

**COMMISSIONERS' COURT
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 10, 2018**

[AGENDA](#)

[AUDIO](#)

[ATTESTATION](#)

SCROLL DOWN FOR MINUTES AND/OR ATTACHMENTS

**COMMISSIONERS' COURT
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SEPTEMBER 10, 2018**

The Titus County Commissioners' Court, after notice posted in the manner, form and contents as required by law, met in Regular Meeting on Monday, September 10, 2018 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
Dana Applewhite	-	Commissioner Precinct 3
Jimmy Parker	-	Commissioner Precinct 4
Joan Newman	-	County Clerk
Sheryl Preddy	-	County Treasurer
Tim Ingram	-	County Sheriff
Carl Johnson	-	County Auditor

PUBLIC ATTENDING

R. David Gillespie	Gerry Evenwel
Lou Ann Rollins	Karen Gatherer
John Gatherer	Tracy Farr
Marc Levesque	Michael Hill
Roger Ledbetter	Philip Hoffman
Sonia Hernandez	Emily Aikman
Paul Lindsey	Tracy Craig
Roger Farr	Christie Davis
Carolyn Norman	Joyce Simpson

INVOCATION: Judge Brian Lee

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Judge Brian Lee

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 551.042, TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS

There were none.

2. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE MINUTES FROM AUGUST 27, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT

Motion was made by Commissioner Applewhite and seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve minutes from August 27, 2018 special meeting of the Commissioners' Court. Motion passed unanimously.

3. REPORT FROM ROAD ENGINEER (ROGER LEDBETTER)

Road Engineer, Roger Ledbetter, updated the Court on work performed on county roads 3225; 3220; 2470; 1468 and 1670. He hopes to be finished with all seal coat by the end of September.

4. CHAPEL HILL PRESENTATION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION

Superintendent Marc Levesque from Chapel Hill Independent School District addressed the Court requesting assistance in securing millings from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for a project that will allow the school district to relocate the bus barn/lot to improve traffic flow in and around the school. TxDOT will only release the millings to a county entity. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 01\)](#)

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to support Chapel Hill Independent School District with a letter from Titus County to TxDOT requesting the millings. Motion passed unanimously.

5. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE PURCHASE OF A NEW SOUND SYSTEM FOR THE EXTENSION OFFICE (LOU ANN ROLLINS)

Lou Ann Rollins from the Titus County AgriLife Extension Office presented the Court with a handout summarizing their need for a new sound and audio-visual system. Ms. Rollins brought Roger Farr, volunteer assistant at the extension office, who was more knowledgeable on the equipment needed to help answer any questions. [\(SEE ATTACHMENT 02\)](#)

Motion was made by Commissioner Riddle and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve the purchase of a new sound system for the Extension Office in the amount of \$2500.00. Motion passed unanimously.

6. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE IMPROVING THE SAFETY AND SECURITY FOR COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE (FIELDS AND LINDSEY)

Paul Lindsey came before the Court requesting the need for improved safety and security for the County Clerk's office. He is proposing to raise the glass windows, provide a document pass-through and a lockable full size door to prevent public access to the employee area. This can be paid out of the Security Fund.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Parker to obtain multiple quotes to provide door and secure work area for the County Clerk's office and bring back before the Court for approval. Motion passed unanimously.

7. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE REPAIRING DAMAGE TO THE STEPS ON NORTH COURTHOUSE ENTRANCE (FIELDS AND LINDSEY)

Paul Lindsey explained to the Court that the steps on the north entrance to the courthouse are pitted at the top and hollow underneath. The holes are getting larger and moisture is going into the walls. Underneath is exposed metal, electrical wiring and rusted steel rebar. All of this is a hazard to anyone walking up the steps to the north entrance.

Motion was made by Commissioner Applewhite and seconded by Commissioner Parker to get quotes on repairing damage to the steps on north courthouse entrance and bring back before the Court for approval. Motion passed unanimously.

8. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE JUDGES AND ALTERNATE JUDGES FOR 2018 GENERAL ELECTION

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to approve judges and alternate judges for 2018 General Election. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 03](#))

9. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE 3RD PARTY DRUG TESTING (TABLED 8-27-18)

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve 3rd party drug testing by DACTS. Motion passed four to one with Commissioner Riddle voting nay. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 04](#))

10. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE RESOLUTION FOR 2018 TAX OFFICE EXEMPTIONS

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Riddle to approve Resolution for 2018 Tax Office Exemptions. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 05](#))

11. DISCUSS AND POSSIBLY APPROVE COUNTY DENTAL INSURANCE RATES FOR 2019

Motion was made by Commissioner Applewhite and seconded by Commissioner Parker to table approving dental insurance rates for 2019 until next Commissioners' Court meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

12. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE HIRING AN INSPECTION OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED ADJACENT TO THE JAIL

Sheriff Tim Ingram would like to use this space for administrative offices for the sheriff's office, moving the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) and Environmental Services offices there. Judge Lee emphasized to the Court that this is not a discussion on whether or not to purchase the property but to get an evaluation on the condition and value of the building.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to approve hiring Collin Cowan Inspection to do an inspection of the property located adjacent to the jail. Motion passed four to one with Commissioner Riddle voting nay.

13. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE HIRING AN APPRAISER FOR PROPERTY LOCATED ADJACENT TO THE JAIL

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to approve hiring a certified appraiser, George Walker, after results of the inspection for property located adjacent to the jail. Motion passed unanimously.

14. APPROVE ORAL AND WRITTEN REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

Motion was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Parker to approve oral and written reports of county officials. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 06](#))

15. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Riddle and seconded by Commissioner Fields to approve treasurer's report. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 07](#))

16. APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to approve budget amendment #29. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 08](#))

17. SIGN PAY ORDERS AND APPROVE PAYMENTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite to sign pay orders and approve payments. Motion passed unanimously. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 09](#))

18. CLOSING COMMENTS BY COUNTY JUDGE AND COMMISSIONERS, IF ANY

Judge Lee:

- Early voting begins October 22, 2018
- Public Hearing for Proposed Budget
- Open Enrollment is 10/11/2018 & 10/12/2018

Commissioner Riddle voiced his concerns regarding the county jail space and the idea of purchasing the adjacent building. ([SEE ATTACHMENT 10](#))

ADJOURN:

Motion was made at 10:50 a.m. to adjourn by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Applewhite. Motion passed unanimously.