

Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting

December 5, 2022

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chairman Mike Baughn called the REGULAR Commissioners Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Thomas County Historical Courthouse on Monday, December 5, 2022; followed by the flag salute (Pledge of Allegiance) with Commissioner Brad Flipse, Commissioner Brian Luedke, County Attorney Chris Rohr, County Clerk Keesa Mariman, Road and Bridge Supervisor Clair Schrock, Emergency Management Director David Becker, Landfill Supervisor Travis Williby, Undersheriff Ray Schweitzer, Rob Stithem, Maintenance Director Josh Faber, Health Administrator Emily Strange, Assistant Health Administrator Kendra Glassman, Register of Deeds Lora Volk, Willard Crumrine, and Colby Free Press Reporter Sloane Enninga.

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Chairman Baughn announced that the Commission will complete appointed Department Head evaluations the next two meetings in Executive Session. The 12<sup>th</sup> will be the following departments: EMS, EM Management, Health, and Appraiser. The 19<sup>th</sup> will be the following departments: Landfill, Maintenance, and Road and Bridge.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No comments.

**AGENDA ADDITIONS/REVISIONS:** Commissioner Brad Flipse made a motion to approve the agenda to add County Board of Health; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Brian Luedke, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

**NOMINATE WEST HALE TOWNSHIP CLERK:** Election Officer Keesa Mariman explained that a candidate that was written in with the most votes for West Hale Township Clerk already is elected into the Treasurer position. Willard Crumrine made a recommendation on behalf of the West Hale Township for Jesse Crumrine to be nominated. Commissioner Brad Flipse made a motion to approve the recommendation of the West Hale Township Board with Jesse Crumrine being nominated for the four (4) year term; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Brian Luedke, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

**YEAR-END EMPLOYEE REVIEWS/RAISES:** Chairman Mike Baughn explained that the department heads will have evaluations during the next two Commission meetings during Executive Sessions individually.

**DISCUSS HIPPA SECURITY:** County Attorney Chris Rohr stated the following County Employees were appointed to the HIPPA Security committee:

- Health Department-Kendra Glassman
  - Emergency Management-David Becker
  - County Clerk/HR Director-Keesa Mariman
- Commissioner Brian Luedke made a motion to approve the above appointments made; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Brad Flipse, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

**LANDSCAPING:** Maintenance Director Josh Faber explained that they have some unfinished work on the North parking lot around the Historical Courthouse. He spoke with Rob Stithem with Earth Works about finishing the parking lot. Commissioner Brian Luedke made a motion to approve finishing the project with Earth Works in the amount of \$8,842.25; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Brad Flipse, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously. Director Faber also explained about an issue with landscaping at the Justice Center. He explained that there is an issue with some of the wind storms they've had causing the woodchip mulch to blow clear up to the top windows of the second floor, and that there was not a weed mat put down which has increased the amount of weeds exponentially. Chairman Mike Baughn stated he would like to see the area changed to buffalo grass on the back side of the Justice Center. Director Faber spoke with Treasurer Layn Bruggeman about this cost coming out of soft cost and there is money to cover both bids provided with Earth Works. Director Faber also stated if the Commission would like to plant buffalo grass then Earth Works could redo the bid for the Justice Center. Chairman Mike Baughn asked Treasurer Layn Bruggeman about soft cost amounts and she said there was enough money in this fund, but that this would drain it almost completely. The Justice Center bid amount was \$35,435.75. Rob Stithem spoke and recommended going the buffalo grass route in the back of the Justice Center. After much discussion, Commission decided to wait for Earth Works and Director Faber to bring another bid with adjustments at the next meeting.

**TAX ROLL CORRECTIONS:** Commissioner Brad Flipse made a motion to approve the following Tax Roll Corrections:

- 2021-Severed Minerals Abatement for Lloyd L. Lunsway with a net change in tax dollars of -\$61.62
- 2022-Severed Minerals Abatement for Leland A. Lunsway with a net change in tax dollars of -\$60.08
- 2022-Severed Minerals Abatement for Lloyd L. Lunsway with a net change in tax dollars of -\$60.08
- 2022-Personal Property Abatement for Nicolas C. & Kelly K. Schroeder with a net change in tax dollars of -\$7.88

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brian Luedke, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVE AP:** Commissioner Brian Luedke made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable Payment Registers as follows: Courthouse General in the amount of \$44,717.96 (as reviewed by both County Attorney Chris Rohr and Commissioner Brian Luedke); the motion was seconded by Commissioner Brad Flipse, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

**COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH:** Reports for this issue were not in yet so this will be pushed to the next agenda.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business Commissioner Brian Luedke made a motion to adjourn at 9:30 a.m.; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Brad Flipse, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:



Keesa Mariman  
Keesa Mariman, County Clerk

Dated: 12/19/2022

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, THOMAS COUNTY

Mike Baughn  
Mike Baughn, Chairman

Brad Flipse  
Brad Flipse, Member

Brian Luedke  
Brian Luedke, Member

