

**AUSTIN COUNTY CLERK
265 N. CHESLEY ST., Ste. 7
BELLVILLE, TEXAS 77418
(979) 227-3144**

COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES

October 14, 2024 Austin County Commissioners Court met in the 2nd floor Courtroom at the Austin County Courthouse with the following present:

Tim Lapham, County Judge
Mark Lamp, Commissioner, Precinct 1
Robert "Bobby" Rinn, Commissioner, Precinct 2
Leroy Cerny, Commissioner, Precinct 3
Chip Reed, Commissioner, Precinct 4
Adilene Juarez, Deputy Clerk

9:00 A.M. OPENING

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION

PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL AND CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM

Approve Amended Agenda.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Cerny, passed (4-0)
Order #24-281

1. Proclamations and Special Recognitions:

a. Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0)
Order #24-282

Sylvia Martinez (Focusing Families) presented Andrea Rodriguez Avila's case to help encourage awareness and prevent domestic violence.

2. Petition or Requests from the Public.

Ted Jones (A-1 Construction) clarified bid and work that will be done for asphalt project.

Roy Mercer (Emergency Management Coordinator) requests the Commissioners to load and fuel dozers on trailers.

Judge Lapham added an Addendum to Action Agenda, discussion regarding TAC Health Insurance Option and action as appropriate to Commissioner Court Meeting for Monday, October 14, 2024 at 9 a.m.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0)
Order #24-283

3. Discussion to appoint a director to the Austin County Appraisal District Board of Directors and action as appropriate.

Commissioner Cerny (Pct. 3) was re-appointed director to the Austin County Appraisal District Board of Directors

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Lamp, 2nd Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0)
Order #24-284

4. Discussion regarding additional payroll deducted employee investment option and action as appropriate.

No action.

Addendum:

1. Discussion regarding TAC Health Insurance Option and action as appropriate.

Orlando Espinoza (TAC Employee Benefits Consultant) spoke in regards of what TAC Health Insurance offers. He provided a quote for Fully-Insured and Self-Insured option and discussed the difference between both options. TAC is contracted with Blue Cross Blue Shield.

Brian Naiser (TAC Associate Director) spoke in regards to how TAC and Blue Cross Blue Shield have a performance guaranteed plan placed to efficiently get support via phone call.

Judge Lapham wants to give employees the opportunity to ask any questions before a decision is made.

Commissioner Lamp (Pct. 1) suggested scheduling a workshop for the county employees so that any questions or concerns can be answered.

County Judge and Commissioners have scheduled a workshop for all county employees to attend on Monday, October 21, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

5. Discussion regarding the purchase of replacement TASERS for SO and action as appropriate.

Sergeant Darracq spoke with regards to replacing current TASERS in Sheriff's Department. A quote has been submitted with AXON for replacement of 25 TASER's and a 5-year, free cartridge replacement program for \$108,818.77. Axon offers 5-year, interest-free financing rate of \$21,763.77 per year. Austin County Sheriff's department request to use the portion of SB-22 funds to fund first year payment.

Billy Doherty (County Auditor) will have to revise if SB-22 funds can be used to do payment plan on equipment.

Commissioner Cerny motioned on approving tasers contingent with preliminary payment plan with 0% interest, if not able to apply on SB-22 fund, revisit discussion next meeting on how TASERS can be paid.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Cerny, 2nd Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0)
Order #24-285

6. Discussion regarding the purchase of Video Server to DA/Courts and action as appropriate.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0)
Order #24-286

7. Discussion regarding unused vacation time of a Sheriff's Office employee and action as appropriate.

Sergeant Darracq request Sheriff Office employee be able to cash in balance of vacation due to employee being on FMLA and using sick time. Employee was unable to use 40 hours of his vacation.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Cerny, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0)
Order #24-287

8. Discussion regarding Certificate Pay for SO employees and action as appropriate.

Sergeant Darracq request that the employees in Sheriff's Office be issued Certification pay. He clarified proper amount had been budgeted, but due to administrative issues, names were removed from list.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0)
Order #24-288

9. Discussion and action regarding amending Austin County Subdivision Regulations, schedule public hearing.

Jonathan Hopko (County Engineer) has updated the Subdivision Regulations so public can read through easily and understand requirements. Subdivision Regulations will be put out to be viewed by public and be able to provide feedback.

Public Hearing to Amend Subdivision Regulations on November 25, 2024 at 9 a.m.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Cerny, 2nd Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0)
Order #24-289

10. Discussion and action regarding Austin County implementation of the international Fire Code, in full or in part, schedule public hearing.

Johnathan Hopko (County Engineer) requested to place International Fire Code a supporting document for Subdivision Regulation, for public viewing and feedback.

Public Hearing to adopt International Fire Code on November 25, 2024 at 9 a.m.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Rinn, 2nd Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0)
Order #24-290

11. Discussion regarding the county's implementation of the International Building Code, in full or in part, and schedule public hearing.

Johnathan Hopko (County Engineer) requested to place International Building Code Regulation for public viewing and feedback.

Public Hearing to adopt International Building Code on November 25, 2024 at 9 a.m.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Rinn, 2nd Commissioner Reed, passed (4-0)
Order #24-291

Judge Lapham and Johnathan Hopko (County Engineer) clarified that they are not going to be doing full on inspections in the county for plumbing or electrical at this time. County just wants to have a minimal checklist to adopt for best business practices.

12. Consideration and action to award contract for the GLO-MIT Allens Creek Drainage Project for secondary appraisal review services as required per GLO Contract 22-085-007-D235.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0)
Order #24-292

13. Open demolition bids for Austin County CDBG-DR Voluntary Buyout Program (CDBG-DR PROJECT 20-066-002-B957)

No action

14. Discussion regarding Grazing Lease Agreement and action as appropriate.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0)
Order #24-293

15. Consideration and action to approve Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Stormwater Detention Easement and Credit

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0)
Order #24-294

16. CONSENT AGENDA - Items listed are of routine nature and may be acted on in a single motion unless requested otherwise by member of Commissioners Court.

- a. **Consideration and action to renew contract with Statewide Automotive Victim Notification Services (SAVNS)**
- b. **Consideration and action to reappoint Tim Lapham to the Houston Galveston Area Council Board of Directors**
- c. **Consideration and action to accept special donation(s) to SO per Local Government Code 81.032**
 - i. **\$6,500.00 From Maggie B Selman Charitable Trust**
 - ii. **\$80**
- d. **Approval of Minutes:**
 - i. **07.26.24**
 - ii. **08.12.24**
 - iii. **08.16.24**
 - iv. **08.26.24**
 - v. **09.09.24**
 - vi. **09.13.24**
 - vii. **09.23.24**
 - viii. **09.27.24**
- e. **Accept executed Interlocal Agreement Between Austin County and the City of Sealy.**
- f. **Consideration and action to adopt FY 2025 Texas Indigent Defense Formula Grant Resolution.**
- g. **Consideration and action to approve Right-of-Way Application by Frontier Communications on Norcross Rd, Pct.4**

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0)
Order #24-295

17. Budgetary and Financial Claims - action as appropriate.

- a. **Payment of Claims**

Total = \$1,930,494.88

Approve Payment Claims.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0)
Order #24-296

b. Fund Transfers

Total = \$1,332,236.45

Approve Fund Transfers.

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0)
Order #24-297

c. Budget Amendments

Approve Budget Amendment

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Cerny, 2nd Commissioner Rinn, passed (4-0)
Order #24-298

d. County Auditor's Review of finances

e. County Treasurer

i. Payroll and Escrow report – 10.04.2024

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0)
Order #24-299

18. Written end-of-the month reports submitted by County Offices.

- a. Justice of the Peace, Pct. 3&4 – September 2024**
- b. Constable, Pct. 2 – September 2024**
- c. OSSF – September 2024**
- d. Jail Population – September 2024**
- e. AgriLife – September 2024**
- f. Library – September 2024**

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0)
Order #24-300

Court Recessed at 11:40am

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A closed meeting will be held concerning the following items:

- 1 Economic Development Matter

- 2 Legal Matter
- 3 Real Estate Matter

Court Reconvened at 12:19 p.m.

19. Action as appropriate on Executive Session.

No action on items 1-3

20. Commissioners Court Inquiry.

*Motion to Adjourn: Commissioner Reed, 2nd Commissioner Lamp, passed (4-0).
Order #24-301*

Court Adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

**ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ON FILE WITH COUNTY CLERK AS PROVIDED BY
COMMISSIONERS COURT**

**I, Austin County Clerk, attest to the minutes of the Commissioners Court
proceedings for October 14, 2024.**

Date: October 29, 2024



Adilene Juarez
**Adilene Juarez, Deputy Clerk
Of Commissioners Court
Austin County, Texas**

FILED

2024 OCT 29 PM 2: 58

Andria Cardenas
COUNTY CLERK
AUSTIN COUNTY, CLERK