

**MINUTES OF COMMISSIONERS COURT, MOORE COUNTY, TEXAS
SPECIAL SESSION, MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024**

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

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT ON THIS 25th DAY OF MARCH, 2024 there came to be held a Special Session of Commissioners Court of Moore County, Texas in the Commissioner's Courtroom of 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; Dee Vaughan, Commissioner Precinct 3; Colt Farni, Commissioner Precinct 4 and Brenda McKanna, County Clerk.

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Vaughan to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 12, 2024, Special Meeting of February 26, 2024 and Regular Meeting of March 11, 2024. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia. Motion carried.

There were two bills presented for special handling:

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia to approve the payment in the amount of \$2,000.00 to Ubaldo Estrada with expenditure to be paid out of the RAMP Grant. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia to approve the payment in the amount of \$43,000.00 to Doshier, Pickens & Francis LLC for the audit which is \$4,000.00 over budget. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried.

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Vaughan to approve the name change of the American Rescue Funds Account to the SB22 Funds. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried. Copy of letter presented by County Treasurer, Kara Milligan attached and made a part hereof by references.

Motion was made by Commissioner Vaughan to send a Resolution to TxDot to move the current "No Engine Brake Sign" to ½ mile south of US 87 & FM2589. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Mixon. Motion carried. Copy of resolution attached and made a part hereof by references.

Motion was made by Commissioner Farni to approve the purchase a MDT for Emergency Management in the amount of \$2,842.48 with expenditure to be paid out of the volunteer account. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Mixon. Motion carried. Copy of invoice attached and made a part hereof by references.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding JP1 and the Sheriff's Office warrants, policies and procedures. Coy Barton stated in 2015 the court approved a part-time employee in the Sheriff's Office to go as a full-time employee to help with the JP warrants. At that time the JP's offices were behind 1,000 warrants. The full-time employee responsibilities were to scan part-time and do at least 10 warrants per day. Coy has visited with the Sheriff's office and at this time the employee is also working on civil warrants along with the other duties. Coy stated there are approximately 723 warrants that need to be worked and what got his attention is the revenue that is outstanding due to the warrants not being done. The JP's and Sheriff's office both have reasons that they can't do the warrants. Coy stated the funds need to be collected to help pay county expenses.

Barbara Mulanax, Justice of Peace stated she has worked with everyone to try to get a solution to get the warrants done. She stated in 2015 when the court approved the full-time employee for the sheriff's office that they would be doing 10 warrants a day. She stated the sheriff's office started telling them they could not bring warrants on Monday or Friday and then told them they could only bring five the other days. She stated Carolyn here recently took five warrants and they sent five back with the policies and procedures of which she stated she had never seen before. She had Lydia called surrounding counties and they take their warrants to the sheriff's office and they enter them. Barbara has some concerns the warrants are going to get lost at the sheriff's office and they have to have the original warrant back. The Sheriff asked Barbara if they gave her office access to their system could one of her employees work on the warrants. Barbara stated both of her employees are very busy working on civil and criminal cases and it would take another employee to take care of all of the warrants. Brandon Jones stated on February 2, 2024 there were 97 warrants in five days and there will be more citations since DPS had hired a new sergeant for this area and more citations will be issued. He stated the civil processes that Kayla is working on is a job within itself and she was getting very over-whelmed and that is the reason she started sending warrants back to the JP's office. Brandon stated if they bring in ten people each one could have multiple warrants and it is overwhelming job. The court asked if Kayla was hired full-time to do criminal warrants and at that time that is why she went full-time. It was stated when administration changes the new sheriff may not be aware of each employees' duties. Commissioner Garcia asked Barbara if they would be willing to help with the warrants and Barbara stated they do not have time to work on the warrants. Commissioner Vaughan asked if the \$331,000.00 that is outstanding is all county funds. It was stated a big portion of the funds are county and part of the funds are state funds. The court asked what the repercussion would be if they had to Kayla to go back to doing all JP warrants and Brandon stated they would get behind on civil warrants. Brandon stated the JP warrants are Class C and are not placed in the National Alert System and the only way the funds will be collected is if the person happens to get stopped in Moore County. Lydia stated even if the person can't be arrested out of county, she places a hold on their driver's license and they have to pay before the license can be renewed. The court stated at budget time they can look at the possibility of hiring an employee to do nothing but JP warrants. There were some questions in regards to the salary that funded the DPS position and Coy stated there was not a savings there due to the fact the monies were absorbed into the sheriff's office for other expenses. Barbara stated they are 723 warrants behind and Commissioner Mixon ask how long it has taken to get that far behind and why wasn't this problem addressed at budget time and they should not have gotten that far behind before it was brought to the court's attention. Due to the fact of entering warrants and all of the information that has to be pulled it would be better to

have an employee in the Sheriff's Dept. enter the warrants so they have access to the information they need before issuing the

warrant. Morgan Hightower, Sheriff stated he would get his employees on this task and try to get caught up and wait until budget time to address the issue again. Commissioner Mixon stated he would get with Coy to see if there is anything that could be done in the budget before October in regards to hiring another employee. Copy of Sheriff's Office Policies & Procedures attached and made a part hereof by references.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mixon to take No Action in regard to the JP1 and Sheriff's office warrant policies and procedures. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Farni to approve an increase of pay to Kyle Bard, airport employee in the amount of \$25.00 per hour with no additional .50 per hour increases effective immediately. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Vaughan. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Farni to approve the RAMP Grant in the amount of \$110,000.00 for the new fiscal year. Motion was second by Commissioner Mixon. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mixon to approve the Premier Lawn Care contract for the airport in the amount of \$2,565.00 with expenditure to be paid out of RAMP Grant. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mixon to table the purchase of a new AWOS System until the court receives some additional information in regard to the reimbursement. Motion was second by Commissioner Garcia. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia to select Hi-Plains Civil Engineers for the airport project. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Farni to approve the purchase of one in-car camera system for the Sheriff's Dept. in the amount of \$4,421.71 to be paid out of SB22 Funds. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Vaughan. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Farni to table the discussion until the budget process on the purchase of tactical equipment for the emergency response team for the Sheriff's Dept with cost to be paid out of SB22 funds. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Mixon. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mixon to accept the donation from Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott LLP in the amount of \$1,000.00 for wildfire aid. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Vaughan. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mixon to appoint Judge Rhoades to the Panhandle Regional Housing Finance Corporation. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia. Motion carried.

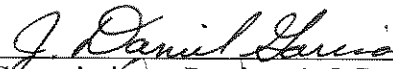
Motion was made by Commissioner Vaughan to enter into a culvert cost reimbursement agreement with Mario Mendoza in the amount of \$1,536.00 to pay for an additional culvert in the

county right of way with payments not to exceed six months. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Farni. Motion carried. Copy of agreement attached and made a part hereof by references.

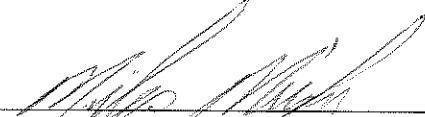
Raymond Tate, Road & Bridge Supervisor gave a report on the department. Raymond stated they have two maintainers that are up for service and since Yellowhouse doesn't have to do the service they will be doing the service on the machines. The court agreed they need to do the service except for the valve lash. Raymond stated he has ordered a 300-gallon diesel tank at an approximate cost of \$1,500.00. Commissioner Vaughan asked what the process is to get a culvert when a county road joins a highway. Raymond will take a look at the road that needs a culvert.

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 Farni. Motion carried.

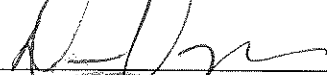
THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING MINUTES HAVING BEEN READ AND APPROVED, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT THEY BE AND ARE HEREBY APPROVED AS PRESENTED.




Commissioner Precinct 1, J. Daniel Garcia




Commissioner Precinct 2, Miles Mixon




Commissioner Precinct 3, Dee Vaughan



Commissioner Precinct 4, Colt Farni



ATTEST: Brenda McKanna, County Clerk



County Judge, Rowdy Rhoades

