

**COMMISSIONERS COURT OF UPSHUR COUNTY, TEXAS
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2025
10:00 A.M. REGULAR SESSION**

A regular meeting of the Commissioners' Court of Upshur County, Texas was held on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at 10:00 a.m., with the following members of the Court being present, to-wit:

Present: Todd Tefteller – County Judge, presiding
 Gene Dolle – Commissioner Pct. #1
 Dustin Nicholson – Commissioner Pct. #2
 Mike Ashley – Commissioner Pct. #3
 Jay W. Miller – Commissioner Pct. #4

Judge Todd Tefteller called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

1. Invocation and Pledges

Prayer was led by Gene Dolle.

Pledges to the U.S. & Texas flags led by Dustin Nicholson.

2. Citizens Comments. None

3. Consider and take action on approval of:

- A. The minutes of previous meetings;**
- B. Payroll changes;**
- C. Payroll;**
- D. Budget amendments;**
- E. Accounts Payable;**
- F. Accept for Recording: Auditor reports; Treasurer reports; Bonds; Oaths; Deputations; Certificates; State and County Taxes Summary; refund of overpayment or erroneous tax payments in excess of \$2500.00; Racial Profiling Report for Constable Pct. 1; Racial Profiling Report for Constable Pct. 4; Certificate of Liability Insurance for Complex Contracting, Inc. dba JC Stoddard Construction Co and Complex Transportation, LLC; and, applications for use of Upshur County roads and rights-of way and permit requests.**

Motion by Dustin Nicholson with a second by Gene Dolle to approve items 3 A-F.
Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.
(SEE ATTACHED)

4. Hear any updates and discuss and take necessary action concerning the Round XII Courthouse Grant Renovation and/or the Courthouse employee relocation during the

renovation.

No update at this time.

5. Discuss and take action to approve a Proclamation declaring January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Upshur County.

Hollie Bruce, CEO of the Women's Center of East Texas, was present to read the Proclamation to the Court. Motion by Mike Ashley with a second by Jay W. Miller to approve the Proclamation declaring January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Upshur County. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

6. Discuss and take action to approve the bid on a property foreclosed for delinquent taxes.

Stacy Killingsworth, attorney with the Linebarger firm, was present to brief the Court on the process of seeking bids on foreclosed properties and the transactions that have occurred with this piece of property being brought before the Court. Motion by Gene Dolle with a second by Mike Ashley to approve the bid of \$4,000.00 for the property foreclosed for delinquent taxes. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

7. Discuss and take action to approve and accept for recording the New Cobra Rates for 2024-2025 Plan Year.

Maddie Moore, HR Clerk, explained to the Court how these rates are calculated. Motion by Dustin Nicholson with a second by Mike Ashley to approve and accept for recording the New Cobra Rates for 2024-2025 Plan Year. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

8. Discuss and take action to donate to a charitable organization 22 jackets that are no longer usable by the Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Larry Webb was present to ask the Court to approve the donation of 22 jackets no longer used by the Sheriff's Office. Motion by Mike Ashley with a second by Gene Dolle to authorize the Sheriff to donate to a charitable organization 22 jackets that are no longer usable by the Sheriff's Office. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

9. Discuss and take action to approve honorable retired Deputy Rick Woloszyn purchasing his service firearm (Texas Government Code Sec. 614.051) (fair market value is \$300).

Sheriff Larry Webb asked to pass this item as Mr. Woloszyn does not wish to purchase his service firearm.

10. Discuss and take action to approve and execute contracts with Genesis eBONDS and Govolution for the jail to use as service providers.

Lt. Vanessa Ferguson was present and explained to the Court how this new electronic bonding software is to work with no additional cost to the County. Motion by Dustin Nicholson with a second by Gene Dolle to approve and execute contracts with Genesis eBONDS and Govolution for the jail to use as service providers. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

11. **Discuss and take action to accept Gorman Oaks Rd. into the County Road Inventory (This road is West of Big Sandy and runs parallel with U.S. Hwy 80. This is the road Union Pacific Railroad has built to facilitate their passing track and railroad crossing closures.); to authorize the County Judge to execute the Special Warranty Deed accepting it on behalf of the County; and, to approve a Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance and Public Dedication of Road Rights-of-Way and Improvements (#2025-01) with a record vote.**

Motion by Mike Ashley with a second by Gene Dolle to accept Gorman Oaks Rd. into the County Road Inventory and to authorize the County Judge to execute the Special Warranty Deed on behalf of the County. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

Votes to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance and Public Dedication of Road Rights-of-Way and Improvements (#2025-01) are as follows:

Gene Dolle	Aye
Dustin Nicholson	Aye
Todd Tefteller	Aye
Mike Ashley	Aye
Jay W. Miller	Aye

Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

12. **Discuss and take action to make a nomination to fill the vacancy on the Upshur County Appraisal District Board of Directors for the 2024-2025 unexpired term by the January 25, 2025 deadline.**

No action.

13. **The Court will/may go into CLOSED SESSION under Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551 as indicated:**

_____ **Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney(s));**

 A,B **Section 551.072 (deliberation regarding real property);**

 A,B **Section 551.0725 (deliberation and discussion of contracts being negotiated);**

_____ **Section 551.073 (deliberation about gifts and donations);**

C Section 551.074 and 551.0745 (personnel matters);

 Section 551.076 (deliberation about security audits or security devices).

TO WIT:

- A. Consideration of the Round XII Project administration in reference to the Courthouse Renovation.**
- B. Consideration of Round XII Renovation Funding and ARPA Grant requirements consistent therewith.**
- C. Discussion of a candidate to be nominated to serve the remainder of an unexpired 2024-2025 term on the UCAD Board.**

There was no need for the Court to go into **CLOSED SESSION**.

Judge Tefteller asked Connie Williams, Upshur County Auditor, how we were doing on the funding on the courthouse. She explained to the Court how much she has paid out and the percentage left. She is hoping that there are no delays nor additional cost. She further advised the Court that she had built in contingency and that we have not exceeded that amount. She advised that we are timely in our payments. Judge Tefteller announced that he is being told that we should be done in December 2025. Connie Williams suggested that the Court start now to begin thinking about moving back.

14. Adjourn.

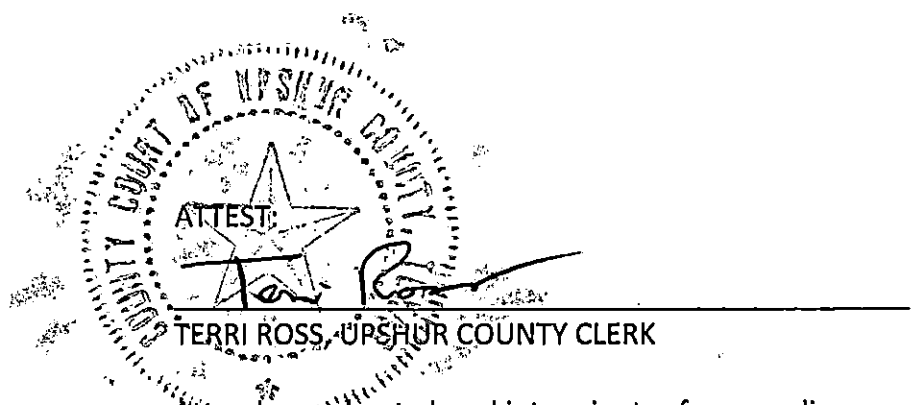
Motion by Mike Ashley with a second by Jay W. Miller to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Brad Robison was in the audience and failed to address the Court during the Public Comment period and asked to speak to the Court.

Motion by Dustin Nicholson with a second by Jay W. Miller to open the meeting. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor. Meeting re-opened at 10:45 a.m.

Brad Robison, a resident of Diana, addressed the Court regarding the potholes on Spider Lilly Road in Precinct 3. He has brought this to the attention of Commissioner Dustin Nicholson. He asked that the Court look into re-paving Spider Lilly.

Motion by Mike Ashley with a second by Dustin Nicholson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.



TERRI ROSS, UPSHUR COUNTY CLERK

- Attendance sheet placed into minutes for recording purposes only.
- Bills previously approved placed into minutes for recording purposes only.
- Jury payroll placed into minutes for recording purposes only.