

SPOTLIGHT

Texas is made up of 254 counties, each with a team of locally elected and appointed county officials serving their community. Polk County's elected offices include a County Judge and four Road & Bridge Commissioners that make up the Commissioners Court, the County Court at Law Judge, four Justices of the Peace, four Constables, a County Clerk, District Clerk, District Attorney, Treasurer, Tax Assessor-Collector and Sheriff.

There is no hierarchy in county government, so the only boss of these elected officials is ***You, the People.***

There are two District Court systems that serve Polk County, the 258th and the 411th Courts, which are responsible for appointing our County Auditor. The County Judge appoints the Emergency Management Coordinator, and all other officials are appointed by the Commissioners Court to run various county departments. These include Aging Services Director, Environmental Enforcement Officer, Fire Marshal, Grant & Contract Coordinator, Human Resources Manager, IT & Systems Administrator, Maintenance Superintendent, Museum Curator, Permits/Inspections Supervisor, Social Services Director and Veterans Services Officer. Learn more about your local offices by reading this latest installment of

Spotlight on Polk County:

Sheriff's office

1733 N. Washington Ave., Livingston, TX 77351

936-327-6810

Polk County

SPOTLIGHT ON POLK COUNTY: Sheriff Byron Lyons

Sheriff Byron Lyons was elected in November 2020, and was sworn in January 1, 2021.

A primary function of the role of sheriff is being in charge of the jail and making sure it complies with the Texas Commission on Jail Standards, in addition to the health and welfare of the inmates. The Jail division is responsible for accepting and processing bail for persons currently incarcerated. Prisoner transport is also covered by this department. The website www.polkcountysos.net contains inmate information including current inmate lists, commissary, phone call, and visitation policies.

The Jail consists of a Captain, Lieutenant, 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, Jailers and Corrections Officers, 5 Transport Officers, and 2 Work Crew Officers.

The sheriff is responsible for appointing deputies, reserve deputies, and the jail administrator. The Sheriff's office consists of a Chief Deputy, Captain, 3 Lieutenants, 4 Sergeants, 3 Corporals, 7 Detectives, 17 Patrol Deputies, 2 Animal Control Officers, 3 Courthouse Security Officers, 10 Dispatch, Civil Process Officer, Warrants Officer, Administrative Assistant, and Records Officer.

The sheriff is also responsible for Narcotics, Investigations, Patrol, 911 Dispatch, and the Sex Offender Registration.

Some of the sheriff's civil duties include citations, garnishments, serving warrants, and serving civil papers and orders from the court.

Polk County Sheriff's Office has implemented Wise Eyes, a neighborhood watch program started by Wise County.

Cows on the road? Call the sheriff. Under the estray law, the sheriff is responsible for stray animals and livestock.

The Sheriff's office is located at 1733 N. Washington Ave., Livingston, TX 77351

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