

Grimes County Commissioners Court

Chad Mallett
Commissioner, Precinct #1

David Tullos
Commissioner, Precinct #2



Michael Raska
Commissioner, Precinct #3

Phillip Cox
Commissioner, Precinct #4

Joe Fauth III
Grimes County Judge
270 FM 149 W.
Anderson, Texas 77830

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting are as follows:

Call to Order

THE STATE OF TEXAS ~ COUNTY OF GRIMES ~ BE IT REMEMBERED, that on November 19, 2025 at 09:00 AM there was a Commissioners Court Regular Meeting Part One of Grimes County, Texas at the Grimes County Justice Center, 270 FM 149 W., Anderson, Texas with the following members present:

Present:

Chad Mallett, David Tullos, Michael Raska, Phillip Cox

Absent:

Joe Fauth

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag

Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag

Public Comments

We look forward to hearing from the citizens of Grimes County. If you wish to make public comments you will need to submit a Public Participation Form prior to the start of the meeting and give it to the County Clerk. Public comments will be limited to 2 minutes per person.

One Public Comment - Ms. Ever Johnson: Speaking on behalf of the Blackberry Community. When will paving of roads be completed and also Emergency Evacuation. No emergency outlet. Prior use of CR 208 but all property has sold which is fenced in.

Commissioner Cox Precinct 3 - A special thank you to the Navasota Examiner and Crime Stoppers Organization for highlighting of illegal dumping on CR 403. A tremendous amount of tires were dumped which is very costly to the County to clean up. Also a thank you to the Sheriff's Dept and to Road and Bridge for their work thus far trying to resolve the issue. Hoping for some leads from citizens. Illegal dumping is a problem throughout the county.

Commissioner Mallett Precinct 1 - Congratulations to the Iola Volleyball team. They will be playing for the State title, Thursday Nov. 20th @ 7:00 pm

Consent Agenda Items

Motion by Phillip Cox to Approve Consent Agenda Items 1-3. Seconded by David Tullos.

In Favor: 4
Opposed: 0
Motion Passed

1. Consider and take action to approve the Treasurer's List of Claims and Bills.
2. Consider and take action to approve payroll.
3. Consider and take action to approve Budget Amendments and/or Line-Item Transfers.

Presentation of Employee Service Awards.

4. Consider and recognize the following employees for their years of service:

5 YEARS

Jose Vasquez

Jon Steiber presented Employee Service Award to Jose Vasquez for 5 years of service.

Presentation of Monthly Departmental Reports:

5. Elections (*rescheduled from 11/05/2025*), Veterans Services, 911/Environmental, Emergency Management Services
Elections Administrator - Rachel Walker rescheduled from the Nov 5th meeting due to election on Nov. 4th. Current voter registration 21,398. 559 DPS Applications. 36 Mail in applications. 16 Walk in applications. 39 app ballot by mail recvd. 18 app ballot by mail mailed. 30 notice of incomplete. 10 notice of cancellation. 6 abstracts of death. 4 open record requests. 22 total certified VDR's. Mailed 55 ballots to eligible voters, published necessary legal notices in the Navasota Examiner, conducted election staff training, 30 in attendance, finalized all election equipment and supplies necessary of election, setup 2 Early Voting locations and 5 additional election day locations with the help of the Diversion Crew, conducted Early Voting from Oct 20 - 31st - Polls open total of 96 hours, 1433 in-person Early Voting ballots cast, Early Voting Ballot Board met to qualify 9 mail in ballots.
Attended 10 Secretary of State training webinars.
Veterans Services - Jay Lafferty. 21 phone calls, 8 office visits and 2 email situations. Assisted a veteran that was working the polls with an issue he needed help with.

Presentation of Monthly Commissioners Court Liaison Reports:

6. County Judge: Maintenance, HR, IT, Emergency Management, Road & Bridge, Veterans Services, Elections, Navasota Grimes County Chamber of Commerce;

Commissioner Pct. 2: Animal Shelter, Historical Commission, Navasota Grimes County Chamber of Commerce, Bluebonnet Groundwater Conservation District Board;

Commissioner Pct. 3: 911 Addressing/Permits/Environmental/Solid Waste, BVCOG Solid Waste Advisory Committee;

Commissioner Pct. 4: Fairgrounds, Hospital Contracts, EMS Services, Health Resource Center, Fleet Maintenance Committee

Commissioner Raska - All of his Departments are still in the reorganization phase.

Commissioner Cox - Fairgrounds events - 4 meetings, 1 private event and the food pantry. Upcoming events are the Plantersville-Stoneham Bunch fund raiser Nov 20th. Food for Families Food Drive is December 3rd. 3 private events, 2 meetings and a Ranch Rodeo with educational speaker Nov 29th.

Upcoming maintenance - begin work on upgrading Main Hall bathrooms, RV electrical upgrades, HVAC

repair and replace in the Go Texan Bldg

Ambulance report - Ren Fest 960 patients treated, most seen in one day 140, transported 19 to the hospital, 12 patients tagged yellow or emergent

911 Responses - 918 Nov statistics, Ambulances posted in Grimes County Level 1 or 0, 39 times.

911 Oct statistics, Ambulances posted in Grimes County Level 1 or 0, 40 times

Grimes County Historical Commission Chairman - Kathy Cave Wells (DT)

7. Discuss and take action to authorize the historical commission to act on and apply for grant opportunities for the restoration of the Steinhagen log cabin and Boggess store.
Historical Commission Chairman - Kathy Cave Wells. The Historical Commission plans to restore the Steinhagen Log Cabin and the Boggess Store. Asking Commissioners Court for 3 things:
 1. When the grant opportunity opens, Grimes County Historical Commission would like to apply for the Preservation Texas subgrant for log building preservation projects in rural communities with all awarded funds to be used to restore the Steinhagen Log Cabin.
 2. Grimes Historical Commission would like to set aside \$50,000 of its own funds to apply for the 1 to 1 matching grant from the Texas Historical Commission to fund a concrete pad ahead of the Boggess store mini restoration. A motion should state than non-matched GCHC funds will be returned to our general fund.
 3. Grimes Historical Commission would like to apply for The Texas Historical Commission grant for preservation projects form the Texas Preservation Trust Fund to fund a concrete pad ahead of the Boggess store mini restoration using matching funds up to \$50,000Motion by David Tullos to Approve to authorize the Grimes County Historical Commission to apply for grants from Preservation Texas, and the The Texas Preservation Trust Fund Grant Program to restore the Steinhagen log cabin and the Boggess Store and to reserve up to \$50,000 dollars in matching funds for the purpose of the grant applications. Seconded by Michael Raska.

In Favor: 4

Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

Grimes County Elections Administrator - Rachel Walker (JF)

Elections Administrator - Rachel Walker

8. Consider and take action to partner with Grimes County local school districts to utilize county election equipment for student body elections, with the condition that the Elections Department will host and oversee these elections to ensure the security and integrity of county election equipment.
Elections Administrator - Rachel Walker. The goal of the initiative is to provide a civic learning experience so students have a better understanding of how voting works in the real world. This gives them the an opportunity to use the same equipment as their parents use in elections. Strengthening respect of our democracy and encouraging future participation. The plan while visiting high school campuses is to hand out voter registrations to those students that are eligible to vote.
Motion by Phillip Cox to Approve to partner with Grimes County local school districts to utilize county election equipment for student body elections with the condition that the Elections Department will host and oversee these elections to ensure the security and integrity of county election equipment. Seconded by Chad Mallett.

In Favor: 4

Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

Grimes County Tax Assessor-Collector - Mary Ann Waters (JF)

9. Discuss and take action to approve the renewal of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department County Boat Agent Agreement.
Grimes County Tax Assessor-Collector- Mary Ann Waters was not available for the meeting. County

Auditor Jessie Murphy spoke on her behalf. This is the standard agreement for her office to do boat license and registration.

Motion by David Tullos to Approve the renewal of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department County Boat Agreement and authorize the County Judge as signatory. Seconded by Phillip Cox.

In Favor: 4

Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

Grimes County Facilities Director - Rodney Floyd (PC)

10. Discuss and take action to approve agreement between Entergy and Grimes County.
Grimes County Facility Director - Rodney Floyd. Agreement between Entergy and the County to use the front parking lot of the Fairgrounds in case of a natural disaster. To use as a staging area for their equipment while responding. There has not been a written agreement in the past. It has been forward to the County Attorney for her review.
Motion by Phillip Cox to Approve Agreement between Entergy and Grimes County. Seconded by Michael Raska.

In Favor: 4

Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

Grimes County IT Director - Gregg Cannon (DT/JF)

11. Discuss and take action to raise the credit limit on the county Amazon account.
Grimes County IT Director - Gregg Cannon. Amazon has a \$25,000 credit limit. At the end of budget cycle many purchases are being made which hinders purchases because of the credit limit. County Auditor Jessie Murphy stated that her office has made sure that all payments have been applied correctly. She is also asking that if this arises in the future that it can be handled without bringing it before the Court.
No action taken.
12. Discuss and take action on where to secure funds to purchase PCs, due to industry price increases.
Grimes County IT Director - Gregg Cannon. Pricing on PC's continues to rise above the costs that were budgeted. Also with changes in technology also drives up the price. Original budget of \$61,000 estimated cost to replace has gone up to \$79,456.88. Commissioner Mallett asked if this will deplete his budget now or by the end of the budget year. Also could he bring this back before the Court as his funds are being depleted.
No action taken.
13. Discuss and take action to approve the Stargel printer maintenance contract.
Grimes County IT Director - Gregg Cannon. Currenty the county has approximately 85 printers and 35 copy machines. Maintenance agreement with Stargel to maintain printers. Employees will contact Stargel directly with any issues. They will also provide toner for all machines. The County Attorney Megan Barcak was sent the contract to review and had some changes that need to be made. Mr. Cannon will go back to Stargel with the changes made by the County Attorney. This agenda item will be brought back before the Court at a later time.
No action taken.
14. Discuss and take action to approve the addition of LGS District Clerk Jury Application software.
Grimes County IT Director - Gregg Cannon. The District Clerk is asking to add into their LGS contract which allows them to use their Voter Registration module. They are currently using TEAMS which is an application from the State, but it is being revised. The new migration is very cumbersome and has a lot of problems.
Motion by Phillip Cox to Approve the addition of LGS District Clerk Jury Application software. Seconded by David Tullos.

In Favor: 4
Opposed: 0
Motion Passed

Grimes County Sheriff's Office - Chief Deputy Martha Smith (JF)

15. Consider and take action to approve the License Plate Readers/Speed Systems Multi Use Agreement and authorize the County Judge as signatory.
Grimes County Sheriff's Dept - Chief Deputy Martha Smith. Agreement between the Sheriff's office and TxDot. Agreement was returned with the revisions the County Attorney asked to be made.
Motion by Phillip Cox to Approve the License Plate Readers/Speed Systems Multi Use Agreement and authorize the County Judge as signatory. Seconded by Michael Raska.

In Favor: 4
Opposed: 0
Motion Passed

16. Consider and take action to approve the request to apply for a Grant with the Office of the Governor. The grant title is Public Safety Vehicle Protection Program. The fund source is LC - Bullet resistant components for law enforcement vehicles. The OOG Solicitation is FY 2026 bullet-resistant components for law enforcement vehicles.
Grimes County Sheriff's Dept - Chief Deputy Martha Smith. Asking Court to approve the Resolution to allow the Sheriff's Dept to apply for the grant for the bullet resistant windows and panels for 25 vehicles.
Motion by Phillip Cox to Approve the request to apply for a Grant with the Office of the Governor. The grant title is Public Safety Vehicle Protection Program. The fund source is LC - Bullet resistant components for law enforcement vehicles. Seconded by David Tullos.

In Favor: 4
Opposed: 0
Motion Passed

Grimes County Emergency Management Services Coordinator - Dione Bumpous (JF)

17. Discuss and take action on Memorandum of Understanding between Grimes County and United Way.
Grimes County Emergency Management Services Coordinator - Dione Bumpous is not available. Sent an updated Memorandum of Understanding. The County Attorney stated she did review the MOU and there are no changes.
Motion by Chad Mallett to Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Grimes County and United Way. Seconded by Phillip Cox.

In Favor: 4
Opposed: 0
Motion Passed

Grimes County Engineer - Jon Steiber (JF/CM/JF/DT/JF)

18. Road Department Report

Grimes County Engineer- Jon Steiber. Held asphalt zipper training on 2 roads. Planning projects to start using the zipper for subgrade stabilization. Demonstration of the wheel loader. TAC Engineers and Road Administrators Conference attended by Jon Steiber, Patty Ermis, Shawn King and Ben Napier. Issued 25 new addresses in October. 19 new addresses since Oct 31st. Solid Waste and Environmental - Collection Sites improvements. Evaluating a point of sales system using credit cards. This will be tested at the Bedia location. 44 OSF permits issued, 2 modifications, 1 being commercial, 426 maintenance inspection reports, 193 maint. track & fee invoices, 182 new maintenance contracts. Grants for Brosig Avenue Bridge will be bidding before the end of the year.

19. Discuss the draft Amended Floodplain Order and the revised Floodplain Development Permit Application. Grimes County Engineer - Jon Steiber. Mr. Steiber, Engineering firms, Texas Water Development Board, working on revised flood plain order and ready to submit to Commissioners Court. Key changes are order applies to all areas of Grimes County, require a flood plain development permit for any type of development common for counties with rapid growth, Variance procedures have been updated, requirements for fill being or not being used to elevate structures in the flood plain, increased the free board for structures from 1 ft above base elevation to 2 ft above. Required structures outside of the flood plain to be elevated above adjacent grade or above the crown of the street, and added some requirements for fill in the flood plain and clarified penalties for noncompliance. Post to our website for one month and bring this back before Court for final discussion the end of December and adopt the regulations at the first regular meeting in January 2026. No action taken.
20. Discuss and take action to modify the County's contract with the GLO regarding the CDBG Hurricane Harvey Reallocation Grant project to reconstruct two bridges on County Road 102 in Precinct 1, and authorize the County Judge as signatory.
Grimes County Engineer -Jon Steiber. \$352,000 remaining from the Hurricane Harvey relief fund. Asking to adjust the contract, discussed with GLO and Grant Administrator, to design and rebuild the larger of the 2 bridges on CR 102. Road and Bridge will handle the smaller bridge with local design and oncall contractor. Motion by Chad Mallett to Approve to modify the County's contract with the GLO regarding the CDBG Hurricane Harvey Reallocation Grant project to reconstruct one bridge on CR 102 in Precinct 1 and authorize the County Judge as signatory. Seconded by David Tullos.

In Favor: 4
Opposed: 0
Motion Passed

21. Discuss and take action to reallocate funds from FY 26 Budget Line 4410 Repairs and Maintenance. Grimes County Engineer - Jon Steiber. FY 26 budget gave \$100,000 in repairs and maintenance line item 4410 for various projects. With the merger of the Environmental Dept had to reprioritize. Work that needs to be done at some of the collection sites. Mr. Steiber would like to move \$20,000 to budget item 4505 Solid Waste Machinery & Equipment for collection site upgrades. Also like to move \$17,000 for a high tech vehicle mounted camera that will give street views. Need imagery of roads for disaster recovery. Motion by David Tullos to Approve to reallocate funds from FY 26 Budget Line 4410 Repairs and Maintenance. Seconded by Michael Raska.

In Favor: 4
Opposed: 0
Motion Passed

22. Discuss and take action to approve a contract with Consor Engineers, LLC for the design of County Road 277 Low Water Crossing in Precinct 2 with a design fee of \$14,680.
Grimes County Engineer - Jon Steiber. County Road 277 low water crossing is impassable. Considerable amount of land that can be developed. Top low water crossing to get repaired. Project will be done in house after information gathered from Consor Engineers LLC.
Motion by David Tullos to Approve a contract with Consor Engineers, LLC for the design of County Road 277 low water crossing in Pct 2 with a design fee of \$14,680 and authorize County Judge as signatory.

Seconded by Phillip Cox.

In Favor: 4
Opposed: 0
Motion Passed

23. Discuss and take action to approve the Grimes County Hazardous Communication Policy to maintain compliance with the Texas Hazard Communication Act and OSHA Hazard Communication Standard. Grimes County Engineer - Jon Steiber. Required as a government entity to have a HAZ COM policy. The policy has been reviewed by the County Attorney, Building Maintenance, Human Resources and EMC. Policy gives direction on labeling containers, posting safety data sheets, having protective equipment on hand. Motion by David Tullos to Approve the Grimes County Hazardous Communication Policy to maintain compliance with the Texas Hazard Communication Act and OSHA Hazard Communication Standard. Seconded by Phillip Cox.

In Favor: 4
Opposed: 0
Motion Passed

24. Discuss and take action to approve a contract with Cahoon Consulting for services related to Grimes County's application to join the NFIP Community Rating System with a fee of \$14,000. Grimes County Engineer - Jon Steiber. Community Rating System if County is able to achieve a level 7 rating due to Flood Plain Management it will give a 15% discount to those citizens that have Flood Insurance in unincorporated areas. Motion by Phillip Cox to Approve a contract with Cahoon Consulting for services related to Grimes County's application to join the NFIP Community Rating System with a fee of \$14,000. Seconded by Michael Raska.

In Favor: 4
Opposed: 0
Motion Passed

25. Consider and take action on a request by Troy Companies for approval of a Special Road Use Permit on various County Roads in Precincts 2 and 4 for construction of the Kinder Morgan Trident Intrastate Pipeline. Grimes County Engineer - Jon Steiber. Permit for Special Road Use. Pipeline mainly in Precinct 2 and 4. Motion by David Tullos to Approve request of a Special Road Use Permit on various County roads in Precincts 2 and 4 for construction of the Kinder Morgan Trident Intrastate Pipeline. Seconded by Phillip Cox.

In Favor: 4
Opposed: 0
Motion Passed

Grimes County Judge - Joe Fauth III

26. Discuss and take action on HB33 Memorandum of Understanding between Grimes County and DPS. No discussion. Motion by David Tullos to Approve HB33 Memorandum of Understanding between Grimes County and DPS. Seconded by Chad Mallett.

In Favor: 4
Opposed: 0
Motion Passed

27. Consider and take action to vote and submit the Resolution and Ballot for Grimes Central Appraisal District Board of Directors Election and authorize the County Judge as signatory. Commissioner Mallett asked if this is something that needs to be signed immediately or when the County

Judge returns. County Attorney Megan Barcak stated the deadline for the Resolution is Dec 15th. Commissioner Mallett made the recommendation that the votes be distributed between those that are currently on the Board and Bryan Van Dyke who is replacing Alec Pointer. This will include Charles Frede, Jennifer Fultz Jarvis, Sam Ruffino, Diana Westmoreland and Bryan Van Dyke. Commissioner Tullos stated the total votes are 1696. Divide 1696 votes which will be 339 votes for 4 members and 340 to 1 member. The Court decided to give the extra vote to Mr. Van Dyke.

Motion by Chad Mallett to Approve to distribute the votes as follows: Charles Frede 339 votes, Jennifer Fultz Jarvis 339 votes, Sam Ruffino 339 votes, Bryan Van Dyke 340 votes and Diana Westmoreland 339 votes and authorize the . Seconded by David Tullos.

In Favor: 4

Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

28. Consider and take action regarding the Burn Ban and authorize the County Judge as signatory. (*Current Burn Ban Order set October 15, 2025, to expire January 13, 2026.*)
No action at this time. Burn Ban is still in effect.

Grimes County Human Resources Director - Talitta Coleman (JF)

29. Consider and take action to make salary offers or salary adjustments to personnel under the County Road Department, resulting from the County Road Department reorganization adopted 11-5-2025. *It is expected that the Court will conduct a closed session as authorized by Texas Government Code 551.074 (Personnel Matters).*

Human Resource Director Talitta Coleman - Do not need closed session. Positions discussed but not specific individual. Grimes County Engineer Jon Steiber discussed with restructuring of departments some individuals have taken on additional responsibilities, additional leadership roles. Using HRCC procedures approved previously by the Court. Comparison in salaries in surrounding counties excluding Harris County. Commissioner Cox asked Mr. Steiber to elaborate on why some of the salaries are asked to be adjusted significantly. With all adjustments no additional funds are being requested. Technician positions that increased for persons responsible for Environmental permitting. GIS permit technician additional duties. Chief of Staff is a new position with level of decision making authority same as Mr. Steiber.

Next full pay period becomes effective

Motion by Phillip Cox to Approve to make salary offers or salary adjustments to personnel under the County Road Department resulting from the County Road Department reorganization adopted 11-5-2025. Pay adjustments will take effect on the next full pay period and allow Human Resources and County Auditor to make necessary adjustments. Seconded by Chad Mallett.

In Favor: 3

Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

Grimes County Attorney - Megan Barcak (JF)

30. Consider and take action on calculation and payment of overtime pay. *It is expected that the Court will conduct a closed session as authorized by Texas Government Code 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).*
No action taken at this time.

31. Consider and take action in furtherance of the sales of the following, whether in whole or in part: 7.582 acres on Veterans Memorial Drive, Navasota, Texas, the Road & Bridge building (1022 Hwy 90 South, Anderson, Texas), the Environmental Department building (1010 Hwy 90 South, Anderson, Texas), and/or other county-owned properties located in the Town of Anderson. *It is expected that the Court will convene a closed or executive session regarding this item pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.072 (Deliberation Regarding Real Property).*

Motion by Phillip Cox to Approve the order authorizing the sale of County property by broker located at 1022

Hwy 90 South for \$499,000.00 and approve an agreement for professional broker services with J Beard Real Estate Co and the exclusive listing agreement and authorize the County Judge as signatory . Seconded by Michael Raska.

In Favor: 3
Opposed: 0
Motion Passed

Adjourn

Motion by Michael Raska to Adjourn. Seconded by Phillip Cox.

In Favor: 3
Opposed: 0
Motion Passed

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF GRIMES

I, Barbara Kimich, Grimes County Clerk, attest that the foregoing is a true and accurate accounting of the Commissioners Court authorized proceedings for November 19, 2025.

Barbara Kimich, Grimes County Clerk
Clerk of the Commissioners Court
Grimes County, Texas