

**· COMMISSIONERS COURT OF UPSHUR COUNTY, TEXAS
MONDAY, JUNE 30, 2025
10:00 A.M. REGULAR SESSION**

A regular meeting of the Commissioners' Court of Upshur County, Texas was held on Monday, June 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
 Mike Ashley – Commissioner Pct. #3
 Jay W. Miller – Commissioner Pct. #4

Absent: Dustin Nicholson – Commissioner Pct. #2

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 Ashley.

2. Citizen comments. No comments.

2.1 Recitation of the Declaration of Independence. David Hagan, attorney, recited an abbreviated version of the Declaration of Independence to the Court.

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 Gab's Tree Service, Inc.; Contract for Medical Services (for Upshur County Jail); 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. Unanimous vote in favor.
(SEE ATTACHED)

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

No updates to report at this time.

- 5. Hear from Employee Benefits Consulting – EBC concerning the budget projection for the insurance fund and prescription savings alternatives (biosimilars and compounds). Discuss and take necessary action.**

Rachel Means and Paige Mendez were present with EBC to discuss the budget projection for the insurance fund and prescription savings alternatives (biosimilars and compounds). After discussion, Rachel Means announced to the Court that she would prepare and bring back to the Court, stop loss renewal; plan document language for the drugs; and communication program for the zero dollar (cash pay) procedures. No action.

- 6. Discuss and take action to re-appoint Mr. Richard Lively to the Community Healthcore Board of Trustees to serve a two-year term from September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2027.**

Commissioner Miller made a motion to re-appoint Mr. Richard Lively to the Community Healthcore Board of Trustees to serve a two-year term from September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2027 with a second by Commissioner Ashley. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

- 7. Discuss and take action to accept for recording the replat of the Eagle Creek Estates Subdivision and to remove the roads in this subdivision from the waiting period as the roads will be maintained by the HOA with Eagle Creek Dr. remaining a private road.**

Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Miller to accept for recording the replat of the Eagle Creek Estates Subdivision and to remove the roads in the subdivision from the waiting period as the roads will be maintained by the HOA with Eagle Creek Drive remaining a private road. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

- 8. Discuss and take action to approve a Proclamation celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the organization of Walnut Creek Baptist Church.**

Motion by Commissioner Miller with a second by Commissioner Dolle to approve a Proclamation celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the organization of Walnut Creek Baptist Church. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor. (Note: Judge Tefteller signed the Proclamation prior to approval of the Court and there is not a Proclamation to present to the Court).

- 9. Hear from Cynthia King concerning employment of a temporary part-time employee to work while the present part-time employee is on vacation. Discuss and take necessary action.**

Motion by Commissioner Dolle with a second by Commissioner Miller to approve employment of a temporary part-time employee to work while the present part-time employee is on vacation. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

- 10. Discuss and take action to approve an Interlocal Agreement between Morris County and Upshur County pertaining to the housing of Morris County inmates in the Upshur County Jail.**

Motion by Commissioner Dolle with a second by Commissioner Ashley to approve the Interlocal Agreement between Morris County and Upshur County pertaining to the housing of Morris County inmates in the Upshur County Jail. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

- 11. Discuss and take action to seek bids on a 66" smooth drum packer with canopy, back-up alarm, scraper bar, auto vibration, with a Deutx engine.**

Motion by Commissioner Dolle with a second by Commissioner Miller to authorize the Upshur County Road and Bridge Administrator to seek bids on a 66" smooth drum packer with canopy, back-up alarm, scraper bar, auto vibration, with a Deutx engine. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

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

Phil Stegall, Upshur County Road and Bridge Administrator gave an update to the Court regarding the work done and being done on the County roads in each precinct despite the hindrance of the rain.

- 13. Discuss the results of the Salary Analysis prepared by the Auditor's Office and discuss budgetary increases in the preceding 6 years to improve services provided by the County.**

Auditor Connie Williams presented a Salary Analysis (using the Salary Survey provided by Texas Association of Counties using 2023 budgets) to the Court comparing the Upshur County Elected and Appointed Officials with those of comparable size population counties and informed the Court that the Upshur County salaries are the lowest paid on the list of the 26 counties. The mean average is approximately \$25,000.00 less. She went into detail of salary increases approved by the Commissioner Courts dating back to 2015. She went on to say that the Commissioners have improved not only the salaries of the employees but also made investments for the citizens. Commissioners Court in the past 6 years have provided funds for the courthouse renovation match without going into debt; funded 3.1 million for the lease purchase of new election equipment and heavy equipment for road and bridge; added additional positions in the sheriff's office and jail; proposing the addition of two security officers; upgraded the critical software used by the County; and used 2.8 of

ARPA grants for Road and Bridge additional employees and materials. She also said that the County has obtained approximately 16.6 million in grants in the past 6 years between the ARPA grant, Corona Virus Relief grant, the SB22 grant, and the Texas Historical Commission grant. She appreciates the Commissioners moving the County forward. Commissioner Ashley pointed out that Upshur County is 35% total deficit compared to the other 26 counties.

- 14. Discuss and take action to appoint the Upshur County Tax Assessor to calculate the No-New Revenue Tax rate (NNR) and Voter Approval Tax Rate (VAT) and to submit the tax calculation to the Upshur County Appraisal District and post on the Upshur County website, as required by Tax Code 26.04.**

Motion by Commissioner Dolle with a second by Commissioner Ashley to appoint the Upshur County Tax Assessor to calculate the No-New Revenue Tax rate (NNR) and Voter Approval Tax Rate (VAT) and to submit the tax calculation to the Upshur County Appraisal District and post on the Upshur County website, as required by Tax Code 26.04. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

- 15. Discuss and take action on the FY26 Proposed Budget.**

No action.

- 16. 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,C **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. Consideration of contracts with Morris County to house inmates.**

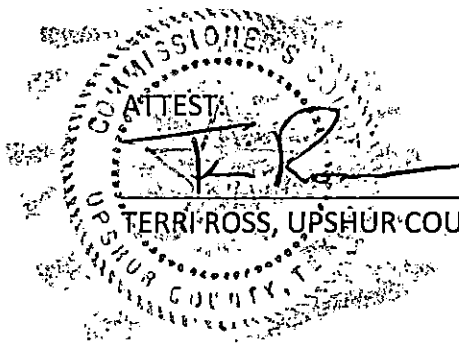
There is no need for the Court to go into **CLOSED SESSION**.

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

N/A

- 18. Adjourn.**

Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Dolle to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 4-0. Unanimous vote in favor. Meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

The seal of the Board of Commissioners for Upshur County, West Virginia, is a circular emblem. It features a central five-pointed star surrounded by a wreath. The words "BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS" are inscribed along the top inner edge, and "UPSHUR COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA" along the bottom inner edge. Overlaid on the seal is the word "ATTEST:" followed by a handwritten signature. Below the signature is a horizontal line, and underneath that line, the text "TERRI ROSS, UPSHUR COUNTY CLERK" is printed.

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.