

AT 2:00 O'CLOCK P M

AUG 12 2026

State of Texas
County of Panola

BOBBIE DAVIS
COUNTY CLERK, PANOLA COUNTY, TEXAS
BY B. Davis DEPUTY

On the 14th day of July 2026, 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
Billy Alexander
David A. Cole
Craig M. Lawless
Dale LaGrone

County Judge
Commissioner, Precinct #1
Commissioner, Precinct #2
Commissioner, Precinct #3
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 attendees and the office or organization that each represent. The following proceedings were held at this meeting:

PRAYER: Commissioner David A. Cole gave the prayer.

OPEN MEETING:

1. **CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

Mrs. Keri Perot-Vance, Executive Director, Panola County Chamber of Commerce, reported on recent and upcoming events in the County.

Ms. Cheryl Simmons complained to the Court about the removal of a news camera from the previous session of Commissioners' Court.

2. **COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:**

Commissioner Craig M. Lawless reported that Road and Bridge crews are busy working on roads.

3. **COUNTY JUDGE'S REPORT:**

Judge Rodger McLane responded to Mrs. Simmons' complaint, stating that the reporter was allowed to sit in the courtroom and audibly record the previous meeting, and that she was simply asked to remove her camera and tripod because of lack of space.

4. **CONSENT ITEMS:**

PERSONNEL

- a. To record the appointment of Kelsey Gates as Elections Administrator effective July 1, 2026 at the budgeted rate of \$24.64 per hour, because of the vacancy created by Elections Administrator Loretta Mason's retirement.
- b. To record the employment of Takoda Dugger as a Detention Officer with the Panola County Sheriff's Office effective July 1, 2026 at the rate of \$20.17 per hour plus uniform allowance.

ROAD & BRIDGE

- a. To record letter from Texas Department of Transportation certifying Panola County road mileage as 605.17 miles.

MISCELLANEOUS

- a. To approve minutes of Commissioners' Court meetings held during the month of June 2026.
- b. To record June 2026 Treasurer's Report.
- c. To record June 2026 Auditor's Monthly Report.
- d. To record Liberty Mutual Surety Public Official Bond and Oath of Office for Panola County Elections Administrator Kelsey Gates.

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): Panola County Deputy County Clerk Jackie McDonald; PCSD Captain Adam Jones (2); PCSD Telecommunications Officer America Cabrialess-Strawn; PCSD Telecommunications Officer Lurna Summers; PCSD Lieutenant Chris Welk; PCSD Deputy Justin Williams; and PCSD Patrol Deputy Jeffrey McAndrews, Jr.

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

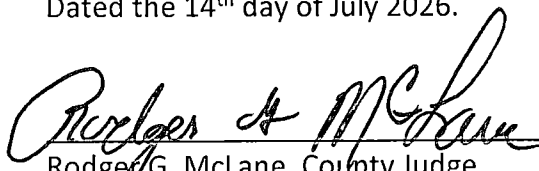
A COPY OF EACH LETTER, AMENDMENT, REQUEST AND/OR BOND IS ATTACHED TO AND MADE A PART OF THE MINUTES.

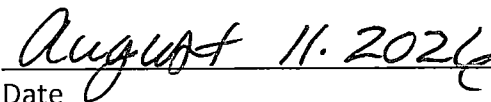
5. Commissioner Dale LaGrone moved and Commissioner David A. Cole seconded the motion to approve payment of current Panola County bills as prepared and submitted by the County Auditor. The motion carried unanimously. SEE PAYMENT REGISTER ATTACHED.
6. Commissioner David A. Cole moved and Commissioner Craig M. Lawless 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. Commissioner Dale LaGrone moved and Commissioner Billy Alexander seconded the motion to adopt the County Clerk's Records Archive, Preservation and Restoration Plan pursuant to Local Government Code Section 118.025(g); adopt Order #2026-05 setting a \$10.00 fee for the County Clerk's Records Archive, Preservation and Restoration Fund as allowed by Local Government Code 118.025; to set a public hearing on said Plan for the 11th day of August 2026; and authorize the County Judge to publish notice of said hearing. The motion carried unanimously. SEE PLAN, ORDER AND NOTICE ATTACHED.
8. Commissioner Billy Alexander moved and Commissioner David A. Cole seconded the motion to approve a contract for Panola County Morgue Services between Hawthorn Funeral Home and Panola County. The motion carried unanimously. SEE CONTRACT AND INFORMATION ATTACHED.
9. Commissioner Craig M. Lawless moved and Commissioner Dale LaGrone seconded the motion to authorize the County Judge to publish legal notice for the auction scheduled for July 30, 2026 at 9:00 AM by Machinery Auctioneers, License No. 11534 for the sale of vehicles and equipment previously declared surplus by the Court. The motion carried unanimously. SEE NOTICE AND INFORMATION ATTACHED.
10. Commissioner Billy Alexander moved and Commissioner David A. Cole seconded the motion to approve an Engagement Letter from Gollob Morgan Peddy, CPAs for the audit of Panola County for the year ended December 31, 2026. The motion carried unanimously. SEE ENGAGEMENT LETTER AND INFORMATION ATTACHED.
11. Commissioner Dale LaGrone moved and Commissioner Craig M. Lawless seconded the motion to approve the disposal of scrap metal by the Panola County Road and Bridge Department. The motion carried unanimously. SEE LETTER ATTACHED.
12. Commissioner Craig M. Lawless moved and Commissioner Billy Alexander seconded the motion to approve a proposal from Ferrara's Heating and Air Conditioning Inc. for 15 HVAC units for the Sammy Brown Library. The motion carried unanimously. SEE PROPOSAL ATTACHED.
13. Commissioner Craig M. Lawless moved and Commissioner Dale LaGrone seconded the motion to approve a Rental Contract from Bane Machinery for rental equipment (Dynapac Roller) for use by the Panola County Road and Bridge Department, Precinct #3. The motion carried unanimously. SEE RENTAL CONTRACT ATTACHED.

14. Commissioner Billy Alexander moved and Commissioner Craig M. Lawless seconded the motion to approve a quote from Sparklight Business for Business Internet 300 services for the Panola County Road and Bridge Office. The motion carried unanimously. SEE QUOTE ATTACHED.
15. Commissioner Dale LaGrone moved and Commissioner Craig M. Lawless seconded the motion to approve 2026 Budget Amendment No. 8. The motion carried unanimously. SEE BUDGET AMENDMENT ATTACHED.

The meeting adjourned at 9:09 AM.

Dated the 14th day of July 2026.


Rodger G. McLane, County Judge

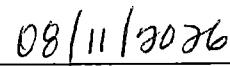

Date

State of Texas
County of Panola

I, Bobbie Davis, County Clerk, attest that the foregoing is a true and accurate accounting of the authorized proceedings of Commissioners' Court held on July 14, 2026.


Bobbie Davis, County Clerk




Date