

COMMISSIONERS COURT OF UPSHUR COUNTY, TEXAS
MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2026
10:00 A.M. REGULAR SESSION

A regular meeting of the Commissioners' Court of Upshur County, Texas was held on Monday, June 15, 2026 at 10:02 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
Mike Ashley – Commissioner Pct. #3
Absent: Dustin Nicholson – Commissioner Pct. #2
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 Ashley.

2. Citizen comments. Byron Hardin spoke to the Court regarding the consideration of the creation of a Regional Groundwater Conservation District. He highlighted topics recently addressed in the adopted 2026 Region D Water Plan.

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 Material Resources, Inc.; 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 3-0. Unanimous vote in favor.
(SEE ATTACHED)

Judge Tefteller contacted Commissioner Nicholson by telephone to take action on the following item.

10. Discuss and take action to publish notice of any proposed salary increases for elected officials and precinct officers.

Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Dolle to approve publishing notice to propose salary increases for elected officials and precinct officers to \$1,200.00 annually and to publish giving the District Judge an annual stipend of \$5,500.00 in addition to his pay and to move the retirement reimbursement from 1.5/1 to 2/1. Voting as follows:

Commissioner Dolle	Yay
Commissioner Nicholson	Yay
Commissioner Ashley	Yay
Judge Tefteller	Yay

Motion passes; 4 for and 0 against.

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

No updates to discuss.

5. Discuss and take action to approve Cynthia King's applying for a grant that will cover partial reimbursement costs for resource sharing Inter-Library Loan books, postage and fees associated with sending items to other libraries.

Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Dolle to approve Cynthia King's applying for a grant that will cover partial reimbursement costs for resource sharing Inter-Library Loan books, postage and fees associated with sending items to other libraries. Motion carried 3-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

6. Discuss and take action to approve Mrs. King's request to lower the age of volunteers from 14 to 12 years of age.

Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Dolle to approve Mrs. King's request to lower the age of volunteers from 14 to 12 years of age. Motion carried 3-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

7. Discuss and take action to accept for recording the plat for Bluebird Addition subdivision.

Motion by Commissioner Dolle with a second by Commissioner Ashley to accept for recording the plat for Bluebird Addition subdivision. Motion carried 3-0. Unanimous vote in favor.

Citizens comments:

Mandi Mischnick spoke to the Court in regards to the concerns of the Pleasant Grove community in regards to the commercial poultry barns being built at the end of Bamboo road. She announced that the community has concerns regarding the damage to the roads due to the poultry barns' traffic. She further spoke in regards to the trucks exceeding the weight limit for these roads. She

asked that the Court take action and set and post weight limits for Bamboo and Birch roads. She presented a petition to the Court from the members of the community to ask the Court to take action regarding these issues.

Panda Martin also spoke in regards to her concerns with the property next to hers where there is a poultry barn under construction. She voiced her concerns regarding the noise and traffic on these roads by these trucks. She also requested the Court to take action regarding this matter.

9. Discuss and possibly take further action on departmental requests presented at the 05/28/2026 Budget Workshop or any subsequent additional requests for the FY 27 Budget.

No discussion.

8. DISCUSSION ONLY:

Discuss the interest of Upshur County in joining a multi-county effort to create a Regional Groundwater Conservation District along with 15 other Northeast Texas counties.

Brandon Dodd spoke to the Court giving them the background information which has resulted in the creation of a Regional Groundwater Conservation District. He informed the Court that when the battle for surface water was going on at Lake of the Pines and Caddo Lake, Jay Dean and his team discovered verbiage in a 1500 page report that was being worked on by the State of Texas that laid out the bigger part of their plan as to get water to North Texas and that was to drill a series of deep water wells (31 here in Upshur County). He went on to say that all of which would tie into a 90 inch pipeline that already sits at the base of the dam at Lake Fork and would pipe that water directly to North Texas. He said that the Supreme Court issued a ruling in 1904 that stated water is part of the surface estate. One way to combat that statute is to create Water Districts. He further stated that this would allow regulating what water leaves this County and to ensure that the taxpayer is reimbursed for what the District would allow to leave. Mr. Dodd further stated that he has met with these other 15 counties and they would like to have Upshur County join with them in this Regional Groundwater Conservation District. Judge Tefteller stated that he was in favor of joining in with these other counties to create the Regional Groundwater Conservation District. Byron Hardin suggested that the Court form a committee of citizens and stakeholders that represent Upshur County to provide that much needed input as they move forward with these discussions with these other regions.

11. 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);

_____ **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. Consideration Departmental requests, if any, that include personnel assignments or any contracts under negotiation.**

The Court went into CLOSED SESSION at 10:53 a.m.

- 12. 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 11:24 a.m.

There was no action as a result of CLOSED SESSION.

- 13. Adjourn.**

Motion by Commissioner Ashley with a second by Commissioner Dolle to adjourn. Motion carried 3-0. Unanimous vote in favor. Meeting adjourned.



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.