

**COMMISSIONERS COURT OF UPSHUR COUNTY, TEXAS
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2025
10:00 A.M. REGULAR SESSION**

A regular meeting of the Commissioners' Court of Upshur County, Texas was held on Wednesday, April 30, 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 Tefteller called the regular meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

1. Invocation and Pledges

Prayer was led by Commissioner Dolle.

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

2. Citizen comments. No comments.

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 report; Treasurer report; Bonds; Oaths; Deputations; Certificates; State and County Taxes Summary; refund of overpayment or erroneous tax payments in excess of \$2500.00; Certificate of Liability Insurance for Beckett Oil & Fuel dba Eagle Fuel & Oil LP; and, applications for use of Upshur County roads and rights-of way and permit requests.**

Commissioner Dolle made a motion with a second by Commissioner Ashley to approve items 3A-F. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Nicholson abstaining.
(SEE ATTACHED)

4. Hear any updates and discuss and take necessary action concerning the Round XII Courthouse Grant Renovation.

Judge Leward LeFleur was present to update the Court regarding the status of the

Courthouse renovation. He provided the Court with a sketch of the plaza that he proposes to construct on the North side of the courthouse lawn using the named pavers that were moved from the area around the fountain. Motion by Commissioner Nicholson with a second by Commissioner Miller to approve the construction of the plaza. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

Judge LeFleur spoke in regards to the fire suppression system and the woodwork in the courtroom. County Auditor, Connie Williams, spoke in regards to the status of the geo thermal grant. Ms. Williams further announced that the completion of the renovation will not be in December as projected but more likely to be in February of next year.

5. Discuss and take action to approve a Proclamation declaring May as Mental Health Awareness Month in Upshur County.

Stacy Tidwell, Gina Mitchell and Sha Gist, representatives of Community Health Core, were present to present a Proclamation to the Court declaring May 2025 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Upshur County. Gina Mitchell read the Proclamation to the Court. Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Miller to approve the Proclamation declaring May as Mental Health Awareness Month in Upshur County. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

6. 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 May 24, 2025 deadline.

Brandon Dodd was present to announce to the Court that he had a recommendation for the nomination to fill his vacancy on the Upshur County Appraisal District Board of Directors. He announced the name of Trey Behm as a possible nominee. Motion by Commissioner Nicholson with a second by Commissioner Dolle to approve the nomination of Trey Behm to fill the vacancy on the Upshur County Appraisal District Board of Directors. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

7. Discuss and take action to declare Upshur County as a Sanctuary County for the Unborn.

Judge Tefteller prepared a Resolution declaring Upshur County as a Sanctuary County for the Unborn. Commissioner Dolle read the Resolution (2025-09) to the Court. Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Dolle to approve the Resolution Declaring Upshur County as a Sanctuary County for the Unborn. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

8. Discuss and take action to approve the purchase of an X-Ray Inspection Machine for the Sheriff's Department (\$28,570.50) and approve payment out of Courthouse Security line item 200-409-5100.

Chief James Grunden requested the Court to approve the purchase of an X-Ray Inspection Machine to replace the one at the Justice Center that is no longer in operation. He explained that it was so old that they couldn't find parts nor anyone to work on it. The actual cost is \$32,120.50 which includes the machine, training, shipping, and set up. Auditor Connie Williams advised the Court that there were funds available from the courthouse security fund line item. Motion by Commissioner Dolle with a second by Commissioner Nicholson to approve the purchase of an X-Ray Inspection Machine for the Sheriff's Department at a maximum cost of \$32,200.00 to be paid out of the Courthouse Security line item 200-409-5100. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

9. Hear from Billy Byrd, District Attorney concerning the cost proposal for the purchase of E-Discovery for use by the DA's office. Discuss and take necessary action.

District Attorney Billy Byrd presented the Court with his request and need to approve the purchase of E-Discovery at a cost of \$42,131.00 for use by the DA's office in conjunction with the newly acquired Tyler Technologies Enterprise Justice software. Motion by Commissioner Nicholson with a second by Commissioner Miller to approve the request by Billy Byrd for the purchase of E-Discovery for use by the DA's office with authorization for Judge Tefteller to sign the contract for the purchase of this additional package. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

10. Discuss and take action to accept for recording the replat of Lot 1, Block 5 of the Gladeview Addition as shown on plat thereof recorded in Book recorded in Book 2, Page 174 of the Plat Records of Upshur County, Texas.

Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Miller to accept for recording the replat of Lot 1, Block 5 of the Gladeview Addition. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

11. Discuss and take action to approve the placing of "NO THRU TRUCKS" signs at both ends of Apple Tree and Ashley-Venn roads.

Commissioner Ashley presented the concerns and problems of trucks leaving the sawmill on Montgomery Street and traveling down Apple Tree and Ashley-Venn roads causing damage to the ditches and corners. Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Dolle to approve the placing of "NO THRU TRUCKS" signs at both ends of Apple Tree and Ashley-Venn roads. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

12. Hear from the Road & Bridge Administrator with an update of the County roads in each precinct.

Road and Bridge Administrator Phil Stegall was not present to update the Court regarding the county roads. 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);

B,C,D Section 551.0725 (deliberation and discussion of contracts being negotiated);

_____ Section 551.073 (deliberation about gifts and donations);

_____ 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 contract to purchase the X-Ray Inspection Machine for the Sheriff's Office.
- D. Discussion of contract or proposal for the purchase of E-Discovery for use by the DA's office.

The Court did not go into **CLOSED SESSION**.

14. The Court will re-convene into open session and take any action necessary as a result of Executive Session.

N/A

15. Adjourn.

Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Miller to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

ATTEST

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.