

State of Texas
County of Panola

On this [15th day of August 2023](#), the Commissioners' Court of Panola County, Texas met in a regular meeting of the Court at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Courtroom of said County with the following members of the Court present:

Rodger McLane	County Judge
Billy Alexander	Commissioner, Precinct #1
David A. Cole	Commissioner, Precinct #2
Craig M. Lawless	Commissioner, Precinct #3
Dale LaGrone	Commissioner, Precinct #4

Also attending were Vicki Heinkel, Administrative Assistant to the County Judge/County Commissioners' Coordinator, and Bobbie Davis, County Clerk. Attached to and made a part of these minutes is a list of other [attendeess](#) and the office or organization that each represent. The following proceedings were held at this meeting:

PRAYER: Mr. Butch Marsalis gave the prayer.

OPEN MEETING:

1. CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Keri Vance, Executive Director of the Panola County Chamber of Commerce, reported on the KTBS visit to the County last week, the Texas Country Music Hall of Fame Show last weekend, and announced upcoming events in the County.

Mr. Butch Marsalis stated he was glad to see Commissioner Dale LaGrone, who recently underwent surgery.

2. COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:

There were no Commissioner's Reports.

3. COUNTY JUDGE'S REPORT:

County Judge Rodger McLane reported that he and Keri Vance, Executive Director of the Panola County Chamber of Commerce recently met with Congressman Nathaniel Moran, and also toured the BRK Texas facilities.

4. [CONSENT ITEMS:](#)

PERSONNEL

- a. To record the employment of Jeff Martin as Panola County's License and Weight Officer effective January 1, 2024 at the budgeted rate of pay.

ROAD & BRIDGE

- a. To approve and record a request by Silver Hill III Midstream LLC to place a 6" line within the right-of-way of Panola County Road #322.
- b. To approve and record a request by Silver Hill III Midstream LLC to place a 6" line within the right-of-way of Panola County Road #332.
- c. To approve and record a request by Eastex Telephone Co-op to place a 1½" line within the right-of-way of Panola County Road #338.
- d. To approve and record a request by Rockcliff Energy to place a 12" temporary water line within the right-of-way of Panola County Road #207.
- e. To approve and record a request by Rockcliff Energy to place a 12" temporary water line within the right-of-way of Panola County Road #463.
- f. To approve and record a request by Rockcliff Energy to place a 12" temporary water line within the right-of-way of Panola County Road #467.
- g. To approve and record a request by Rockcliff Energy to place 12" temporary water lines within the right-of-way of Panola County Road #302 (3 lines).
- h. To approve and record a request by Rockcliff energy to place 12" temporary water lines within the rights-of-way of Panola County Roads #304, #3041, #305, #321 (2 lines), #322 and Stateline Road.

MISCELLANEOUS

- a. To set fees charged for services by the Offices of Sheriff and Constables in compliance with Section 118.131 of the Local Government Code and to authorize posting of notice of such fees as required by Section 81.007 of the Local Government Code.
- b. To record a copy of the Panola County Community Supervision and Corrections Department's Minutes of Meeting held February 23, 2023, and to record written

statement containing the date, time and place said adjustments, documents and budgets will be considered for approval and recording.

- c. To record a copy of the Panola County Juvenile Probation Department's written statement containing the date, time and place adjustments, documents and budgets will be considered for approval and recording.
- d. To record a correction to the Texas County and District Retirement System Plan Agreement for 2024. (Approved in the July 18, 2023 Commissioners' Court Session).
- e. To cancel the quote from M & M Painting approved in the March 28, 2023 Commissioners' Court Meeting for painting the third floor of the Judicial Building.
- f. To record Statement of Officer and Oath of Office forms for Panola County Deputy Sheriff Hunter Gray.
- g. To record Statement of Officer and Oath of Office forms for Panola County Deputy Sheriff Brenton Humphries.
- h. To record Statement of Officer and Oath of Office forms for Panola County Reserve Deputy Sheriff William McPherson.
- i. To record July 2023 Treasurer's Reports.
- j. To approve and record Panola County Treasurer's First Quarter Reports for Fiscal Year 2023.
- k. To record the corrected Order of Special Election for November 7, 2023.
- l. To record fiscal year 2024 Compensation Orders for County Auditor, Assistant County Auditors and Panola County 123rd District Court Reporter.
- m. To approve and record, waive any conflict of interest between Rodger G. McLane and Panola County in his limited capacity pursuant to Attorney General Opinions 540 and 497.
- n. To record the transfer of a Verizon Mi-Fi from Panola County Airport-Sharpe Field to Panola County Emergency Services.

REQUESTS FOR CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

- a. To approve and record a Request for Attendance at a Conference form(s) for the following Panola County elected official(s)/employee(s): PCSD Administrative Clerk/Custodian of Records Karen England; Panola County District Clerk Lindsey Smith; PCSD Criminal Investigator Andy Nixon; Panola County Extension Agent Lee Dudley (2); Panola County Tax Assessor-Collector Holly Gibbs and Panola County Tax Assessor-Collector Chief Deputy Cassandra Brooks.

Commissioner Dale LaGrone moved and Commissioner Craig M. Lawless seconded the motion to approve the Consent Items. The motion carried unanimously.

A COPY OF EACH LETTER, AMENDMENT, REQUEST, AND/OR BOND IS ATTACHED TO AND MADE A PART OF THE MINUTES.

5. Commissioner Billy Alexander moved and Commissioner Craig M. Lawless seconded the motion to approve payment of current Panola County bills as prepared and submitted by the County Auditor. The motion carried unanimously. SEE [PAYMENT REGISTER](#) ATTACHED.
6. Commissioner David A. Cole moved and Commissioner Billy Alexander seconded the motion to approve payment of Panola County payroll as prepared and submitted by the County Treasurer. The motion carried unanimously. SEE [PAYROLL DISTRIBUTION REGISTER](#) ATTACHED.
7. A public hearing was held on the Panola County Clerk's Records Archive, Preservation and Restoration Plan pursuant to Local Government Code 118.025. SEE [NOTICE](#) ATTACHED.
8. A public hearing was held on the Panola County Budget for Fiscal Year 2024. Mr. Terry Terral commented on the proposed salary increase for Panola County elected officials and employees. Justice of the Peace, Precincts 2 and 3 Toni Hughes requested that the Commissioners' Court reconsider her request to move her part-time Deputy Clerk to full-time. SEE [NOTICE](#) ATTACHED.
9. Commissioner Dale LaGrone moved and Commissioner Billy Alexander seconded the motion to approve proposed amendments to the Panola County Budget for Fiscal Year 2024. The motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Billy Alexander moved and Commissioner Craig M. Lawless seconded the motion to adopt the Panola County Budget for Fiscal Year 2024. The motion carried unanimously (Local Government Code, Section 111.008). SEE [2024 BUDGET](#) ATTACHED.
10. Commissioner Dale LaGrone moved and Commissioner David A. Cole seconded the motion to adopt the 2024 Elected Official Salaries upon adoption of the Panola County Budget for Fiscal Year 2024, pursuant to notice and publication thereof as required by law (Local Government Code, Section 152.013). The motion carried unanimously. SEE [SALARY SCHEDULE NOTICE](#) ATTACHED.

11. Commissioner Craig M. Lawless moved and Commissioner Dale LaGrone seconded the motion to ratify the property tax increase reflected in the approved Budget, which will require raising more revenue from property taxes than in the previous year pursuant to Local Government Code, Section 111.008. The motion carried unanimously.
12. Commissioner Dale LaGrone moved and Commissioner Billy Alexander seconded the motion to adopt Order #2023-07 setting the 2023 tax rate and tax levy and authorizing the Tax Assessor to prepare tax statements with the approved tax rate (Local Government Code, Section 111.010). The motion passed unanimously. SEE [ORDER](#) ATTACHED.
13. Commissioner Craig M. Lawless moved and Commissioner Dale LaGrone seconded the motion to approve a final plat for the River Estates Subdivision, Lots 1-6 to be located in the Reuben Collins Survey, A-134 in Panola County. The motion carried unanimously. SEE FINAL PLAT IN COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE.
14. Commissioner David A. Cole moved and Commissioner Billy Alexander seconded the motion to approve the form for bids solicited for the purchase of items of food for the Panola County Detention Center. The motion passed unanimously. SEE [BID FORM](#) ATTACHED.
15. Commissioner Craig M. Lawless moved and Commissioner David A. Cole seconded the motion to approve the Budget for Title IV-E County Child Welfare Services Contract between the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services and Panola County; and the approve FFATA Certifications. The motion carried unanimously. SEE [CONTRACT AND CERTIFICATIONS](#) ATTACHED.
16. Commissioner Dale LaGrone moved and Commissioner Craig M. Lawless seconded the motion not to approve the imposition of extra fees on vehicle registrations in Panola County. The motion carried unanimously. SEE [INFORMATION](#) ATTACHED.
17. Commissioner Billy Alexander moved and Commissioner Dale LaGrone seconded the motion to cancel the Law Enforcement Non-consent Towing Services for the Panola County Sheriff's Department effective August 15, 2023. The motion carried unanimously. SEE [REQUEST](#) ATTACHED.
18. Commissioner Dale LaGrone moved and Commissioner Billy Alexander seconded the motion to approve an engagement letter from Rachael Payne, CPA, PLLC for the Criminal District Attorney's Chapter 59 Asset Forfeiture Report for the year ended August 31, 2023. The motion carried unanimously. SEE [ENGAGEMENT LETTER](#) ATTACHED.
19. Commissioner Craig M. Lawless moved and Commissioner David A. Cole seconded the motion to approve an engagement letter between Rachael Payne, CPA, PLLC for the Panola County Sheriff's Department and Panola County Constables' Offices Proceeds of

Criminal Asset Chapter 59 Forfeiture Reports for the year ended December 31, 2023. The motion carried unanimously. SEE [ENGAGEMENT LETTER](#) ATTACHED.

20. Commissioner Billy Alexander moved and Commissioner David A. Cole seconded the motion to approve an Agreement for Funding of 9-1-1 Database Maintenance Activities between Panola County and East Texas Council of Governments from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2025. The motion carried unanimously. SEE [AGREEMENT](#) ATTACHED.

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 AM.

Dated this 15th day of August 2023.

Rodger G. McLane, County Judge

Date

State of Texas
County of Panola

I, Bobbie Davis, County Clerk, attest that the foregoing is a true and accurate accounting of the [Commissioners' Court's authorized proceedings for August 15, 2023](#).

Bobbie Davis, County Clerk

Date