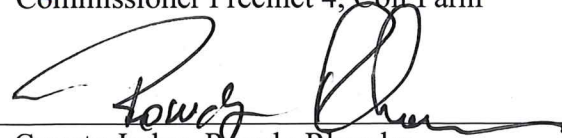
Commissioner Precinct 3, Dee Vaughan



Commissioner Precinct 4, Colt Farni



ATTEST: Brenda McKanna, County Clerk



County Judge, Rowdy Rhoades

