

**STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF BROWN**

**The Brown County Commissioners Court convened in a Special Session on September 28, 2015 at 9:00 A.M. in the Commissioner's Courtroom, Brown County Courthouse, 200 South Broadway Brownwood, Texas. Judge West called the meeting to order. Members of the Court present were:**

<b>E. RAY WEST III</b>	<b>COUNTY JUDGE</b>
<b>JOEL KELTON</b>	<b>COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 2</b>
<b>WAYNE SHAW</b>	<b>COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 3</b>
<b>LARRY TRAWEEK</b>	<b>COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 4</b>

**Also present:**

<b>SHARON FERGUSON</b>	<b>COUNTY CLERK</b>
<b>NINA COX</b>	<b>COUNTY AUDITOR</b>
<b>T'ANNA MCCLURE</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT</b>

**A. Opening prayer. Rick Phelps led the Court in the invocation.**

**B. Reading and approval of minutes. Commissioner Traweek moved that the minutes of the September 21, 2015 meeting be approved, as presented by County Clerk Sharon Ferguson. Commissioner Shaw seconded the motion and the Court voted 3-0 to approve.**

**C. Recognition of visitors.**

**D. Matter of new business to be presented to the Court for its consideration and action as appropriate. Items may not be taken in the order that they are listed.**

**Item #1: Joel Kelton, Pct 2-Consideration and possible approval of action regarding burn ban. After discussion, no action was taken. The burn ban remains in effect.**

**Item #2: Bryan Thompson, JP #3-Consideration and possible approval of salary changes for replacement chief clerk. After discussion, with Bryan Thompson, Justice of the Peace #3, Judge West moved that the Court authorize that JP Court Clerk Charla Airheart be paid the salary set for her, by the Court, effective October 1, 2015. When she becomes the Chief Administrator, effective November 1, 2015, she shall be paid the salary set for her, by the Court, plus \$2,500.00 Chief pay.**

**Charla Airheart/Chief Administrator/JP #2 and JP #3  
effective 11-01-2015**

**Victoria Collom/Chief Administrator/JP #2 and JP #3  
discontinued effective 10-30-2015 ([Exhibit #1](#))**

**Commissioner Kelton seconded the motion and the Court voted 4-0 to approve.**

**Item #3: Wayne Shaw, Pct 3-Consideration and possible approval of replacement employee. Commissioner Shaw moved that the following personnel changes be approved in Precinct #3:**

**Brad Fulcher/Road Crew/employed**

**effective 10-01-2015**

**James Wells/Road Crew/discontinued**

**effective 09-09-2015 ([Exhibit #2](#))**

**Commissioner Traweek seconded the motion and the Court voted 3-0 to approve.**

**Item #4: Vance Hill, Sheriff's Office-Consideration and possible approval to purchase external vest carrier, and under shirts for the uniformed deputies out of donation funds. After discussion, with Captain Vance Hill, Commissioner Kelton moved that the Court authorize the Sheriff's Department to purchase 19 external vest carriers and 19 under shirts, for all uniformed deputies. The total cost will be \$2,469.62 and will be paid from the Sheriff Department's donation funds. Commissioner Shaw seconded the motion and the Court voted 3-0 to approve. ([Exhibit #3](#))**

**Judge West recessed the open meeting at 9:20 A.M. to convene into executive session.**

**Item #5: The Court will convene into executive session pursuant to the provision of the open meetings law, Chapter 551, Government Code, V.T.C.A. in accordance with the requirements and authority set out in Section 551.074 to discuss the appointment of a person to fill the unexpired term of deceased Brown County Sheriff Bobby Grubbs.**

**Judge West called the executive session to order.**

**Members of the Court present were:**

<b>E.Ray West, III</b>	<b>County Judge</b>
<b>Joel Kelton</b>	<b>Commissioner Precinct No. 2</b>
<b>Wayne Shaw</b>	<b>Commissioner Precinct No. 3</b>
<b>Larry Traweek</b>	<b>Commissioner Precinct No. 4</b>
<b>Sharon Ferguson</b>	<b>County Clerk</b>
<b>Nina Cox</b>	<b>County Auditor</b>
<b>T'Anna McClure</b>	<b>Administrative Assistant</b>

**After discussion, no action was taken. Judge West recessed the executive session at 10:30 A.M.**

**Judge West called the open session back to order at 10:45 A.M.**

**Item #6: Ray West, County Judge-Consideration and possible approval of the appointment of a person to fill the unexpired term of deceased Brown County Sheriff Bobby Grubbs.**

**Commissioner Traweek moved that the Court approve the appointment of George Caldwell, Jr. to fill the unexpired term of deceased Brown County Sheriff Bobby Grubbs. Commissioner Shaw seconded the motion and the Court voted 3-0 to approve. Judge West administered the oath of office to Mr. Caldwell. [\(Exhibit #4\)](#)**

**Item #7: Nina Cox, Auditor-Consideration and possible approval of amount to consider for issuance for Certificates of Obligation (Energy project). After discussion, no action was taken.**

**Item #8: Public Hearing-Proposed Budget FY 2015-2016. Judge West opened the public hearing and asked for comments and/or questions, from the audience, concerning the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2015/2016. There were none. Judge West closed the public hearing.**

**Item #9: Ray West, County Judge-Consideration and possible adoption of FY 2015-2016 Budget. Commissioner Kelton moved that the Court adopt the Brown County Budget for Fiscal Year 2015/2016, as proposed. Judge West seconded the motion and the Court voted 4-0 to approve. [\(Exhibit #5\)](#)**

**Item #10: Ray West, County Judge-Consideration and possible adoption of FY 2015-2016 tax rate. Judge West moved that the Court adopt, by Resolution, the tax rates for Fiscal Year 2015/2016 as proposed:**

**General Fund Rate .4643 motion by Judge West  
second by Commissioner Traweek  
vote: 4-0 in favor**

**Debt Service Rate .0503 motion by Judge West  
second by Commissioner Kelton  
vote: 4-0 in favor**

**Road and Flood Rate .0809 motion by Judge West  
second by Commissioner Shaw  
vote: 4-0 in favor**

**Judge West moved that the Total Tax Rate will be .5955.**

**This tax rate will effectively raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's rate by 7.86%. The tax rate will effectively be raised by 7.86% and will raise taxes for maintenance and operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$17.50. This year's levy to fund maintenance and operations expenditures exceeds last year's maintenance and operations tax levy. Commissioner Traweek seconded the motion and the Court voted 4-0 to approve. [\(Exhibit #6\)](#)**

**Item #11: Ray West, County Judge-Consideration and possible approval to declare property as refuse of no value. After discussion, Judge West moved that the Court declare used property, stored in the Daniel building, as scrap/refuse of no value. Commissioner Kelton seconded the motion and the Court voted 4-0 to approve. [\(Exhibit #7\)](#)**

**E. Reports. The September 28, 2015 Combined Statement of Cash Position was presented by County Treasurer Ann Krpoun, for filing. [\(Exhibit #8\)](#)**

**The Texas Commission On Jail Standards Jail Population Report was presented by the Sheriff's Department, for filing. [\(Exhibit #9\)](#)**

**F. Consideration and approval of bills. Commissioner Traweek moved that the claims, as presented by County Auditor Nina Cox, be paid. Commissioner Shaw seconded the motion and the Court voted 3-0 approve. [\(Exhibit #10\)](#)**

**G. Recess. Commissioner Kelton moved that the Court recess until October 5,2015 at 9:00 A.M. in the Commissioners Courtroom. Commissioner Shaw seconded the motion and the Court voted 3-0 to approve.**

