MOTLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

Regular Session

 August 14th, 2023

9:30 A.M.

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the 14th day of August, 2023 the Commissioners’ Court of Motley County met in Regular Session in the Courthouse in Matador, Texas. Called to order at 9:31 am by Judge Meador who then asked Commissioner Cruse to give the invocation.

The following members present:

 Jim Meador County Judge

 Douglas Campbell Commissioner, Pct. #1

 Roegan Cruse Commissioner, Pct #2

 Franklin Jameson Commissioner, Pct. #3

 Timmy Brooks Commissioner, Pct #4

 D’anna Russell County Clerk

 Also, in attendance County Treasurer Misty Jones, County Attorney Tom Edwards

 Public: Marisue Potts-Ethredge and Rusty Ethredge

 TX-DOT: No one present

 Public Comment: Marisue addressed the court with regard to the recent repairs to the Museum and families/businesses that have help fund the repairs.

 No. 507

 Clerk Russell Read the Minutes from the July 10th, 2023, meeting of Commissioners Court with the addition of Commissioner Cruses’ name, a motion was made by Commissioner Brooks and seconded by Commissioner Campbell to approve the minutes as read, motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

 County Judge Meador gave the monthly reports from County and District Clerk, Extension Service, Justice of the Peace, the Tax Assessor Collector, and Sheriff. Motion by Commissioner Campbell and seconded by Commissioner Brooks to accept the reports as given. Motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote. (no Library report available)

 The outstanding bills were presented by County Treasurer Jones and reviewed by the court. Motion by Commissioner Campbell to approve the bills as presented, Commissioner Cruse seconded the motion. Motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

No. 508

 Item 9 on the agenda was to confirm the extension of the xerox copier contract. Clerk Russell read the emails for the xerox rep who confirm that the contract expires on 08.16.2023 Xerox will automatically extend the lease month to month and that our price should not change. Motion by Commissioner Cruse and seconded by Commissioner Campbell to stay with the copier hat we have and extend the contract. Motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote. (notes attached to these minutes for reference)

 N0. 509

 Item 10 on the agenda was to set the Sheriff Fees for 2024. Sheriff said he was good with what they are so on a motion by Commissioner Campbell and seconded by Commissioner Jameson to keep the fees the same the motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

No. 510

The Road and Bridge Fees were set the same as they had been which is $10 on a motion by Commissioner Brooks and seconded by Commissioner Jameson. Motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote

 No. 511

 Next on the agenda was to discuss the amended Government Code, Section 61.001 (a) and 61.0015 (a) that increase the first day of jury service from $6 to $20 with a reimbursement rate from the state of $14 and increases the rate after the first day from $40 to $58 with a reimbursement rate from $34 to $52. A motion was made by Commissioner Jameson and seconded by Commissioner Campbell to set the fees per the new state requirement. Motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

 No. 512

An Order for the November 7 Constitutional Amendment Election was signed by the judge and commissioners upon the motion of Commissioner Cruse and seconded by Commissioner Campbell. Motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

 No. 513

Item 14 on the agenda was to adopt State Urgent Need Grant from TDA resolution and signatory. Motion by Commissioner Cruse and seconded by Commissioner Campbell to adopt the resolution and signatory. Motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

 No. 514

Next was to adopt the Policies for the State Urgent Need Grant from TDA. Motion made Commissioner Campbell and seconded by Commissioner Brooks to adopt the policies and the Motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

 No. 515

Item 16 on the agenda was Sheriff Robert Fisk asking the court to consider hiring additional deputy/deputies. Sheriff Fisk would like the court to consider hiring 2 deputies to help cover the county and keep 1 at the school. Sheriff Fisk stated it’s not if, it is when an Uvalde happens here. The question was asked how many deputies are required for a county. Judge Meador said that the federal guidelines are 1 for 1,000 people and Motley County population is 1,100. Request died for lack of a Motion.

 No. 516

Item 17 on the agenda was to look over the Proposed Budget to add effective tax rate dropped 5 cents from .66245 to .60798. Judge Meador let the court know that the ad had run in the paper on the Sheriff’s Grant for the increase in salary. Court would need to amended budget line 25 to reflect the supplement in the salary to get the sheriff to $75,000 and the deputy to $45,000 and the county would have to foot the retirement and social security increase. More discussion was had with regard to what counties in the area accepted the grant which include Briscoe, Cottle, and Floyd. Commissioner Brooks is for accepting the grant and Commissioner Cruse feels like it’s a slap in the face to the other county employees who didn’t get raises and Commissioner Campbell agrees. Judge Meador doesn’t feel like we should pass up the grant as the court has the say how the rest of the sheriff grant money gets spent. Supplementing the sheriff and deputy salary with the grant money to get those salaries to the $75,000 and the $45,000 would roughly leave $190, 776.00. Judge feels like the sheriff’s department can get some of the things needed like a different deputy pickup and fix the radio tower and not have to go into Capital Acquisitions for the money for those things. It was also mentioned that there are a lot of complaints about the sheriff department not being at work but across the street at his gun business. Sheriff Fisk informed the court that he goes over there for privacy with cases his department is working on. Motion by Commissioner Brooks to accept the grant and seconded by Commissioner Jameson and the Motion passed with a 3 for and 2 against.

**10:55 am and back in session at 11:07 am**

 Piata Bryant with SPAG was here to discuss the needs for State Urgent Need Grant with TDA. Discussion was had and the main focus priorities were radio repeaters/tower, road repair, hauling/procession debris fee, eligible rental equipment rates, and employee hours. (contractor and tipping fees). Mrs. Bryant asked the court to rank the priorities. #1 eligible equipment repair, #2 Road 207 repair, #3 hauling/processing debris, and #4 radio tower/repeater.

 No. 517

 Last item on the agenda as to set the date to adopt the budget. Motion by Commissioner Campbell and seconded by Commissioner Cruse to adopt the budget on August 31, 2023 at 9:00 am. Motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

No. 518

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m. upon the motion by Commissioner Cruse and seconded by Commissioner Brooks, motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_County Judge

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ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Comm Pct #4

 County Clerk