

**SPECIAL SESSION OF THE  
COMMISSIONERS COURT OF VAN ZANDT COUNTY  
9:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 28, 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 Virgil Melton Jr., 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.** 9:03 A.M. All members were present.

**GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.** County Clerk Susan Strickland gave update on early voting as of 02/27/2024 we've had 2,679 voters. Judge Andy Reese announced that we conducted 4 Town Hall Meetings one in each precinct. Hoping to have more in the Fall.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY).** Mr. Ronnie Jones spoke on item number 3, 7, 10, 11 and 12.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

*Consent agenda items are considered routine by the Commissioners Court and will be enacted by one motion.*

*There will be no separate discussion of these items unless the County Judge, or a Commissioners requests an item be removed, from the content 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 February 7, 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 FY2024 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 December 2023 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**
  - VZCR 1509,1510, 1519, 1520, 1523, 1604, 1605, 1706
  - VZCR 4609, 4907
  - VZCR 4702, 4703, 4704, 4705, 4706, 4707, 4709, 4714
  - VZCR 4913, 4914, 4915, 4929
  - VZCR 4931
  - VZCR 4706, 4717, 4714, 4706

Motion to approve items A-G Commissioner Brandon Barton and seconded by Commissioner Keith Pearson. All in favor. Commissioner Keith Pearson stated that all reports are in and thanked all departments.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER VAN ZANDT COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023.** Carrie Woolverton gave report. They are celebrating 45 years in existence They began in 1988. They have 11 volunteers. Motion to accept report by Commissioner Chad LaPrade and seconded by Commissioner Virgil Melton Jr. All voted in favor.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER BOARD APPOINTMENTS FOR ESD #4.** Mr Greg Preston resigned and application from Robert Tisdale has been received. Motion by Commissioner Keith Pearson to replace Greg Preston with Robert Tisdale and seconded by Commissioner Virgil Melton Jr. All voted in favor.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER EXEMPTION FORM BIDS ON STATE BASE CRUSHED ROCK AS ESTABLISHED BY LGC SEC. 262.023.** After allowing District Attorney Tonda Curry to review exemption qualifications and approving. Motion to approve a no-bid exemption by Commissioner Keith Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Chad LaPrade. All voted in favor.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVING INDIGENT DEFENSE ATTORNEY CONTRACT WITH JONATHON MANNING.** Judge Chris Martin gave a report on how this has been a successful two year contract and amount will change from \$100,000.00 to \$125,000.00 per year. Motion to approve renewing two year contract by Commissioner Virgil Melton Jr. and seconded by Commissioner Brandon Barton. All in favor.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVING INDIGENT DEFENSE ATTORNEY CONTRACT WITH RICHARD A SCHMIDT.** Judge Chris Martin gave a report on how this has been a successful two year contract and amount will change from \$100,000.00 to \$125,000.00 per year. Motion to approve renewing contract by Commissioner Brandon Barton and seconded by Commissioner Virgil Melton Jr. All in favor.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER REQUESTING A TRAFFIC STUDY ON HIGHWAY 64 FOR THE PURPOSE OF JUSTIFYING THE LOWERING OF SPEED LIMITS IN CERTAIN AREAS.** Motion to approve by Commissioner Virgil Melton Jr. and seconded by Commissioner Brandon Barton. All in favor.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER OVER 45 DAY TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT FOR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 4, SCOTT SHINN.** Motion to approve by Commissioner Brandon Barton and seconded by Commissioner Keith Pearson. All in favor.

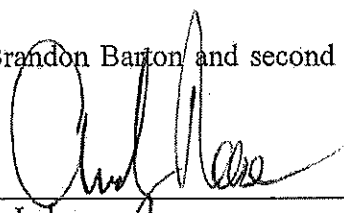
**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH TRI-LAM ROOFING FOR COURTHOUSE ROOF REPAIR. THIS IS FOR THE MARTAR JOINTS COMING OUT OF CORPING WITH SEPARATE WARRANTEE SHOULD** Motion to approve by Commissioner Virgil Melton Jr. and seconded by Commissioner Keith Pearson. All in favor.

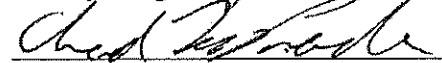
**ADJOURNMENT**

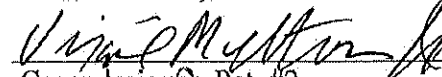
9:38 A.M. Motion to approve by Commissioner Brandon Barton and second by Commissioner Keith Pearson. All in favor.

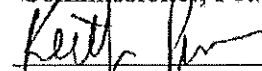
Susan Strickland, County Clerk  
Van Zandt County, Texas

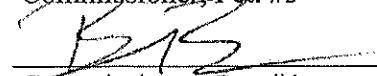
BY: 

  
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County Judge

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner, Pct. #1

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner, Pct. #2

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner, Pct. #3

  
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Commissioner, Pct. #4