

# Taylor County Commissioners' Court

August 26, 2025

The Commissioners' Court of Taylor County met in Regular Session on August 26, 2025, with the following members present:

1. Phil Crowley, County Judge
2. Randall D. Williams, Commissioner, Precinct 1
3. Kyle Kendrick, Commissioner, Precinct 2
4. Brad Birchum, Commissioner, Precinct 3
5. Chuck Statler, Commissioner, Precinct 4

At which the following motions were heard:

1. **Judge Crowley convened the Court in open session at 9:00 a.m.**

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2. **Invocation and Pledge**

A) Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to United States Flag and Texas Flag

John Shephard, North Park Assembly of God gave the invocation and Commissioner Kendrick led the Court in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flags of the United States of America and the State of Texas.

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3. **Consider approval of Minutes and Adopt the Agenda.**

A) Consider approval of previous meeting minutes.

Commissioner Kendrick made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular session held on August 12, 2024, and to adopt the agenda for the meeting of August 26, 2025, as printed and posted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams and carried unanimously.

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4. **Public Comment Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.007 of items listed on this agenda.**

A) Public Comment Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.007 of items listed on this agenda.

No one wished to speak

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5. **Public Hearing**

A) Convene in a Public Hearing for the FY2026 Budget

No one wished to speak

B) Convene in a Public Hearing for the 2025 Proposed Tax Rate.

No one wished to speak

C) RECONVENE in Regular Session

Commissioner Williams made a motion to RECONVENE in Regular Session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kendrick and carried unanimously.

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6. **Financial/Budget**

A) Consider approval of bills for payment and ratify payroll and any appropriate action.

Commissioner Statler made a motion to approve payment of bills and ratify payroll. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kendrick and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

1. General Fund
2. JP 1-2 Tech Fees
3. JP 2 Sec Fees
4. ARPA Local
5. Election Contracts
6. Co Law Lib Fund
7. Juvenile Local
8. Jail Commissary
9. Juvenile TDA Grant
10. Road and Bridge
11. Historic CH Rest
12. State Fees
13. Self-Insurance
14. Employee Benefit
15. Other-Self Ins
16. Payroll Clearing

B) Consider approval of the July 2025 Treasurer's Report and any appropriate action. (Becky Freeman)

Commissioner Birchum made a motion to approve of the July 2025 Treasurer's Report as presented by Mrs. Feeman. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kendrick and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

- C) Receive 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Investment Report from County Treasurer. (Becky Freeman)

No Motions Needed

- D) Discuss and Consider Opioid Settlement funds for related programs at Betty Hardwick Center and any appropriate action. (Presentation Jenny Goode-Betty Harwick CEO)

Judge Crowley made a motion to place \$100,000.00 of Opioid Settlement funds towards the programs at Betty Hardwick Center. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kendrick and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

- E) Discuss and Consider approval of the FY2026 Proposed Budget Revisions and any appropriate action. (Elijah Anderson)

Commissioner Birchum made a motion to approve of the changes noted from the proposed budget as outlined by Mr. Anderson. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kendrick and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

- F) Consider adoption of setting salaries for Elected Officials for the Fiscal Year 2026 and any appropriate action. (Judge Crowley/Elijah Anderson)

Commissioner Birchum made a motion to approve setting salaries for Taylor County Elected Officials as previously advertised in the newspaper of regular circulation of this county. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Staler and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

- G) Consider approval and adopt the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget and any appropriate action. (Elijah Anderson)

Commissioner Birchum made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget as presented with a combined fund summary provided, the budget includes the following expense amounts by fund type; General fund at \$88,515,400.00, Road and Bridge at \$6,749,856.00, and debt service at \$5,710,398.00, all other funds being \$18,166,546.00, this represents a total county budget for the fiscal year 2026 \$119,141,930.00 The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Williams, Yes, Commissioner Kendrick, Yes, Commissioner Birchum, Yes, Commissioner Statler, Yes, Judge Crowley, Yes

- H) Consider approval of ratifying property tax rate reflected in the Adopted Fiscal Year 2026 Budget and any appropriate action. (Elijah Anderson)

Commissioner Statler made a motion to approve of ratifying property tax rate reflected in the Adopted Fiscal Year 2026 Budget; 52.01 Proposed General, 3.77 proposed debt service for a total of 55.78. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Birchum and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

- I) Consider adoption and order setting the Tax Rate for Maintenance and Operations and Interest and Sinking for Tax Rate 2025 and any appropriate action.

Commissioner Birchum made a motion that the Tax Rate will be increased by the adoption of the tax rate at 55.78 cents which is effectively at 5.68% increase in the Tax Rate . The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

Roll Call Vote for Maintenance and Operations at 52.01%: Commissioner Williams, Yes, Commissioner Kendrick, Yes, Commissioner Birchum, Yes, Commissioner Statler, Yes, Judge Crowley, Yes

Roll Call Vote for Interest and Sinking Rate at 3.77 cents: Commissioner Williams, Yes, Commissioner Kendrick, Yes, Commissioner Birchum, Yes, Commissioner Statler, Yes, Judge Crowley, Yes

- J) Consider approval of contract with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services to extend participation in the Title IV-E grant program and any appropriate action. (Elijah Anderson)

Commissioner Birchum made a motion to approve of contract with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services to extend participation in the Title IV-E grant program as outlined by Mr. Anderson and allow Judge Crowley to sign the contract. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

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7. **General Business**

- A) Consider approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with all VFD's and City of Tye for fire protection services in Taylor County and any appropriate action. (Frank Stamey/Tamra Lewis)

Commissioner Kendrick made a motion to approve of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with all VFD's and City of Tye and allow Judge Crowley to sign on the behalf of the County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Birchum and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

- B) Consider approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with outside agencies and any appropriate action. (Frank Stamey/Tamra Lewis)

Commissioner Kendrick made a motion to approve of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) as presented by Mr. Stamey and allow Judge Crowley to sign on behalf of the County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Birchum and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

- C) Consider approval of Texans Feeding Texans Grant Resolutions FY2026 for Meals on Wheels Plus, Inc. and Rural Taylor County Aging Program and any appropriate action. (Tamra Lewis)

Commissioner Statler made a motion to approve of Texans Feeding Texans Grant Resolutions FY2026 for Meals on Wheels Plus, Inc. and Rural Taylor County Aging Program and allow Judge Crowley to sign on the behalf of the Commissioners Court. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

- D) Consider approval of the Interlocal Agreement with Texas Department of Family Protective Services for Project Coordinator Position at the local office to assist placement of children and any appropriate action. (Tamra Lewis)

Commissioner Kendrick made a motion to approve of the Interlocal Agreement with Texas Department of Family Protective Services for Project Coordinator Position at the local office to assist placement of children as presented and allow Judge Crowley to sign the agreement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Birchum and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

- E) Consider approval of setting the FY2026 Sheriff and Constable fee schedule and any appropriate action. (Sheriff Ricky Bishop)

Commissioner Kendrick made a motion to approve of setting the FY2026 Sheriff and Constable fee schedule as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Birchum and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

- F) Consider approval of Renewal of the Inmate Housing Agreement with Garza County and any appropriate action. (Sheriff Ricky Bishop)

Commissioner Birchum made a motion to approve of the Renewal of the Inmate Housing Agreement with Garza County and authorize Judge Crowley to sign the agreement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

- G) Consider approval of Presiding and Alternate Judges for Countywide Polling Places for the period September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026 and any appropriate action. (Freda Regan)

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Commissioner Birchum made a motion to approve of the Presiding and Alternate Judges for Countywide Polling Places for the period September 1, 2025, through August 31, 2026. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kendrick and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

- H) Consider approval of Election Day Countywide Polling Places for the November 4, 2025 Statewide Constitutional Amendment and Special Elections and any appropriate action. (Freda Regan)

Commissioner Birchum made a motion to approve of the Election Day Countywide Polling Places for the November 4, 2025, Statewide Constitutional Amendment and Special Elections as outlined and detailed by Mrs. Regan, our Elections Administrator. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kendrick and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

- I) Consider approval of proposed 2026 Holidays and any appropriate action. (Judge Phil Crowley)

Commissioner Birchum made a motion to approve the Holidays for 2026. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kendrick and carried unanimously. [Exhibit]

- J) Discuss drought conditions and consider implementing a burn ban and any appropriate action. (Judge Phil Crowley)

Commissioner Statler made a motion to take no action. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kendrick and carried unanimously.

Chief Gary Young spoke on behalf of Rural Firefighter Association.

Kyle Kendrick, Commissioner, Precinct 2, left the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

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**8. Purchasing, Bids, RFQ's, RFP's, Surplus**

- A) Consider changes to the Purchasing Policy to align with new regulations in the Local Government Code, effective September 1, 2025, and take any appropriate action. (Scott Henderson)

Commissioner Birchum made a motion to approve the Purchasing Policy to align with new regulations in the Local Government Code, effective September 1, 2025. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams and carried with a 4-0 vote. [Exhibit]

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9. **Executive Closed Session**

A) CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION In accordance with Government Code 551.074, regarding Personnel Matters and in accordance with Government Code 551.071, regarding consultation with an attorney on pending or contemplated litigation and a settlement offer.

Commissioner Birchum made a motion to CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Statler and carried with a 4-0 vote, Court Convened in Executive session at 9:59 a.m..

B) RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION and any appropriate action.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Birchum and carried with a 4-0 vote, Court Reconvened at 10:22 a.m..

No Action Taken

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10. **Adjourn**

Commissioner Williams made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Birchum and carried with a 4-0 vote. The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

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The foregoing Minutes have been examined, read and approved this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of September 2025.

*Brandi DeRomer*  
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County Clerk, Taylor County, Texas

*Phil Hawley*  
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County Judge, Taylor County, Texas

*My Wallace*

