

COMMISSIONERS COURT OF UPSHUR COUNTY, TEXAS
FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 2026
10:00 A.M. REGULAR SESSION

AUDIO

A regular meeting of the Commissioners' Court of Upshur County, Texas was held on Friday, August 14, 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 10:02 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 public comment.

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; Order Setting Salaries of the Upshur County Auditor and Assistant Auditors; Copy of invoice from Custom K Welding & Fencing for 2.78 miles of fencing on Upshur County School Land; 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.

Pass at this time at the request of Judge Tefteller.

16. Discuss and take action to approve the FY 27 PROPOSED property tax rate by RECORD VOTE. The Proposed Tax Rate is \$0.514 which is the Current Tax Rate.

Record vote to approve the FY 27 PROPOSED property tax rate at \$0.514/\$100 as follows:

Commissioner #1 Gene Dolle	-	YAY
Commissioner #2 Dustin Nicholson	-	YAY
Commissioner #3 Michael Ashley	-	YAY
Commissioner #4 Jay W. Miller	-	YAY
Judge Todd Tefteller	-	YAY

17. Discuss and possibly take action on the FY 27 Proposed Budget.

There was no need for discussion as to changes to the FY 27 Proposed Budget.

18. Discuss and take action to schedule the Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget for August 31, 2026 at 10 a.m. in the Upshur County Courtroom.

Motion by Commissioner Nicholson with a second by Commissioner Dolle to schedule the Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget for August 31, 2026 at 10 a.m. in the Upshur County Courtroom. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

19. Discuss and take action to schedule the Public Hearing on the Tax Increase (any rate above the No-New Revenue Rate) for September 15, 2026 at 10 a.m. in the Upshur County Courtroom.

Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Dolle to schedule the Public Hearing on the Tax Increase for September 15, 2026 at 10 a.m. in the Upshur County Courtroom. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

5. Discuss and take action to approve a [Contract for Fines and Fees](#) Collection Services between Upshur County and Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP for collection of unpaid fines, fees and court costs owed to the Upshur County District Clerk and Upshur County Clerk.

Judge Tefteller called a public hearing at 10:21 a.m.

Staci Killingsworth and Barbara Taylor were present with Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP. Staci Killingsworth explained the proposal of the Contract for Fines and Fees Collection Services between Upshur County and the Linebarger firm. Motion by Commissioner Nicholson with a second by Commissioner Dolle to approve the Contract for Fines and Fees Collection Services between Upshur County and Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP for collection of unpaid fines, fees and court costs owed to the Upshur County District Clerk and Upshur County Clerk. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

Judge Tefteller closed the public hearing at 10:29 a.m.

6. Discuss and take action to approve the continuation of the imposition of the optional motor vehicle fees of County Road and Bridge Fee and Child Safety Fee for the Calendar Year 2027.

Judge Tefteller announced that the County is currently collecting \$10.00 for the Road and Bridge Fee and \$1.00 for the Child Safety Fee which goes to the Martin House. Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Dolle to approve the continuation of the imposition of the optional motor vehicle fees of County Road and Bridge Fee and Child Safety Fee for the Calendar Year 2027. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

7. Discuss and take action to approve the transfer of a zero-turn Gravelly ZT XL-42 (model 915206, Serial No. 040120) from the maintenance department to the Upshur County Sheriff's Office.

Kevin Crutsinger, Building Maintenance Supervisor, announced that they had a mower that is not being used by his department and reached out to the Sheriff to see if they could use it. Motion by Commissioner Nicholson with a second by Commissioner Dolle to approve the transfer of a zero-turn Gravelly ZT XL-42 (model 915206, Serial No. 040120) from the Maintenance Department to the Upshur County Sheriff's Office. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

8. Discuss and take action to approve a new School Resource Officer (SRO) [Interlocal Agreement](#) for Harmony ISD.

Sheriff Webb informed the Court that Harmony ISD is adding a stipend to the contract on top of what the base pay yearly salary is for their School Resource Officer. Motion by Commissioner Dolle with a second by Commissioner Ashley to approve the new School Resource Officer (SRO) Interlocal Agreement for Harmony ISD. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

9. Discuss and take action to approve the revised floor plan and office assignments for the Upshur County Courthouse.

Motion by Commissioner Dolle with a second by Commissioner Ashley to approve the revised floor plan and office assignments for the Upshur County Courthouse. Commissioner Miller announced that he had not seen the revised floor plan. Auditor Connie Williams suggested that the matter be tabled until everyone has received a copy of the revised floor plan and office assignments. All commissioners were in agreement to table the matter at this time.

10. Discuss and take action to approve the [Order of Election](#) for the November 3, 2026 General Election.

Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Nicholson to approve the Order of Election for the November 3, 2026 General Election. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

- 11. Discuss and take action to [appoint the election judges](#) and alternate election judges for the 2026-2028 term beginning September 1, 2026.**

Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Dolle to appoint the election judges and alternate election judges for the 2026-2028 term beginning September 1, 2026 as provided by Lory Harle, Elections Administrator, and shown on the list attached hereto. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

- 12. Discuss and take action to set the [early voting times and locations](#) for the November 3, 2026 General Election.**

Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Nicholson to set the early voting times and locations for the November 3, 2026 General Election as set out on the attachment provided by the Elections Administrator. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

- 13. Discuss and take action to set the [election day polling locations](#) for the November 3, 2026 General Election.**

Motion by Commissioner Nicholson with a second by Commissioner Dolle to set the election day polling locations for the November 3, 2026 General Election as set out on the attachment provided by the Elections Administrator. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

- 14. Discuss and take action to set Sheriffs' and Constables' Fees for 2027.**

Sheriff Larry Webb announced to the Court that he was not requesting any changes to the current Sheriffs' and Constables' Fees for the year 2027. Motion by Commissioner Nicholson with a second by Commissioner Dolle to approve no change to the current Sheriffs' and Constables' Fees for 2027. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

- 15. Discuss and take action to terminate the [burn ban](#), allow it to continue as it is presently issued or to extend the burn ban due to the continued need of the unincorporated areas of the County for protection from outdoor burning.**

Ron Cook spoke in regards to his concern with terminating the burn ban with everything being so dry in his area. He asked the Court to continue the burn ban. Motion by Commissioner Nicholson with a second by Commissioner Dolle to continue the burn ban as it is presently issued until the next Commissioners Court date or until the Court decides to lift it if we get more rain. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

- 20. 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,D Section 551.0725 (deliberation and discussion of contracts being negotiated);

 Section 551.073 (deliberation about gifts and donations);

 C,D 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.

D. Consideration of the IT Consulting Contract.

The Court went into CLOSED SESSION at 10:58 a.m.

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

The Court re-convened into OPEN SESSION at 11:32 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Nicholson with a second by Commissioner Dolle to take item 9) off the table and put back on the agenda. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor. Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Dolle to approve the [revised floor plan](#) and office assignments for the Upshur County Courthouse. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Nicholson with a second by Commissioner Miller to increase the compensation to the IT contractor, Gilmer Computer Tech, from \$60,000/year to \$72,000/year effective October 1, 2026. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

22. Adjourn.

Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Miller to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0. Unanimous vote in favor. Meeting adjourned at 11:35 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.