

August 12, 2024 at 9:00 AM

The Wheeler County Commissioners Court met in Regular Session on the above date at 9:00 AM with the following members in attendance: Judge McDowell, Commissioner Jackie Don May Jr, Commissioner Phillip Gaines, Commissioner David Simpson and Commissioner John Walker. Also attending were: Bobbie Walker, Deputy County Clerk; Renee Warren-County Treasurer; Rick Walden-JP #2; Leslie Timmons-County Attorney; Cindy Brown-Tax Collector; Johnny Carter-Sheriff; Caden Walden, Tyler Kincaid, Carrie Gaines, Brenda Sparlin, Belinda Daniels, Rhonda Scott, Jeff Shortnacy, Sheriff Department and Dispatchers; Mariah Selby, Annette Walden, Dee Dee Reeves, Debbie McLaughlin, Jan Hill, Christian Hefley-County Employees; Kimberly Morgan-Tax Appraiser; Ada Lester, Taire Knight, Louis Stas, Cecil Gaither Jr, Pam Hibler, Marla Ford, Janie VanZandt, Joe VanZandt, Josh Reid, Karla Benson, Mark Trostle, Chalone Hefley, Rhonda Meriwether, Leroy Meriwether, Barry Sanders, Melissa Sanders, Andy and Doug Reed, Deann Turner, Dayna Carpenter, Amanda Brown, Dan Sams, Calvin Kincannon, Shane Stribling, Cecil Gaither Sr, Crystal McEntire and Brenda Hefley-Citizens of the County.

Court was called to order by Judge McDowell and then Johnny Carter offered the opening prayer

BUDGET WORKSHOP

During the Budget Workshop session the following addressed the court with their concerns for the proposed County Budget, taxes and tax rate: Rhonda Meriwether, Leroy Meriwether, Amanda Brown, Mark trostle, Dayna Carpenter, Tyler Kincaid, Karla Benson. Cecil Gaither, Pam Hibler, Janie VanZandt and Brenda Sparlin offered comments concerning the funding of the Ambulance service, County Attorney Leslie Timmons answered questions concerning the service, Crystal McEntire, Chalone Hefley, DeAnn Turner and Joe VanZandt passed on their request to speak to the Court.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADA LESTER-WHEELER COUNTY HISTORIAL COMMISSION-Explanation of funds

Divided into 3 accounts for donation and accounting purposes. No action taken.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

John Walker made a motion which was seconded by David Simpson to approve the minutes as written for the July 2024 meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

ACCEPTANCE OF MONTHLY FEE REPORTS

Jackie Don May Jr made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to approve the July 2024 monthly fee reports for JP #1, JP #2, County Clerk, District Clerk, Tax Collector and the Treasurers Claim report for the period of July 23, 2024 through August 7, 2024 in the amount of \$118,963.73. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF COMPENSATORY TIME BALANCES

Jackie Don May Jr made a motion which was seconded by David Simpson to approve the compensatory time balances. Motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

No action needed

BUDGET TRANSFERS

No action needed.

BUDGET LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

No action needed.

BURN BAN

No action taken.

JUDGES REPORT

Judge offered condolences to Martindale family.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

David spoke to other commissioners and audience concerning Road Unit System.

2024 PROPOSED TAX RATE ADOPTION

Judge McDowell made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to set the proposed tax rate for the 2024-25 year at 0.52735 per \$100.00 valuation after comments and discussions. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED FOR PARTICIPATION IN 2025 RURAL SHERIFFS OFFICE SALARY ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

John Walker made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to adopt the Resolution in support of the Sheriffs Office Salary Assistance Grant Program (SB22). Motion carried unanimously.

TAC HEALTH AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS POOL INSURANCE RATE FOR PLAN YEAR BEGINNING DECEMBER 1, 2024

Jackie Don May Jr made a motion which was seconded by John Walker to adopt the current coverage and rate. Motion carried unanimously.

\*\*\*\*\* During Budget Workshop period, Commissioner Simpson requested that the Court reconsider this item. After discussion, Jackie Don May Jr made a motion to rescind his previous motion and John Walker rescinded his second to the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

SO-PURCHASE OF 13 DRUG TESTS -\$871.04 PAID FROM ASSET FORFEITURE FUNDS

At the request of Sheriff Carter, David Simpson made a motion which was seconded by Jackie Don May Jr to approve the purchase of 13 drug tests in the amount of \$871.04 and payable from the Asset Forfeiture Funds. Motion carried unanimously.

SO-PURCHASE OF 16 PANASONIC TOUGHBOOK FZ-55 SPARE BATTERIES-\$2,288.00-Asset Forfeiture Funds

Jackie Don May Jr made a motion which was seconded by David Simpson to approve the purchase of 16 Panasonic Toughbook FS-55 spare batteries in the amount of \$2,288.00 and payable from the Asset Forfeiture funds. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER CALLING NOVEMBER 5, 2024 GENERAL ELECTION

Jackie Don May Jr made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to approve the Order Calling the November 5, 2024 General Election. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER CALLING NOVEMBER 5, 2024 SPECIAL ELECTION-County Road Department System

Jackie Don May Jr made a motion which was seconded by John Walker to approve the Order Calling the November 5, 2024 Special Election-County Road Department System. Motion carried unanimously.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

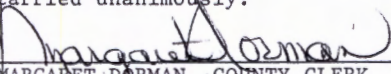
David Simpson made a motion which was seconded by Philip Gaines to pay the bills as approved. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action needed.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

John Walker made a motion which was seconded by Phillip Gaines to adjourn the meeting at 10:34 AM. Motion carried unanimously.

  
MARGARET DORMAN, COUNTY CLERK  
APPROVED: 9/9/2024

PAT MCDOWELL, COUNTY JUDGE