

COMMISSIONERS COURT OF UPSHUR COUNTY, TEXAS
FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2026
10:00 A.M. REGULAR SESSION

AUDIO

A regular meeting of the Commissioners' Court of Upshur County, Texas was held on Friday, July 31, 2026 at 10:00 a.m., with the following members of the Court being present, to-wit:

Present: Todd Tefteller – Upshur 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.** Tommie Whitaker asked the Court for assistance with the repairs on Hollyhock Road as it was hard on the emergency vehicles that traveled that road.

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; Engagement Letter for Joint Legal Services – Regional Groundwater Conservation District Creation; and, applications for use of Upshur County roads and rights-of way and permit requests.

Commissioner Nicholson made a motion with a second by Commissioner Dolle to approve items 3A-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.**

Judge Tefteller announced that the new furniture was being delivered August 6th. Brandon Dodd made a comment in regards to his most recent visit to the Courthouse and commented that the craftsmanship in the building is second to none.

5. Hear a presentation from the Friends of the Library concerning the revitalization of the park at the Library. Discuss and take necessary action.

Mary Bullock was present to speak on behalf of the Friends of the Library as being the Treasurer of the Friends of the Library. She announced that they were seeking approval to do the revitalization of the park at the library. She further indicated that the maintenance will be covered by the Friends of the Library and they are getting some partnerships in the community through the Lions Club and Boy Scouts. She reiterated that they are simply seeking approval from the Commissioners Court so that they can move along with those projects. Motion by Commissioner Nicholson with a second by Commissioner Ashley to approve the revitalization of the park at the Library. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

6. Discuss and take action to approve and accept for recording the replat for [Cedarwoods Subdivision](#), Lots 3 and 4.

Motion by Commissioner Dolle with a second by Commissioner Nicholson to approve and accept for recording the replat for Cedarwoods Subdivision, Lots 3 and 4. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

7. Discuss and take action to approve and accept for recording the replat for [Lot 1 Blk 61, Big Sandy S109 \(A69\)](#).

Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Dolle to approve and accept for recording the replat for Lot 1 Blk 61, Big Sandy S109 (A69). Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

8. Discuss and take action to allow Gilmer FD the use of an UCSO VHF analog radio repeater that is no longer in use and is currently located on Simpson Mountain.

Sheriff Webb informed the Court that Fire Chief Billy Joe Williams had contacted him regarding the old VHF analog radio repeater on Simpson Mountain. Sheriff Webb advised the Court that when the Sheriff's Office went to a digital radio system in 2019, they turned this repeater off and it is no longer in use and cannot be used with the Sheriff's current system. Chief Billy Joe Williams informed the Court that the City of Gilmer needs a Fire Ground channel and back up repeater. Commissioner Nicholson made a motion with a second by Commissioner Ashley to donate the old VHF analog radio repeater that is located on Simpson Mountain to the City of Gilmer subject to the City of Gilmer accepting it. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

9. Discuss and take action to approve and accept the proposal from East Texas Flagpoles for

renovation of the flagpole at the Courthouse and to designate if the pole will be topped with only a ball or if it will be topped with an Eagle.

Kevin Crutsinger, Building Maintenance Supervisor, provided a quote to the Court from East Texas Flagpoles for renovation of the flagpole at the Courthouse. The quote was for \$17,188.83 with a ball as the topper or with a possible addition of \$1,612.93 for a 44" wingspan of an Eagle instead of the ball. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Dolle to approve and accept the bid in the amount of \$17,188.83 from East Texas Flagpoles for the renovation of the flagpole with the ball as the topper. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

10. Discuss and take action on the disbursement of available [school funds](#).

Brandy Vick, Treasurer, provided a breakdown of the disbursement of available school funds. Motion by Commissioner Nicholson with a second by Commissioner Dolle to disburse the amount of \$400,000.00 in available school funds to the Upshur County school districts as shown on the breakdown attached hereto. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

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

Phil Stegall, Road & Bridge Administrator, informed the Court that Bison Road in Precinct 4 is complete and that they are currently working on oiling 7 ½ miles of road in the County.

12. Discuss and take action to approve the refinance of the balloon payments due on 10/01/2026 for six (6) separate leases for Road and Bridge equipment – CAT Motor Graders (3), CAT Backhoes (2) and CAT Reclaimer (1) for a lease period of 5 years per the quotes provided by Investar Bank, N.A. and to approve signing of the lease contracts when received in October.

Motion by Commissioner Nicholson with a second by Commissioner Dolle to approve the refinance of the balloon payments due on October 1, 2026 for the six (6) separate leases for Road and Bridge equipment and to authorize the County Judge to sign the new lease contracts when received which are due on or before October 1, 2026. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

13. Discuss and take action to approve the filing of the FY 27 Proposed Budget with the County Clerk and post to the Upshur County website no later than August 14, 2026, in accordance with Local Government Code Chapter 152.

Motion by Commissioner Dolle with a second by Commissioner Ashley to approve the filing of the FY 27 Proposed Budget with the County Clerk and post to the Upshur County website no later than August 14, 2026, in accordance with Local Government Code Chapter 152. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

14. Discuss and take action on the FY 27 Proposed Budget.

Auditor Connie Williams informed the Court that there was one additional request that came in from JP Precinct #1 for a part time clerk @ \$24,000.00/year and to work at a max of not more than 30 hours. Auditor Williams commented that given the other issues that we are facing this year, her opinion is to revisit this request next year. It was the consensus of the Court that this request not be granted for this year's budget.

15. 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. Consider Departmental requests, if any, that include personnel assignments or any contracts under negotiation.**

The Court was in consensus not to go into CLOSED SESSION.

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

N/A

17. Adjourn.

Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Dolle to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:42 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.