

MOTLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

Regular SESSION

January 11, 2021

9:30 A.M.

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of January 2021, the Commissioners' Court of Motley County met in Regular Session in the Courthouse in Matador, Texas. The following members present:

Jim Meador	County Judge
Douglas Campbell	Commissioner, Pct. #1
Roegan Cruse	Commissioner, Pct. #2
Franklin Jameson	Commissioner, Pct. #3
David Stafford	Commissioner, Pct. #4
Lindsey Aldrich	County Clerk

Also in attendance was County Attorney Tom Edwards. Judge Meador called the meeting to order and Commissioner Stafford gave the invocation.

No. 327

Clerk Aldrich read the minutes from the previous regular session. Commissioner Campbell made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Cruse. The motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

Clerk Aldrich read the minutes from the special session. Commissioner Campbell made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Jameson. The motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

The outstanding bills and monthly reports were reviewed by the commissioners. Commissioner Jameson made the motion to approve all bills. Commissioner Cruse seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

Commissioner Jameson made the motion to approve the reports for the District and County Clerk, Extension Agent, Justice of the Peace, Library and Tax Assessor-Collector. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

No. 328

The first item on the agenda was to discuss county liability for contract worker. Judge Meador stated that each person had a form that an attorney had provided to him. He stated that anyone doing work for the county should have proof of workers compensation or fill out the form. Commissioner Jameson asked who is required to sign the form. Judge Meador stated that he wasn't exactly sure. County Attorney Edwards reviewed the form and stated that the form is an attempt to limit liability on the county. He went on to say that if a contractor is working for the county and a county employee is overseeing the job it makes the contractor then a county employee. Attorney Edwards suggests to adopt the form but to understand that it may not be worth the paper it's written on. Judge Meador expressed the concern that some of the people that help the county with odd end jobs may not be willing to sign the form. Attorney Edwards said he understood that concern but felt like it would be best to try to have the individual sign the form if agreed upon and if

not, the person could still process with the job. Commissioner Stafford made the motion to adopt the form for the county use. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

No. 329

The second item on the agenda was to approve 2021 Travel Rate. Judge Meador stated that the state rate is set at \$0.56 per mile. Commissioner Cruse made the motion to approve the same rate for the county. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

No. 330

The next item on the agenda was bring to the court's attention that there was money that was due from the Tax Assessor/Collectors office to the Tax Attorneys, Purdue and Brandon. Assessor Miller, Deputy Assessor Mora and Treasurer Jones were asked to join the meeting. Judge Meador stated that he had become curious on how former Assessor Marshall paid the Tax Attorneys and when he questioned Deputy Mora, she was unaware of how or when payments were made. Deputy Mora reached out to former assessor Marshall where she was unable to say how much last month's payment had been or how much the payments should be. Treasurer Jones was able to make contact with Purdue and Brandon and verified that there was a balance due of \$24,889.33 and there had not been a payment made since April of 2019 for March 2019 dues. Judge Meador informed the court that the funds are available to pay the outstanding bill and that the matter will be on next month's agenda in order to further discuss the matter and make decisions on how to handle it.

No. 331

Next, Judge Meador let the court know that he felt like Assessor Miller should be able to start with a "clean slate". Deputy Mora shared with the court that the cash drawers for the Tax Office were out of balance. She stated that the Highway fund drawer was short about \$15 and the Tax fund drawer was about \$19 short. Commissioner Cruse asked if there is a daily balance being done for the drawers. Assessor Miller and Deputy Mora stated that as of last week there has been and will be daily balancing of the drawers.

No. 332

Judge Meador then brought to the court's attention and issue at the end of the year where people were using all their time at once and leaving the courthouse shorthanded. Judge Meador made it very clear that he did not want anyone to lose their days he was just looking for a possible solution to avoid having the courthouse shorthanded in the future. Commissioner Jameson stated that they seem to have the same issue within the precincts. Commissioner Cruse asked how other businesses handle giving time off to avoid this issue. Commissioner Campbell stated that they have to have their days approved by the supervisor and could only use a number of days at a single time, rather than all their time at once. The entire court was in agreement that this was an issue. Commissioner Campbell brought to the court's attention that if something was changed it would have to be updated within the Policy Handbook. Attorney Edwards pointed out that if anything were changed the current employees would be "grandfathered" in and the changes would not necessarily apply to them. Judge Meador stated that it may just have to be a matter of encouraging the employees to take their time during other parts of the year.

No. 333

The last item on the agenda was to discuss the possibility of considering a trailer for the precincts. Commissioner Campbell stated that he would like to discuss directions they'd like to go because riding the tires on the loader and backhoe are too much. He stated that he would like to have a trailer. Commissioner Jameson stated that he would like

everyone to help where there's a job at instead of just "pickin' around" to find something to do and this would keep someone from needing the equipment elsewhere at the same time. Judge Meador made the comment that it works better if more are working together and gets the job done quicker. Commissioner Cruse stated that he feels like a trailer would be good to have. Commissioner Campbell stated that he had not been able to find anything that he thought would be right for the county but that a new trailer was around \$23 thousand. Commissioner Cruse stated that a used one would probably be around \$15 thousand. Commissioner Stafford asked what the minimum size was that they would be looking for. Commissioner Campbell stated a 35-ton, 3 axle to be able to move the dozer. Commissioner Campbell suggested that the court look around and see what could be found.

There was not further business. Commissioner Stafford made a motion to adjourn with Commissioner Cruse seconding the motion. The motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

Court adjourned at 12:26 P.M.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ County Judge  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ CommPct#1  
\_\_\_\_\_ CommPct#2  
\_\_\_\_\_ CommPct#3  
\_\_\_\_\_ CommPct#4

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ County Clerk