

ELLIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT  
OFFICIAL MINUTES – APRIL 1, 2025

THE ELLIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT MET ON TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2025, AT 2:00 P.M., IN THE HISTORIC ELLIS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS COURTROOM (2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR) 101 W. MAIN STREET, WAXAHACHIE, TEXAS AT WHICH THE FOLLOWING WAS DISCUSSED AND CONSIDERED, TO-WIT:

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**COUNTY CLERK: KRYSTAL VALDEZ**

COUNTY JUDGE TODD LITTLE

**COMMISSIONERS:**

PRECINCT 1 COMMISSIONER RANDY STINSON

PRECINCT 2 COMMISSIONER LANE GRAYSON

PRECINCT 3 COMMISSIONER LOUIS PONDER

PRECINCT 4 COMMISSIONER KYLE BUTLER

**OPENING COURT:**

COUNTY JUDGE CALLS MEETING TO ORDER, DECLARES QUORUM AND DECLARES NOTICES LEGALLY POSTED PURSUANT TO OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

MOTION TO OPEN COURT BY COMMISSIONER GRAYSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PONDER, MOTION CARRIED

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: *COUNTY JUDGE TODD LITTLE*

**CONSENT AGENDA: MINUTE ORDER 201.25**

**ADMINISTRATIVE:**

- A.1 APPROVING OF REGULAR BILLS, PAYROLL, AND OFFICERS' REPORTS. – *COUNTY TREASURER CHERYL CHAMBERS*
- A.2 APPROVING OF THE JANUARY 2025 MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT, PURSUANT TO TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE §114.026. – *COUNTY TREASURER CHERYL CHAMBERS*
- A.3 APPROVING OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FROM MARCH 18, 2025. - *COUNTY CLERK KRYSTAL VALDEZ*
- A.4 ACCEPTING OF A TABULATED REPORT OF THE COUNTY'S RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF FUNDS FROM MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup> – MARCH 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2025, PURSUANT TO LGC §114.024. – *COUNTY AUDITOR STACI PARR*
- A.5 APPROVING FOR THE COUNTY JUDGE TO SIGN AND SUBMIT THE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FUND (CTIF) GRANT APPLICATIONS TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TXDOT) FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF COUNTY ROAD PROJECTS. - *DoD DIRECTOR ALBERTO MARES*
- A.6 APPROVING TO ADD LUMINA LEARNING USA AS A VENDOR, IN ADDITION TO STRATEGIC GOVERNMENT RESOURCES (SGR) FOR JOB MARKETING & ADVERTISING AND CANDIDATE EVALUATION & VETTING TO ASSIST IN FILLING THE VACANT COUNTY ENGINEER POSITION, IN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.00. NO NEW MONIES ARE PROPOSED, AND THIS ITEM WAS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ON NOVEMBER 26, 2024. - *INTERIM DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING DIRECTOR ALBERTO MARES*

- A.7 APPROVING OF AN INTERLOCAL COOPERATION CONTRACT BETWEEN ELLIS COUNTY AND THE CITY OF OAK LEAF FOR ROAD MAINTENANCE, REPAIRS, AND OTHER PROJECTS AS REQUESTED THROUGH DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2025 IN ACCORDANCE WITH TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE §791 (THE TEXAS INTERLOCAL COOPERATION ACT). - *PRECINCT 4 COMMISSIONER KYLE BUTLER*
- A.8 APPROVING OF AN INTERLOCAL COOPERATION CONTRACT BETWEEN ELLIS COUNTY AND THE CITY OF OVILLA FOR ROAD MAINTENANCE, REPAIRS, AND OTHER PROJECTS AS REQUESTED THROUGH DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2025 IN ACCORDANCE WITH TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE §791 (THE TEXAS INTERLOCAL COOPERATION ACT). - *PRECINCT 4 COMMISSIONER KYLE BUTLER*
- A.9 APPROVING OF AN INTERLOCAL COOPERATION CONTRACT BETWEEN ELLIS COUNTY AND THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE FOR ROAD MAINTENANCE, REPAIRS, AND OTHER PROJECTS AS REQUESTED THROUGH DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2025 IN ACCORDANCE WITH TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE §791 (THE TEXAS INTERLOCAL COOPERATION ACT). - *PRECINCT 4 COMMISSIONER KYLE BUTLER*
- A.10 APPROVING OF AN INTERLOCAL COOPERATION CONTRACT BETWEEN ELLIS COUNTY AND WAXAHACHIE ISD FOR ROAD MAINTENANCE, REPAIRS, AND OTHER PROJECTS AS REQUESTED THROUGH DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2025 IN ACCORDANCE WITH TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE §791 (THE TEXAS INTERLOCAL COOPERATION ACT). - *PRECINCT 4 COMMISSIONER KYLE BUTLER*
- A.11 APPROVING OF AN INTERLOCAL COOPERATION CONTRACT BETWEEN ELLIS COUNTY AND THE RED OAK ISD FOR ROAD MAINTENANCE, REPAIRS, AND OTHER PROJECTS AS REQUESTED THROUGH DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2025 IN ACCORDANCE WITH TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE §791 (THE TEXAS INTERLOCAL COOPERATION ACT). - *PRECINCT 4 COMMISSIONER KYLE BUTLER*
- A.12 APPROVING OF A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN AMENDMENT TO TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE §372 (THE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT ASSESSMENT ACT) TO GRANT COUNTIES THE SAME EXEMPTIONS FROM BIDDING REQUIREMENTS AS CITIES. – *COUNTY JUDGE TODD LITTLE*
- A.13 APPROVING FOR THE COUNTY JUDGE TO SIGN A QUOTE FOR VITAL RECORDS DATA EXTRACTION BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,880.00 SUPPORTING THE CONVERSION TO HARRIS COMPUTER. – *COUNTY JUDGE TODD LITTLE*

**FINANCIAL CONSENT:**

- F.1 FY2025 LINE-ITEM TRANSFER – *COUNTY JUDGE TODD LITTLE*  
DECREASE 001-0140-570000 (CONTINGENCY – SURPLUS) BY \$15,273.00  
INCREASE 001-0425-508680 (CONTRACT SERVICES) BY \$15,273.00
- F.2 FY2025 LINE-ITEM TRANSFER – *PRECINCT 2 COMMISSIONER LANE GRAYSON*  
DECREASE 004-0652-508070 (RB2 GENERAL EXPENSES) BY \$6,000.00  
INCREASE 004-0652-509220 (RB2 RADIO INFRASTRUCTURE) BY \$6,000.00
- F.3 FY2025 LINE-ITEM TRANSFER – *PRECINCT 4 COMMISSIONER KYLE BUTLER*  
DECREASE 006-0754-400040 (SALE OF EQUIPMENT) BY \$27,010.01  
DECREASE 006-0754-570000 (CONTINGENCY SURPLUS) BY \$279,621.34  
INCREASE 006-0754-508020 (PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT) BY \$306,631.35
- F.4 FY2025 LINE-ITEM TRANSFER – *BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIRECTOR CAITLIN WILKINSON*  
DECREASE 001-0130-508880 (COMPUTER SERVICE) BY \$5,000.00  
INCREASE 001-0130-508050 (CONFERENCE) BY \$5,000.00

- F.5 ACCEPTING MISCELLANEOUS REIMBURSEMENT – RESTITUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$726.35 AS UNANTICIPATED REVENUE. REQUEST SPECIAL BUDGET FOR UNANTICIPATED REVENUE: INCREASE 001-0010-506970 (SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS) BY \$726.35 PURSUANT TO TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE §111.0108, UNANTICIPATED REVENUE CERTIFIED BY COUNTY AUDITOR. – *SHERIFF BRAD NORMAN*
- F.6 APPROVING FOR THE TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR TO DISBURSE PROPERTY TAX REFUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,233.59. – *COUNTY AUDITOR STACI PARR*

MOTION TO APPROVE BY COMMISSIONER GRAYSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PONDER, MOTION CARRIED

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT:**

- MINUTE ORDER 202.25** (1.1) APPROVING TO RATIFY STAFF ACTION ON A PLAT OF STEPHENSON ESTATES, LOT 1, BLOCK A. THE ± 6.036-ACRE SITE IS LOCATED ± 5,240 FEET SOUTHWEST OF THE INTERSECTION OF McALPIN ROAD AND FM 875, SITUATED IN THE RICHARD ROWLES SURVEY, ABSTRACT NO. 938, MIDLOTHIAN, ROAD AND BRIDGE PRECINCT NO. 3. SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:
1. REMOVE DUNN ROAD FROM THE VICINITY MAP.
  2. PROVIDE A RIGHT-OF-WAY DEDICATION OF 10 FEET ALONG FM 875.

MOTION TO APPROVE BY COMMISSIONER PONDER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BUTLER, MOTION CARRIED

### **PURCHASING:**

- MINUTE ORDER 203.25** (2.1) APPROVING TO PURCHASE 35 TASER 7 MODELS FOR THE ELLIS COUNTY JAIL FROM AXON ENTERPRISE, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$168,336.00 USING THE SOURCEWELL COOPERATIVE CEW CONTRACT NO. 092722-AXN. THE QUOTE IS BASED ON A 5-YEAR PERIOD WITH THE FIRST PAYMENT OF \$32,000.00 DUE IN JUNE OF 2025 AND THEN FOUR PAYMENTS OF \$34,084.00 DUE EACH JUNE UNTIL 2029. TASERS WILL BE BUDGETED FOR EACH YEAR.

MOTION TO APPROVE BY COMMISSIONER GRAYSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PONDER, MOTION CARRIED

- MINUTE ORDER 204.25** (2.2) APPROVING TO DECLARE THE LISTED ITEMS FROM ROAD & BRIDGE PRECINCT 4 AS SURPLUS TO BE DISPOSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE §263: ONE (1) 1996 INTERNATIONAL TR. TRACTOR MODEL 8200, VIN: 1HSHGASR3TH301813; ONE (1) 1995 PETERBILT TRUCK 377, VIN: 1XPCDR8X1SN376797.

MOTION TO APPROVE BY COMMISSIONER BUTLER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PONDER, MOTION CARRIED

**NO ACTION** (2.3) DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND ACTION TO PURCHASE 57 DELL LAPTOPS FOR THE ELLIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FROM SAFARI MICRO, INC., USING THE TIPS COOPERATIVE CONTRACT NO. 240101, IN AN AMOUNT OF \$125,866.19.

**MINUTE ORDER 205.25** (2.4) APPROVING TO INSTALL NEW ROOFS ON THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE TRAINING CENTER; JUVENILE SERVICES; AND RECORDS STORAGE BUILDINGS FROM PRIME SOURCE CONSTRUCTION, INC. USING THE TIPS COOPERATIVE CONTRACT NO. 23010402, IN AN AMOUNT OF \$441,150.00 USING INSURANCE FUNDS AND THE COUNTY'S DEDUCTIBLE OF \$30,000.00.

MOTION TO APPROVE BY COMMISSIONER GRAYSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STINSON, MOTION CARRIED

**MINUTE ORDER 206.25** (2.5) APPROVING FOR THE COUNTY JUDGE TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT UPON FINAL REVIEW FROM CANTY HANGER, WITH THE CHRISTMAN COMPANY FOR THE RENOVATION OF THE COURTS & ADMINISTRATION BUILDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,127,655.00.

MOTION TO APPROVE BY COUNTY JUDGE LITTLE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GRAYSON, MOTION CARRIED

**ADMINISTRATIVE:**

**MINUTE ORDER 207.25** (3.1) APPROVING OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET CALENDAR. – *CHIEF OF STAFF RYAN GARRETT*

MOTION TO APPROVE BY COMMISSIONER GRAYSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PONDER, MOTION CARRIED

**MINUTE ORDER 208.25** (3.2) APPROVING A POLICY AND PROCEDURE REGARDING TRANSFER OF LOCAL STATE EMPLOYEES TO COUNTY DEPARTMENTS: EMPLOYEES TRANSFERRING FROM STATE TO COUNTY WILL BE TREATED AS ANY OTHER NEW EMPLOYEE, WITH ZERO LEAVE AND VACATION TIME. – *COUNTY JUDGE TODD LITTLE*

MOTION TO APPROVE BY COUNTY JUDGE LITTLE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GRAYSON, MOTION CARRIED

(TO AGENDA ITEM 3.4)

**MINUTE ORDER 209.25** (3.4) AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE COUNTY JUDGE. THE POSITION WILL BE POSTED FOR 7-10 DAYS. – *COUNTY JUDGE CHIEF OF STAFF RYAN GARRETT*

MOTION TO APPROVE BY COMMISSIONER GRAYSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BUTLER, MOTION CARRIED

**RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION      2:42 P.M.**

MOTION TO RECESS BY COMMISSIONER GRAYSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STINSON, MOTION CARRIED

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ELLIS COUNTY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT ANY TIME DURING THE COURSE OF THIS MEETING TO DISCUSS ANY OF THE MATTERS LISTED IN THIS AGENDA, IN THE ORDER DEEMED APPROPRIATE, AS AUTHORIZED BY TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE 551, OR TO SEEK THE ADVICE OF ITS ATTORNEY AND/OR OTHER ATTORNEYS REPRESENTING ELLIS COUNTY ON ANY MATTER IN WHICH THE DUTY OF THE ATTORNEY TO THE COMMISSIONERS COURT UNDER THE TEXAS DISCIPLINARY RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT OF THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS CLEARLY CONFLICTS WITH TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE CHAPTER 551 OR AS OTHERWISE MAY BE PERMITTED UNDER 551.

- 4.1 PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE §551.071(1), CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL REGARDING PENDING OR CONTEMPLATED LITIGATION CONCERNING TCEQ MATTERS, SPECIFICALLY PENDING TEXAS POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEMS PERMITS (TPDES) AND PENDING PETITIONS FOR THE CREATION OF MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICTS (MUDs).
- 4.2 PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE §551.074 (A)(1), DELIBERATION OF THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, EVALUATION, REASSIGNMENT, DUTIES, DISCIPLINE, OR DISMISSAL OF A PUBLIC OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE, SPECIFICALLY REGARDING INTERVIEW OF COUNTY ENGINEER CANDIDATES.
- 4.3 PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE §551.072, DELIBERATE THE PURCHASE, EXCHANGE, LEASE, OR VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY IF THE DELIBERATION IN AN OPEN MEETING WOULD HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE POSITION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL BODY IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH A THIRD PERSON, SPECIFICALLY REGARDING THE ELLIS COUNTY FARM AND 701 N. I-35E, WAXAHACHIE.
- 4.4 PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE §557.074, DELIBERATION OF THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, EVALUATION, REASSIGNMENT, DUTIES, DISCIPLINE, OR DISMISSAL OF A PUBLIC OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE IN THE CSCD.
- 4.5 PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE §557.071 (2), A DELIBERATION ON A MATTER IN WHICH THE DUTY OF THE ATTORNEY TO THE GOVERNMENTAL BODY UNDER THE TEXAS DISCIPLINARY RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT OF THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS CLEARLY CONFLICTS WITH THIS CHAPTER.

**RECONVENED TO REGULAR SESSION      5:20 P.M.**

MOTION TO RECONVENE BY COMMISSIONER GRAYSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PONDER, MOTION CARRIED

(TO AGENDA ITEM 3.3)

**MINUTE ORDER 210.25**      (3.3) APPROVING TO SELECT ZACHARY GERICH AS THE ELLIS COUNTY ENGINEER WITH AN ANNUAL SALARY OF \$144,000.00; START DATE IS MAY 1, 2025. – COUNTY JUDGE TODD LITTLE

MOTION TO APPROVE BY COUNTY JUDGE LITTLE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PONDER, MOTION CARRIED

**ADJOURNMENT**      **5:20 P.M.**

THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE ELLIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT ON APRIL 1, 2025, ARE HEREBY APPROVED.

PRESIDING OFFICER:

  
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TODD LITTLE, COUNTY JUDGE

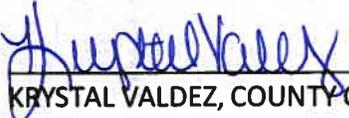
  
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RANDY STINSON, COMMISSIONER, PCT 1

  
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LANE GRAYSON, COMMISSIONER, PCT 2

  
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LOUIS PONDER, COMMISSIONER, PCT 3

  
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KYLE BUTLER, COMMISSIONER, PCT 4

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL OF OFFICE THIS 15TH DAY OF APRIL 2025.

  
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KRYSTAL VALDEZ, COUNTY CLERK

