

REGULAR TERM- January 8, 1945

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Commissioners Court of Titus County, Texas, met in Regular Session at the Courthouse in Mt. Pleasant, Texas with the following members presents, to-wit:

Ed Dickson	County Judge
L. C. Banks	Commissioner Prec. 1
Well Fleming	Commissioner Prec. 2
C. N. Wilson	Commissioner Prec. 3
C. N. Goodwin	Commissioner Prec. 4

and the following proceedings were had, to-wit:

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING MONTHLY REPORT OF TAX COLLECTOR

Motion by Commissioner Banks, seconded by Commissioner Goodwin to approve P. O. Wilhite's Tax-Collector-Assessors report for month of December, 1944, all voted "Aye" motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING REPORTS OF OFFICIALS.

Motion by Goodwin, seconded by Commissioner Wilson to approve the reports of officials as follows:

D. C. Morgan, County Treasurer,	quarterly report
J. W. Rudd, County Service Officer,	Quarterly report
Frank Madison, J. P. Prec. No. 1,	monthly report
J. W. Edwards, J. P. Prec. 3,	monthly report.

all voted "Aye" motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING OFFICERS EXPENSE ACCOUNTS.

Motion by Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Goodwin to approve officers monthly expenses as follows:

P. O. Wilhite	Tax Collector-Assessor	\$292.89
Frank Madison	Justice of Peace	11.25
Aubrey Redfearn	Sheriff	409.18
A. W. Vance	County Attorney	33.00
Floyd Keith	County Clerk	149.70
Ed Dickson	County Judge	2.00

All voted "Aye", motion declared carried.

IN THE MATTER OF SETTING SALARIES FOR YEAR 1945.

Motion by Commissioner Goodwin, seconded by Commissioners Bank to fix salaries as follows:

County Judge-	General Co. Fund	\$58.33	Per Yr	\$2800.00
" " " " 8	Road and Bridge	175.00		
Co. Comm'rs	Road and Bridge	116.66	per mo.	1400.00
" " " " 1	Road and Bridge	116.66	per mo.	1400.00
" " " " 2	Road and Bridge	116.66	per mo.	1400.00
" " " " 3	Road and Bridge	116.66	per mo.	1400.00
" " " " 4	Road and Bridge	116.66	per mo.	1400.00
Sheriff	Gen. Co.	75.00	per mo.	900.00
Dist. Clerk	Gen. Co.	65.00	per mo.	780.00
County Clerk	Gen. Co.	95.00	per mo.	1080.00
County Attorney	Gen. Co.	30.00	per mo.	360.00
County Agent	Gen. Co.	100.00	per mo.	1200.00
Home Dep. Agent	Gen. Co.	100.00	per mo.	1200.00
County Serv. Office	Gen. Co.	100.00	per mo.	1200.00
Court reporter	Jury Fund	65.63	" "	
County Treasurer	2 1/2% Receipts			
	2 1/2% Disbursements		Maximum	\$2000.00

Motion put before the court, all members voted "Aye", motion declared carried.

AA1372

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING BOND OF BURTON L. GRAF.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Fleming to approve bond of Burton L. Graf as Constable of Precinct No. 3. Motion put to vote, all voted "Aye," motion carried bond approved.

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTING DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR AND ASSESSORS.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fleming and seconded by Commissioner Goodwin to authorize W. W. Mason Tax Assessor-Collector to appoint Walterrene Owens and Dottie M. Purcell as Deputy Tax Assessor-Collectors and compensate them at a salary of \$125.00 per month to be paid out of fees of his office and effective as of January 1, 1945. All voted "Aye" motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTING R. W. McCOLLUM DEPUTY TAX-ASSESSOR

Motion was made by Commissioner Fleming and seconded by Commissioner Wilson, authorizing W. W. Mason, Assessor-Collector of taxes to appoint R. W. McCollum as Deputy Tax Assessor-effective January 8, 1945. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING DEPUTIES BONDS.

Motion by Commissioner Fleming and Seconded by Commissioner Wilson to approve bonds of Deputies as follows:

- Clyde Keith Deputy Sheriff
- Walterrene Owens Deputy Tax-Assessor-Collector
- Dottie E. Purcell "
- R. W. McCollum Deputy Tax Assessor

all vote "Aye" motion carries.

IN THE MATTER OF AWARDING CONTRACT TO PRITCHARD & ABBOTT FOR VALUATION OF OIL AND GAS PROPERTIES.

Motion was made by Commissioner Goodwin and seconded by Commissioner Fleming that contract be awarded to Pritchard and Abbott for 1945 & 1946 for Tax valuation. Motion submitted for a vote Commissioners Goodwin, Fleming, Banks and Wilson Voted "Aye" motion carried by unanimous vote. The contract is as follows:

STATE OF TEXAS |
COUNTY OF TITUS | KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That, WHEREAS, the Commissioners' Court of Titus County, Texas, has determined that it would be wise and to the best interest of said County for it to employ experts skilled in the matter of appraising and valuing oil and gas properties in said County, said experts to compile and furnish data and information to said Court sitting as a Board of Equalization for the purpose of equalizing valuations of such properties as compared with other property valuations in said County for tax purposes for the years 1945 and 1946, and said data and information to be made available in respect to all of such properties properly and lawfully coming before it for consideration in the equalization of values upon renditions made by the owners thereof, or upon renditions made by the tax assessor where the owner or owners may fail to render the same; and,

WHEREAS, said Court finds that Pritchard and Abbott, a partnership of Fort Worth, Texas, are skilled in such matters and have scientific and technical knowledge in respect to the appraising and valuing of such properties and many years experience in the matter of appraising and valuing such properties; and,

WHEREAS, Pritchard and Abbott, have proposed to said Commissioners' Court of Titus County that they will gather and compile information relating to the value of oil and gas properties as of January 1, 1945, and January 1, 1946, and make said information completely available to said Court, to be used by it as it may see fit in determining what value should be assigned to said properties properly coming before it for consideration; and will charge for their services a sum equal to Four (4) cents on each One Hundred Dollars valuation as finally ascertained and determined for Titus County of oil and gas properties, or other mineral interests.

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED by and between Titus County, Texas, acting herein by and through its Commissioners' Court, Party of the First Part, and Pritchard and Abbott, of Tarrant County, Texas, Parties of the Second Part as follows:

Parties of the Second Part agree to compile a complete list of the record owners of all oil and gas producing properties wherever situated and located in Titus County, Texas, and all undeveloped leases and royalty interests adjacent thereto, as of January 1, 1945, and January 1, 1946, said compilation and record to show the particular interest or interests therein owned, also to make a survey of all pipe lines, refineries, tank farms, tankage, transportation facilities, etc.

Parties of the Second Part also agree to secure and make available for the use of Party of the First Part information showing the values of said properties to be considered by Party of the First Part as it may deem fit in determining the proper values for tax assessment purposes for 1945, and 1946, to be assigned to such of said properties as may come before the Party of the First Part sitting as a Board of Equalization for consideration upon renditions made by the owners thereof, or upon renditions made by the tax assessor where the owner, or owners, fail or refuse to render the same.

FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION of the skilled services, technical knowledge and experience of Parties of the Second Part in the performance of the obligations devolving upon them hereunder, and in consideration of the information given and assistance furnished by them to Party of the First Part in undertaking to value and equalize the value of the said properties properly coming before it for consideration at its equalization hearings in the years 1945, and 1946, Party of the First Part agrees and obligates itself to compensate Parties of the Second Part as follows:

FOR THE SERVICES HEREIN AGREED to be performed, Second Party shall receive the said sum equal to Four (4) cents on each one hundred dollars valuation on all oil properties, and mineral interests, ascertained and determined by the Commissioners' Court for tax purposes for Titus County, for the years 1945 and 1946, to be paid out of the General Fund of Titus County.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and understood by both Parties that Titus County, Texas, will issue, or cause to be issued to Pritchard and Abbott warrants drawn against the general Fund of said Titus County, Texas, and payable out of the current revenues for each respective year, 1945, and 1946.

PARTY OF THE FIRST PART hereby specially contracts and obligates itself to, at any time same may become necessary, pass and enter of record such orders as may be proper and necessary to legalize and facilitate the payment of all sums due Party of the Second Part.

SAID PRITCHARD AND ABBOTT, further agree that in no way will the said Titus County be obligated to said Pritchard and Abbott, or their assistants, for salaries, expense, or material, except as above stated.

WITNESS our hands in duplicate this the 8th. day of January, A. D., 1945.

COUNTY OF TITUS
Party of the First Part

By Ed Dickson, County Judge
Neil Fleming, Commissioner, Precinct #2
C. N. Goodwin, Commissioner, Precinct #4
L. C. Banks, Commissioner, Precinct #1
C. H. Wilson, Commissioner, Precinct #3

ATTEST: Mrs. J. A. Glass, County Clerk,
Titus County, Texas.

By Hazel Rolston, Deputy.

PRITCHARD & ABBOTT,
Parties of the Second Part
By Sam Reeves.

Mt. Pleasant, Texas.
January 10th, 1945.

TO THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS COURT
TITUS COUNTY, TEXAS.

GENTLEMEN:

On January 8, 1945, your honorable body entered into Contract with Pritchard & Abbott of Ft. Worth, Texas to compile list of record owners of oil and gas producing properties, make survey of all pipe lines, refineries, tank farms, tankage, transportation facilities, in general, to secure information for said court to assist them in the matter of values on oil and gas properties for tax purposes.

On page two, paragraph five, said contract states that said Pritchard and Abbott shall make survey of transportation facilities. This service is to be done without cost to Titus County, said contract of four (\$.04) cents not to apply to said transportation facilities.

Very truly yours,
PRITCHARD & ABBOTT,
By Sam Reeves.

SR/a..

IN THE MATTER OF KEEPING OFFICERS ON A FEE BASIS FOR THE YEAR 1945

On this the 9th. day of January 1945, came on to be considered the matter of compensating county officials and to determine whether they shall be compensated on the basis of annual salaries or compensated on the basis of fees earned by them in the performance of their official duties. It appearing to the Court that the population of Titus County according to the last Federal Census, is less than twenty thousand inhabitants, and that it is to the best interests of the County to remain on the fee basis for the year 1945, motion was made by Commissioner Goodwin and seconded by Commissioner Fleming that county officers (excluding county surveyors, registers of vital statistics and notaries public) be compensated on the basis of fees earned for the year 1945. The County Judge put the motion before the court and all Commissioners voted "Aye" Motion was declared carried.

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTING COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

Motion by Commissioner Goodwin seconded by Comm. Banks to appoint Dr. J. M. Ellis as County Health Officer for the year 1945. Motion submitted all vote "Aye" motion declared carried.

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT OF PURCHASING OFFICER

Motion was made by Commissioner Goodwin and seconded by Commissioner Fleming to appoint the County Judge purchasing officer with authority to purchase records, stationary and office supplies, and also janitor supplies for the Court house and jail. Motion submitted and all vote "Aye" motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF ADVERTISING FOR DEPOSITORY BIDS FOR COUNTY FUNDS AND SCHOOL FUNDS.

Motion by Comm. Goodwin seconded by Comm. Banks to authorize the County Judge to advertise for depository bids for County Funds and School Funds. All vote "Aye" motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF EMPLOYING A ROAD SUPERINTENDENT FOR 1945.

The following written applications were read before the Court:

M. L. Berrett
Deltan Madden
W. B. Oliver
Edgar P. Heys
Lawrence Bowden
Lee Thompson
R. L. Thomas

Motion was made by Commissioner Goodwin and seconded by Commissioner Fleming to employ Lee Thompson as Road Superintendent for the year 1945.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Banks to employ R. L. Thomas as Road Superintendent at a salary of \$140.00 per month.

The motion of Comm. Goodwin to employ Lee Thompson was submitted to the court for vote and Commissioners Goodwin and Fleming voted "Aye". Commissioners Wilson and Banks and County Judge Dickson voted "No", the motion lost by a vote of 2 ayes and 3 noes.

The motion of Commissioner Wilson to employ R. L. Thomas was put before the court for a vote and Commissioner Wilson and Banks and County Judge Dickson Voted "Aye". Commissioners Goodwin and Fleming voted "No", the Motion declared carried by a vote of 3 ayes and 2 Noes.

IN THE MATTER OF EMPLOYING COURT HOUSE & JAIL REPAIRMAN AND JANITOR.

The following written applications were read before the court:

Walker M. Ferguson
A. J. Gautney

Motion was made by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioners Fleming to employ A. J. Gautney as Court House & Jail Repairman and Janitor at a salary of \$110.00 per month effective January 1, 1945.

Motion submitted all vote "Aye" motion declared carried.