

**REGULAR SESSION OF THE
COMMISSIONERS COURT OF VAN ZANDT COUNTY
9:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 31, 2024**

The Commissioners' Court of Van Zandt County met at the above-named date and time in the County Courtroom in the Van Zandt County Courthouse in Canton, Texas. Members present were County Judge Andy Reese, Commissioner Pct. 1 Chad LaPrade, Commissioner Pct. 2 Cliff Williams, Commissioner Pct. 3 Keith Pearson and Commissioner Pct. 4 Brandon Barton. Notice was given by posting in compliance with Section 551.041 of the Government Code on all the following before the Court for consideration:

CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCE QUORUM. 9:02 A.M. All present

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS. None

- **RECOGNITION OF YEARS OF SERVICE**
- Toby Dyke- 5 years of service (Keith Pearson)
- Bill Crawford - 10 years of service (Tonda Curry)
- Jason Davis- 5 years of service (Joe Carter)
- Melonie Williams- 10 years of service (Joe Carter)

- **PRESENTATION OF VAN ZANDT COUNTY RETIREES AWARDS (PRESENTED BY JUDGE ANDY REESE)**
- Constable Pat Jordan - 40 years of service
- Sandy Hill - 30 years of service
- Keith Pearson - 8 years of service
- Joe Carter - 8 years of service
- Chad LaPrade – 4 years of service

PUBLIC COMMENTS (ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY). None

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda items are considered routine by the commissioner's court and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless the county judge, or a commissioner requests an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately.

- A.) DISCUSS AND CONSIDER DISPENSING WITH THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING(S) OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT AND APPROVAL OF SAME FOR DECEMBER 18, 2024 AND DECEMBER 23, 2024.**
- B.) DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF COUNTY'S BILLS FOR PAYMENT AS SUBMITTED**
- C.) DISCUSS AND CONSIDER RATIFYING OF COUNTY'S BILLS AS SUBMITTED**
- D.) DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FY2025 LINE-ITEM TRANSFERS**
- E.) DISCUSS AND CONSIDER MONTHLY REPORTS SUBMITTED BY VARIOUS OFFICES AND DEPARTMENTS OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND APPROVAL ENTRY OF SAME IN THE COURT'S MINUTES AS A MATTER OF RECORD**

- F.) DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF NOVEMBER 2024 FINANCIAL & INVESTMENT REPORT OF COUNTY TREASURER TO BE ENTERED INTO THE MINUTES OF COMMISSIONERS COURT**
G.) DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF PIPE AND/OR UTILITY LINES:

1227 VZCR 1313

Motion to approve the minutes for December 18th only and items B-G by Commissioner Keith Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Chad LaPrade. All voted in favor.

DISCUSS AND APPROVE BONDS OF RE-ELECTED AND NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS OF VAN ZANDT COUNTY:

KEVIN BRIDGER, SHERIFF - \$5,000
MISTY STANBERRY, TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR - \$120,000
MITCH CURTIS, COMMISSIONER, PCT 1 - \$6,000
CLIFF WILLIAMS, COMMISSIONER, PCT 2 - \$6,000
BOBBY PHILLIPS, COMMISSIONER, PCT 3 - \$1,500
TOMMY MONK, CONSTABLE, PCT 1 - \$1,500
HEATH BURTON, CONSTABLE, PCT 2 - \$1,500
JEFF CAUGHON, CONSTABLE, PCT 3 - \$1,500
BOB KELTNER, CONSTABLE, PCT 4 - \$1,500

Motion to approve by Commissioner Brandon Barton and seconded by Commissioner Keith Pearson. All voted in favor.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL FOR JUDGE REESE TO SIGN A HEALTH SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN SOUTHERN HEALTH PARTNERS AND VAN ZANDT COUNTY FOR SOUTHERN HEALTH PARTNERS TO PROVIDE ON-SITE DENTAL SERVICES VIA MOBILE PROVIDER FOR THE JAIL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2500 EVERY OTHER MONTH. Presented by Sheriff Joe Carter. Motion to approve by Commissioner Cliff Williams and seconded by Commissioner Chad LaPrade. All voted in favor.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL TO NAME CONTRACTING OFFICER FOR THE CEDAR CREEK SITES STRUCTURAL REPAIR OF THE DAMS. THE CONTRACTING OFFICER WILL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO SIGN ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS FOR THE PROJECT. Motion to appoint Bobby Phillips effective January 1st by Commissioner Keith Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Cliff Williams. All voted in favor.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVING A TEMPORARY POSITION FOR THE VAN ZANDT COUNTY AUDITOR POSITION TO ALLOW TRAINING FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2025. The last day of Auditor Sandy Hill will be January 17, 2025, or January 24, 2025, at latest. Newly hired Auditor. Catherine Gazda will start January 6, 2025. Ms. Motion to approve by Commissioner Chad LaPrade and seconded by Commissioner Keith Pearson. All voted in favor.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ADOPTING A VAN ZANDT COUNTY FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE POLICY FOR THE VAN ZANDT EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK TO COMPLY WITH THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANTS TO BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH TEXAS GOVERNMENT SECTION 321.022. Motion to approve by Commissioner Keith Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Cliff Williams. All voted in favor.

DISCUSS AND ACCEPT THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2024, FOR EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT #4 FOR A MATTER OF RECORD TO BE ENTERED INTO THE COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES. Motion to accept by Commissioner Keith Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Chad LaPrade. All voted in favor.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE TEXAS COUNTY LATERAL ROAD AND BRIDGE EXPENDITURE YEARLY REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2024. Motion to approve by Commissioner Brandon Barton and seconded by Commissioner Cliff Williams. All voted in favor.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER MOVING THE UTILITIES FOR THE RADIO PROJECT LEASE BUILDING INTO THE COUNTY'S NAME AND CONTINUE TO PAY THEM FROM ARPA INTEREST FUNDS. Motion to approve by Commissioner Chad LaPrade and seconded by Commissioner Keith Pearson. All voted in favor.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACCEPTING DONATION FROM VGP METALS GROUP FOR \$3000.00 FOR THE WORK ON VZCR 3805 LOCATED IN PCT. 3. Motion to accept the donation and deposit into the Road & Bridge Materials line item by Commissioner Keith Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Brandon Barton. All voted in favor.

DISCUSS AND APPROVE APPOINTING A COMMITTEE TO EVALUATE AND SCORE THE PROPOSALS RECEIVED FOR THE DEBRIS MONITORING RFP. Motion to appoint Brandon Barton, Bobby Phillips, Nicole Nix, Vicki McAlister and Keith Pearson to the committee by Commissioner Brandon Barton and seconded by Commissioner Keith Pearson. All voted in favor.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER AWARDING THE CONTRACT FOR DISASTER VEGETATIVE DEBRIS REMOVAL, REDUCTION AND DISPOSAL SERVICES, PER COMMITTEE RECOMENDATION. Motion to award contract to Drewey Construction by Commissioner Brandon Barton and seconded by Commissioner Keith Pearson. All voted in favor.

CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION: in compliance with Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code,

1. To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; or
2. To hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee

Executive Session began at 9:37 A.M.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION: to consider action, if any, on items discussed in Executive Session. Open session reconvened at 11:00 A.M.


- 1.)** Motion to hire Kevin Palmer by Commissioner Chad LaPrade on a temporary basis beginning January 2, 2025, and becoming full time January 21, 2025, at yearly salary of \$70,000 plus certificate pay. Second by Commissioner Cliff Williams. All voted in favor
- 2.)** Motion by Commissioner Cliff Williams to appoint County Judge Andy Reese to be the primary contact for radio project beginning January 1, 2025, and seconded by Commissioner Brandon Barton. All voted in favor.

ADJOURNMENT. Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Keith Pearson and second by Commissioner Cliff Williams. The meeting adjourned at 11:07 A.M.

ATTEST:

Susan Strickland, County Clerk
Van Zandt County, Texas


BY: 



County Judge



Commissioner, Pct. #1



Commissioner, Pct. #2

Bobby D. Phillips

Commissioner, Pct. #3

[Signature]

Commissioner, Pct. #4