



MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
COMMISSIONERS COURT OF MIDLAND COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered that on Friday the 26th day of August 2022 at 1:32 p.m. a special meeting of the Midland County Commissioners Court was called to order in the Commissioners Courtroom, located at the Midland County Courthouse, 500 North Loraine Street, Midland, Texas. The following members were present:

Terry Johnson, County Judge;
Scott Ramsey, County Commissioner Precinct No. 1;
Robin Donnelly, County Commissioner Precinct No. 2;
Luis D. Sanchez, County Commissioner Precinct No. 3;
Randy Prude, County Commissioner Precinct No. 4

Recorded by Alison Haley, County Clerk

Judge Terry Johnson read the rules for Commissioners Court.

Exhibit: 6

1. Discuss and take action on mortuary services.

County Judge Terry Johnson read from the contract that is in effect between Midland County and Sanchez Mortuary Services. This pointed out that the contract states Sanchez Mortuary Services has a May 1st deadline to request an increase.

Mr. Oscar Sanchez addressed the Court. Mr. Sanchez stated that he was not aware of the time frame in the contract. In the past he did not have to come before the court. He stated that he will need to go up on his prices due to price increases. There was a lengthy discussion. Mr. Sanchez stated he wanted to terminate the contract. Judge Barton, Justice of the Peace Precinct 4 joined the conversation. Mr. Sanchez presented the notice to terminate to the County Attorney upon the request of Commissioner Ramsey.

Kristy Engeldahl, Purchasing stated they do have the last RFP that went out in 2019. Ms. Engeldahl asked for a committee to be created to help with this process.

There was a discussion who would make up the committee. Justice of the Peace, Sheriff's Office, District Attorney's office, Police Department, DPS, Death Investigator and a Commissioner. Commissioner Prude recommended David Sapp, Cemetery Director. Russell Malm, County Attorney recommended keeping the committee small but ask others for their input.

Motion that we create a committee to be able to develop a scope of services and the committee would include JP4, someone from the Sheriff's Office, someone from the DA's office, someone from the City of Midland Police Department, someone from DPS, a Death Investigator and a Commissioner. This is for an RFP.

Motion by: Sanchez
For: All (5)

Second by: Donnelly
Against: None

Exhibit: 7-16
Abstaining:

Motion that we authorize Kristy (Kristy Engeldahl, Purchasing Agent) to do an RFP for mortuary services and transport as soon as a decision has been made.

Motion by: Sanchez
For: All (5)

Second by: Ramsey
Against: None

Exhibit:
Abstaining:

2. Receive comments, discuss, and take action on requests from Department Heads and Elected Officials on Midland County Proposed Budget.

Presented by Carolyn Graves and Russell Malm, County Attorney. A new AG opinion has been released making them available for Public Information Requests earlier than the law allows. Ms. Graves is requesting additional funds in case the request need to be filled.

Motion to put \$50,000.00 in non-departmental salary contingency for Elections.

Motion by: Ramsey
For: All (5)

Second by: Donnelly
Against: None

Exhibit:
Abstaining:

Russell Malm, County Attorney stated the need for the court to add an additional \$150,000.00 for the insurance for law enforcement.

Motion to add an additional \$150,000.00 for the law enforcement part of the insurance.

Motion by: Sanchez
For: All (5)

Second by: Donnelly
Against: None

Exhibit:
Abstaining:

Sheriff Criner addressed the Court and thanked them for their support in the past. The expectations are high for law enforcement. They are implementing a fit for service program. Holiday pay was discussed. When an officer works a holiday, they should get compensated for that day. Robert Segura, HR Director spoke to the idea of paying officers that work holidays. Commissioner Donnelly stated that this is a scheduling issue for the officers. Commissioner Donnelly stated that they should get the time off. The Sheriff stated that he had a Deputy that was working for free. There is a cap at 96 hours. Mitzi Baker, Treasurer addressed the cap. They will put this on the next agenda.

Sheriff Administration personnel was addressed. The Sheriff would like to increase the current secretary in the jail, Summer Carrillo from a 11.11 to a 16.6 or 16.7. Robert Segura, HR Director addressed the topic. Mitzi Baker, Treasurer answered the Courts questions.

Motion to increase the grade for the secretary in the jail from 11 step 11 to a 16.6.

Motion by: Ramsey
For: All (5)

Second by: Donnelly
Against: None

Exhibit:
Abstaining:

Annie Tatum records supervisor. Works 50-60 hours. She is currently a 16.6 and would like that position to be increased to a 19.4. She is exempt and cannot get paid for overtime. Robert Segura, HR Director and Mitzi Baker, Treasurer joined the conversation.

Motion to move the Records Supervisor position from a grade 16.6 to a grade 19 step 4.

Motion by: Ramsey
For: All (5)

Second by: Prude
Against: None

Exhibit:
Abstaining:

Sheriff Criner discussed the salary adjustment for his staff. He played a video to the Court members. The Sheriff stated that they need to give a raise. They did not close during COVID. Sometimes the ratio is 1 officer to 78 inmates. They deal with the hard situations. The Sheriff played another video to the Court. Level the playing field with salaries. He presented the Court with a new Public Safety salary. Even if this is implemented, we will be 4% below the City of Midland officers.

Commissioner Sanchez asked about the number of jailers. The Sheriff stated they are 25 down in the Jail and 11 down in Patrol. They discussed the other departments that were down. They then discussed the academy.

Commissioner Ramsey stated that he does not like having a separate schedule just for the Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Criner said that it is common in other counties and agencies. Commissioner Donnelly stated that if we were just a jail or law enforcement this would be ok. We are a judicial system, and I don't believe a separate schedule is necessary. I would rather solve it within the bounds of what we have.

Commissioner Donnelly stated the main problem is in Jail and Patrol.

Judge Johnson stated that he believes we can have a separate schedule for the Sheriff's Office. You must separate this from the rest of the county. Commissioner Sanchez asked if there was enough time to implement this. Mitzi Baker, Treasurer said that they could implement another schedule.

The Treasurer gave the Court the overtime pay for patrol and jail. Last fiscal year patrol overtime was \$131,387 and jail overtime was \$809,095. So far this fiscal year patrol is at \$248,782 and jail overtime is at \$1,174,545. Commissioner Sanchez recommended a 15% increase for jail and patrol for a total of \$2,110,301.00. Commissioner Ramsey said that the overtime money will still need to be paid. He does not think raising the salaries will stop the overtime completely. Commissioner Ramsey said that he agrees we need to increase the salaries but do not need to use a separate pay scale. Sheriff Criner said if you focus on the jail and patrol please go up a minimum of a 3 grade increase. He said if you want to use the existing pay scale that is fine. Mitzi Baker, Treasurer said the public safety scale does equate to our scale. 15% raise for patrolman and jailers which is 3 grades. Sheriff Criner addressed a contract being signed for reimbursement for tuition if they do not stay with the SO.

Sheriff Criner stated that Capt. Adam Hilliard needs to receive a raise.

Motion that Capt. Adam Hilliard is moved to a grade 25 step 11.

Motion by: Ramsey
For: All (5)

Second by: Donnelly
Against: None

Exhibit:
Abstaining:

Judge Johnson asked why we are just doing a partial increase for the Sheriff's Office. Partial is not enough. I think we should go in all the way. Forrest Hanna, Juvenile joined the conversation. Commissioner Prude mentioned that he would like to have something in place for not poaching from other departments. Commissioner Prude stated this will address unintended consequences that we need to deal with down the road. Mitzi Baker, Treasurer said that their motions need to be explicit because the Judges proposed is currently in the system. Sheriff Criner presented the Court with a new proposed increase.

3:34pm take a 5 min break.
3:48pm back into regular session

Sheriff Criner explained the new hand out. Mitzi Baker, Treasurer and Veronica Morales, Auditor joined the conversation.

My motion is to do a 3 grade increases for jailer/cadets, jailer corporals and patrol deputies for Investigators and patrol corporals. 2 grades for the sergeants, 2 for the lieutenants, 1 for captain and 0 for chief and remove what increase was proposed.

Motion by: Prude
For: All (5)

Second by: Ramsey
Against: None

Exhibit: 17
Abstaining:

Judge Kyle Peeler, County Court At Law addressed the Court. He wanted to address the JSO's in the Juvenile system. Unintended Consequences and Safety. They currently have 4 murder cases and 15 felony grade sexual assault cases.

Forrest Hanna, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer stated he has 19 JSO's that are at grade 14 and requesting they be increased to a grade 17. 4 shift supervisors increased to 18. 8 degreed probation officers be bumped up to a grade 18. They would like to see this in writing and will discuss in the next court.

Joe Kelley, President of Horseshoe Hospitality Services LLC. Had some items that were not requested. 1300 new stack chairs \$190,000.00 purchase 600 new chairs and get rid of the green 20-year-old chairs. That would be \$100,000.00. ADA ramp in the amphitheater for about \$60,000.00. 20-44-gallon trash cans \$20,000.00 to have nicer trash receptacles in the dining room.

Motion to put in the budget for 600 new stack chairs cart and freight for \$100,000.00 and place \$60,000.00 in cap ex for an ADA ramp on the side of the amp, and in equipment and furnishings put \$20,00.000 for the purchase of 20-44-gallon brut trash cans with black wrap.

Motion by: Ramsey
For: All (5)

Second by: Sanchez
Against: None

Exhibit:
Abstaining:

Laura Nodolf, District Attorney and Javier Chacon, IT Director discussed the evidence download issues. \$5,800.00 for 2 precision towers.

Motion that we buy those 2 - 3660 precision towers \$4,560.00.

Motion by: Sanchez
For: All (5)

Second by: Donnelly
Against: None

Exhibit:
Abstaining:

Laura Nodolf, DA needs to increase online services for the Lexis Nexis contract.

Motion to increase the line item for the Lexis Nexis service in the amount of \$1,589.00.

Motion by: Ramsey
For: All (5)

Second by: Sanchez
Against: None

Exhibit:
Abstaining:

Tim Telck, Environmental Investigator is seeking clarification if the budget was encompassed in the motions for the Environmental unit to stay with the DA's office. Yes that was all included per several court members.

Judge David Lindemood, 318th District Judge addressed the Court. We have the best Judicial System within the State of Texas. Your District Judges are not behind. We appreciate each and every one of you.

Alison Haley, County Clerk asked the Court about her previous budget request of increasing 13 of her Deputies from grade 11 to a grade 12.

Motion that we move your (County Clerk) clerks from a grade 11 to a grade 12.

Motion by: Ramsey
For: All (5)

Second by: Prude
Against: None

Exhibit:
Abstaining:

Motion to raise the District Clerks 22 clerks from 11 to 12.

Motion by: Prude
For: All (5)

Second by: Ramsey
Against: None

Exhibit:
Abstaining:

Motion that we raise the Treasurer clerk from 11 to a 12.

Motion by: Donnelly
For: All (5)

Second by: Ramsey
Against: None

Exhibit:
Abstaining:

Motion to adjourn.

Motion by: Prude
For: All (5)

Second by: Sanchez
Against: None

Exhibit:
Abstaining:

Adjourn at 4:28p.m.

A Meeting of the Midland County Commissioners Court will be held on Monday, September 12, 2022 on or after 9:00 a.m., in the Commissioners Courtroom, located at the Midland County Courthouse, 500 North Loraine Street, Midland, Texas.

I, Alison Haley, County Clerk certify that this is an accurate accounting of the proceedings of the Commissioners Court special meeting on August 26, 2022.



Alison Haley

Alison Haley, County Clerk