

COMMISSIONERS' COURT

01.11.2016

[AGENDA](#)

[AUDIO](#)

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**COMMISSIONERS' COURT
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 11, 2016**

The Titus County Commissioners' Court, after notice posted in the manner, form and contents as required by law, met in Regular Meeting on Monday, January 11, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the Titus County Courtroom, Room 205, located at 100 West 1st Street with the following members present:

Brian P. Lee	-	County Judge
Al Riddle	-	Commissioner Precinct 1
Mike Fields	-	Commissioner Precinct 2
Phillip Hinton	-	Commissioner Precinct 3 - Absent
Jimmy Parker	-	Commissioner Precinct 4
Joan Newman	-	County Clerk
Sheryl Preddy	-	County Treasurer
Tim Ingram	-	County Sheriff
Carl Johnson	-	County Auditor

PUBLIC ATTENDING

Isabelle Smith	-	Royce Camp
Janice R. Chism	-	Scott Redfearn
Christie Davis	-	Richard Jones
Marcia Davis	-	Carolyn Norman
Joyce Simpson		

INVOCATION: JUDGE LEE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: JUDGE LEE

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 551.042 (LISTEN TO AUDIO TRACK 1 AND/OR VIEW VIDEO)

There were no comments and/or requests for information on non-agenda items in accordance with Section 551.042.

2. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 28, 2015 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT (LISTEN TO AUDIO TRACK 1 AND/OR VIEW VIDEO)

Motion was made by Judge Lee and seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve minutes from December 28, 2015 Special meeting of the Commissioners' Court. Motion passed unanimously.

3. UPDATE ON CAULKING THE INSIDE OF COURTHOUSE WINDOWS TO IMPROVE INSULATION (COMMISSIONER FIELDS) (LISTEN TO AUDIO TRACK 1 AND/OR VIEW VIDEO)

After inspecting the courthouse, Commissioner Fields reported the following: windows need caulking on outside; need to replace some window panes; water damages; ceiling tiles need to be replaced; roof leaks and plaster needs to be touched up and painted. The outside of the courthouse needs to be power cleaned to remove mold before caulking can be done. Public comments were heard from Richard Jones; Isabelle Smith; Wesley McCollum and Scott Redfearn. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 01\)](#)

When going out for bid, it needs to specify what material will be used in caulking and the caulking will need to be color matched. The contractor will need to be bonded and insured. Richard Jones volunteered to write up the specs at no charge to the county and prepare the bid for all work to be performed.

4. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE CLEANING THE EXTERIOR OF THE COURTHOUSE (TABLED 12-28-2015) (LISTEN TO TRACK 1 AND/OR VIEW VIDEO)

Motion was made by Commissioner Riddle and seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve going out for bid for cleaning the exterior of the courthouse along with caulking of windows as necessary per bid specs provided by Richard Jones. Motion passed unanimously.

5. UPDATE ON REIMBURSEMENT FROM TxDOT RELATED TO LOOP PROJECT (LISTEN TO AUDIO TRACK 1 AND/OR VIEW VIDEO)

Judge Lee gave an update on the semi-annual reimbursement to the county from the Texas Department of Transportation related to the loop project. Payments are scheduled on approximately the 1st of February and August of each year. In August of 2015, the county received a \$5.4 million dollar payment based on total vehicle miles traveled. This was a surprisingly large payment, and at the time was credited to much higher vehicle counts than anticipated. The County was later informed by TxDOT that

an error had been made in the counts, that axles were counted rather than individual vehicles, and that the County should expect significantly less at the next February 2016 payment date.

In January 2016, Judge Lee received notification from TxDot that the February 2016 payment would be \$3.2 million. Judge Lee questioned why the payment would be less than the agreed minimum of \$4.2 million. TxDOT Atlanta's response was that the payment was based on actual vehicle miles because the project was still incomplete on certain items, and was therefore not yet eligible for the minimum payment. Judge Lee informed the court that PTP was not aware of anything left undone and did not know why the project is still considered incomplete.

Judge Lee and Commissioner Parker will travel to TxDot Atlanta on Wednesday January 13th for a meeting. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss what is lacking to be eligible for minimum reimbursement payments, and to discuss traffic count locations on the loop. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 02](#))

6. UPDATE ON NEW NATURAL GAS PIPELINE TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN 2017 (LISTEN TO AUDIO TRACK 1 AND/OR VIEW VIDEO)

Judge Lee visited with Matt Barr from Cheniere regarding a new natural gas pipeline. Construction is scheduled to start in late 2017 beginning in northwestern Oklahoma and terminating around Linden. The pipeline will cross the top 1/3 of Titus County. Right of way has already been obtained. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 03](#))

Commissioner Fields stated that this will be in Precinct 3 if it is coming through the northern part of the county and that a lot of trucks hauling materials would tear up the roads.

7. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE TRAVEL AND SEMINARS FOR TITUS COUNTY EMPLOYEES AND ELECTED OFFICIALS (LISTEN TO AUDIO TRACK 1 AND/OR VIEW VIDEO)

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve travel and seminars for Titus County employees and elected officials. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 04](#))

8. APPROVE ORAL AND WRITTEN REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS (LISTEN TO AUDIO TRACK 1 AND/OR VIEW VIDEO)

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Riddle to approve oral and written reports of county officials. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 05](#))

9. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT (LISTEN TO AUDIO TRACK 1 AND/OR VIEW VIDEO)

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve Treasurer's report. Motion passed unanimously. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 06\)](#)

10. APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENTS (LISTEN TO AUDIO TRACK 1 AND/OR VIEW VIDEO)

There were no budget amendments.

11. SIGN PAY ORDERS AND APPROVE PAYMENTS (LISTEN TO AUDIO TRACK 1 AND/OR VIEW VIDEO)

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Fields to sign pay orders and approve payments. Motion passed unanimously. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 07\)](#)

12. CLOSING COMMENTS BY COUNTY JUDGE AND COMMISSIONERS, IF ANY (LISTEN TO AUDIO TRACK 1 AND/OR VIEW VIDEO)

Judge Lee shared with the Court that on a previous Pauper's funeral that the Commissioners' Court had approved, it had since been found that there was property that could be applied toward the cost of the funeral and leaving a balance of \$35.44 that Titus County would be responsible for.

Commissioner Fields thanked the Sheriff's department and Tri Lakes VFD for their assistance in helping him during the past storm. He also thanked the other VFDs that assisted as well.

Commissioner Riddle asked for clarification on the semi-annual payments from TxDOT.

ADJOURN (LISTEN TO AUDIO TRACK 1 AND/OR VIEW VIDEO)

Motion was made at 10:20 a.m. to adjourn by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Riddle. Motion passed unanimously.