

**STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF BROWN**

The Brown County Commissioners Court convened in a Special Session on February 29, 2016 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:

E. RAY WEST III	COUNTY JUDGE
GARY WORLEY	COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 1
JOEL KELTON	COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 2
LARRY TRAWEEK	COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 4

Also present:

SHARON FERGUSON	COUNTY CLERK
NINA COX	COUNTY AUDITOR
T'ANNA MCCLURE	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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

B. Reading and approval of minutes. Commissioner Worley moved that the minutes of the February 16, 2016 meeting be approved, as presented by County Clerk Sharon Ferguson. Commissioner Kelton seconded the motion and the Court voted 4-0 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: Sherry Clark, Child Welfare Board-Consideration and possible approval of replacement members to Brown County Child Welfare Board. Commissioner Traweek moved that the Court approve the appointment of Carla Shari Howard, Fredrick Solomon Hochmann, and Stephanie Ddugndbnemimmier to serve on the Child Welfare Board of Brown County, as presented by Chair Sherry Clark. Commissioner Worley seconded the motion and the Court voted 4-0 to approve.

[\(Exhibit #1, Exhibit #2, and Exhibit #3\)](#)

Item #3: Ray West, County Judge-Consideration and possible approval of Deed (Houston Property). After discussion, Commissioner Worley moved that the Court accept the bid of \$23,000.00, from Dale Merkord, (for the Houston, Harris County, TX Property), and authorize County Judge E. Ray West, III to sign a Deed Without Warranty, on behalf of Brown County, and give to Mr. Merkord to record. Commissioner Kelton seconded the motion and the Court voted 3-0 to approve. [\(Exhibit #4\)](#)

Item #4: Ray West, County Judge-Consideration and possible approval for hiring of elections administrator. Judge West moved that the Court approve a salary of \$45,000.00, annually, for Election Administrator Karen Opiela. Commissioner Traweek seconded the motion. After discussion, Commissioner Worley moved that the Court table the motion and Commissioner Traweek seconded the motion to table and the Court voted 3-0 to table.

Item #5: Ray West, County Judge-Consideration and possible approval to declare flagpole at Old Daniel lot as surplus. Commissioner Worley moved that the Court declare the flagpole, at the Old Daniel lot, as surplus and the removal expense, of the flagpole, shall be paid by the purchaser. Commissioner Kelton seconded the motion and the Court voted 3-0 to approve.

Item #6: Becky Caffey, Jail Administrator-Consideration and possible approval of maintenance Agreement for Morpho Trust (live scan fingerprint machine). After discussion, with Jail Administrator Becky Caffey, Commissioner Traweek moved that the Court approve the Maintenance Agreement Addendum Quotation, with MorphoTrust USA, for the Live Scan equipment at the jail, and authorize Jail Administrator Becky Caffey to sign the Agreement. Commissioner Worley seconded the motion and the Court voted 4-0 to approve. [\(Exhibit #5\)](#)

Item #7: Becky Caffey, Jail Administrator-Consideration and possible approval to use a worker from Experience Works. After discussion, with Jail Administrator Becky Caffey, Commissioner Kelton moved that the Court approve Melissa Alward, a worker from Experience Works, to perform clerical work, at the Sheriff's Department. Experience Works is funded through the Federal Government and they will pay Ms. Alward's salary for one year. She is allowed to work 20 hours per week at no cost to the County. Commissioner Worley seconded the motion and the Court voted 3-0 to approve. [\(Exhibit #6\)](#)

Item #8: Joel Kelton, Pct 2-Consideration and possible approval to lease property for stockpiling material. Commissioner Kelton moved that the Court authorize him to lease approximately three (3) acres of land, from Doris Wheeler, for a total of \$3,000.00 for five (5) years. This land will be used for stockpile material. Commissioner Worley seconded the motion and the Court voted 3-0 to approve. [\(Exhibit #7\)](#)

Commissioner Worley moved that the Court recess at 9:30 A.M. until 10:00 A.M. to consider Item #4. Commissioner Traweek seconded the motion and the Court voted 3-0 to approve.

Judge Pro-Tem Kelton called the Special Session back to order at 10:16 A.M.

Item #4: Commissioner Worley moved that the Court remove Item #4 off the table. Commissioner Traweek seconded the motion and the Court voted 3-0 to approve.

Commissioner Traweek moved that the Court approve a salary, of \$45,000.00, annually, for Election Administrator Karen Opiela. Ms. Opiela will begin work on April 1, 2016. Commissioner Worley seconded the motion and the Court voted 3-1 to approve. Commissioner Kelton voted nay. [\(Exhibit #8\)](#)

E. Reports. The February 29, 2016 Combined Statement of Cash Position was presented by County Treasurer Ann Krpoun, for filing. [\(Exhibit #9\)](#)

The Texas Commission On Jail Standards Jail Population Report was presented by the Sheriff's Department, for filing. [\(Exhibit #10\)](#)

The Pretrial Report was presented by Indigent Defense Coordinator/Pretrial Services Director Nita Richardson, for filing. [\(Exhibit #11\)](#)

F. Consideration and approval of bills. Commissioner Traweek moved that the claims, as presented by County Auditor Nina Cox, be paid. Commissioner Worley seconded the motion and the Court voted 3-0 approve. [\(Exhibit #12\)](#)

G. Recess. Commissioner Traweek moved that the Court recess until March 7, 2016 at 9:00 A.M. in the Commissioners Courtroom. Commissioner Kelton seconded the motion and the Court voted 4-0 to approve.

