COUNTY OF FREESTONE

Commissioners Court
Linda K. Grant, County Judge
Andy Bonner, Precinct No. 1
Will McSwane, Precinct No. 2
Lloyd Lane, Precinct No. 3
Clyde Ridge Jr., Precinct No. 4

County Courthouse
Commissioners Courtroom
118 E. Commerce, Rm. 203
Fairfield, Texas 75840
903/389-3335 Phone
903/389-3839 Fax

FREESTONE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

Notice of Open Meeting

DATE OF MEETING: February 19, 2025
LOCATION: 118 E. COMMERCE, COMMISSIONERS COURTROOM, FAIRFIELD, TEXAS
Pledge of Allegiance, Pledge to the Texas Flag
Call to Order – 9:00 a.m.
Posting in accordance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, as amended, known as the Texas Open Meetings Act.

Members of the Public who wish to speak shall each have 3 minutes to address the Court regarding matters not appearing on the agenda or on an item on the agenda.
The Commissioners Court may not deliberate or take action on any item that is not posted. Any discussion of the subject must be limited to providing specific factual information.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. Approve minutes of February 5, 2025 regular meeting.
2. Budget transfers and amendments.
3. Approve and pay bills.
4. Approve payroll.
5. Reports: Senior Services, Justices of the Peace, County Clerk, District Clerk, Auditor, Treasurer, Sheriff, Road Reports, Tax Assessor/Collector, Constables, Veterans Service Officer, Extension Agents, Health, Environmental, and OSSF, Miscellaneous Reports.
6. Burn Ban.
7. Special Road Use Agreements, Contracts, Permits and Bonds and consider Notifications of Telephone Construction.
8. Approve bonds and education certificates of County Officials and Employees.
9. Public hearing on the matter of the proposed designation of certain property in unincorporated Freestone County as a Reinvestment Zone under Subchapter C, Chapter 312 of the Texas Property Tax Code. This designation would allow for tax abatement agreements to be entered into by the County with owners of property within the Reinvestment Zone. The Zone would be designated as Reinvestment Zone 2-A.
10. Discussion, consideration and action on the creation and designation of the County Reinvestment Zone made the subject of the public hearing as County Reinvestment Zone No. 2-A.
11. Discussion, consideration and action on proposed form of tax abatement agreement with Piedra Solar, LLC; and directive to County Judge to send notice of intent to enter into proposed tax abatement agreement to other taxing entities having taxing authority with regard to the property.
12. Public hearing on the matter of the proposed designation of certain property in unincorporated Freestone County as a Reinvestment Zone under Subchapter C, Chapter 312 of the Texas Property Tax Code. This designation would allow for tax abatement agreements to be entered into by the County with owners of property within the Reinvestment Zone. The Zone would be designated as Reinvestment Zone 09.
13. Discussion, consideration and action on the creation and designation of the County Reinvestment Zone made the subject of the public hearing as County Reinvestment Zone No. 09.
14. Discussion, consideration and action on proposed form of tax abatement agreement with Avant Prairie ESS; and directive to County Judge to send notice of intent to enter into proposed tax abatement agreement to other taxing entities having taxing authority with regard to the property.
15. Notice of Election for the May 3rd City and School Election-Renee McBay
16. Order of Election-Renee McBay.
17. Information on Pollbooks-Renee McBay.
18. Appointment for Heart of Texas Housing finance Board of Directors.
19. Affidavit on Home Delivered Meals.
20. County Child Welfare Services Non-Financial Agreement.

21. Discuss and Approve changes to Road Use Agreement.
22. Discuss and Approve Agreement with City of Oakwood.
23. Process Purchasing Firetruck.
24. Discuss donating old Butler Firetruck to Teague Rescue Team.

Comments from Commissioners Court members.
Adjournment.
Posted on bulletin board second floor at the Courthouse and on Freestone County website on February 13, 2025.

FILED FOR RECORD
At 4:30 o'clock P M
FEB 13 2025
RENEE GREGORY
Clerk County Court, Freestone County, Texas
By

COUNTY OF FREESTONE

Commissioners Court
Linda K. Grant, County Judge
Andy Bonner, Precinct No. 1
Will McSwane, Precinct No. 2
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FREESTONE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

DATE OF MEETING: FEBRUARY 19, 2025
STREET LOCATION: 118 E. COMMERCE, COMMISSIONERS COURTROOM
CITY LOCATION: FAIRFIELD, TEXAS

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEM:

25. Tarrant Regional Water District Communication Tower Agreement.

Posted on bulletin board second floor at the Courthouse and on the Freestone County website on February 14, 2025.

FILED FOR RECORD
At 4 ,o'clock P M
FEB 14 2025
RENEE GREGORY
Clerk County Court, Freestone County, Texas
By

FREESTONE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING

VIDEO OF THIS MEETING MAY BE VIEWED AT:
http://www.co.freestone.tx.us/default.aspx?Freestone_County/Commissioners.Court.Recordings

A regular meeting of the Freestone County Commissioners Court was held on February 19, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., in the Courtroom of the Freestone County Courthouse, 118 E. Commerce Street in Fairfield, Texas.

Linda Grant	**County Judge**	**Present**
Andy Bonner	**Commissioner, Precinct 1**	**Present**
Will McSwane	**Commissioner, Precinct 2**	**Present**
Lloyd Lane	**Commissioner, Precinct 3**	**Present**
Clyde Ridge	**Commissioner, Precinct 4**	**Present**

1. Approve minutes of February 5, 2025 regular meeting.
Comm. Bonner MOVED to approve minutes of February 5, 2025 regular meeting. Comm. Lane SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

2. Budget transfers and amendments.
Comm. Bonner MOVED to approve transferring $17,000.00 from the Contingency Fund to Elections-Expenses. Comm. Ridge SECONDED the motion.

Comm. McSwane MOVED to approve budget transfers, and amendments and Certification of Additional Revenue in the amount of $1,000.00 from Calpine. Comm. Bonner SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

3. Approve and pay bills.
Comm. Ridge MOVED to approve and pay bills. Comm. McSwane SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

4. Approve payroll.
Comm. McSwane MOVED to approve payroll. Comm. Lane SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

5. Reports: Senior Services, Justices of the Peace, County Clerk, District Clerk, Auditor, Treasurer, Sheriff, Road Reports, Tax Assessor/Collector, Constables, Veterans Service Officer, Extension Agents, Health, Environmental and OSSF, Miscellaneous Reports.
Comm. Lane MOVED to approve reports for January from Senior Services, District Clerk, County Clerk, JP #1, JP#2, Oakwood Police Department, Auditor's Report, and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and plans for February. Fiscal year 2025 Annual Employee Drivers's License Review. Comm. Bonner SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

6. Burn Ban.
NO ACTION

7. Special Road Use Agreements, Contracts, Permits and Bonds and consider Notifications of Telephone Construction.
Comm. McSwane MOVED to approve the amendment of the Road Use Agreement. Comm. Lane SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

Comm. Lane MOVED to approve Road Use Agreement Permit #2455. Comm. McSwane SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

8. Approve bonds and education certificates of County Officials and Employees.
Comm. Ridge MOVED to approve the Official Bonds and Oaths for Ken Sessions for $5,000.00, and Daniel M. Ralstin for $100,000.00 and accept training certificate for Tammy Carruthers in Criminal Justice Information Services Security and Privacy Training. Comm. Lane SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

9. Public hearing on the matter of the proposed designation of certain property in unincorporated Freestone County as a Reinvestment Zone under Subchapter C, Chapter 312 of the Texas Property Tax Code. This designation would allow for tax abatement agreements to be entered into by the County with owners of property within the Reinvestment Zone. The Zone would be designated as Reinvestment Zone 2-A.

Court entered into Public Hearing at 9:14 a.m.
Court came out of Public Hearing at 9:20 a.m.
No comments from the public.

10. Discussion, consideration and action on the creation and designation of the County Reinvestment Zone made the subject of the public hearing as County Reinvestment Zone No. 2-A.

Comm. Lane MOVED to approve the Order designating, creating and establishing the County Reinvestment Zone No. 2-A. Comm. McSwane SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

11. Discussion, consideration and action on proposed form of tax abatement agreement with Piedra Solar, LLC; and directive to County Judge to send notice of intent to enter into proposed tax abatement agreement to other taxing entities having taxing authority with regard to the property.

Comm. Lane MOVED to approve the action on proposed form of tax abatement agreement with Piedra Solar, LLC; and directive to County Judge to send notice of intent to enter into proposed tax abatement agreement to other taxing entities having taxing authority with regard to the property. Comm. Ridge SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

12. Public hearing on the matter of the proposed designation of certain property in unincorporated Freestone County as a Reinvestment Zone under Subchapter C, Chapter 312 of the Texas Property Tax Code. This designation would allow for tax abatement agreements to be entered into by the County with owners of property within the Reinvestment Zone. The Zone would be designated as Reinvestment Zone 09.

Court entered into Public Hearing at 9:25 a.m.
Court came out of Public Hearing at 9:33 a.m.
No comments from the public.

13. Discussion, consideration and action on the creation and designation of the County Reinvestment Zone made the subject of the public hearing as County Reinvestment Zone No. 09.

Comm. Bonner MOVED to approve the Order designating, creating and establishing the County Reinvestment Zone No. 09. Comm. McSwane SECONDED the motion.

ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

14. Discussion, consideration and action on proposed form of tax abatement agreement with Avant Prairie ESS; and directive to County Judge to send notice of intent to enter into proposed tax abatement agreement to other taxing entities having taxing authority with regard to the property.

Comm. Bonner MOVED to approve the action on proposed form of tax abatement agreement with Piedra Solar, LLC; and directive to County Judge to send notice of intent to enter into proposed tax abatement agreement to other taxing entities having taxing authority with regard to the property. Comm. McSwane SECONDED the motion.

ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

15. Notice of Election for the May 3rd City and School Election-Renee McBay.

Teague City and Teague ISD will not have an election. There will be early voting for Wortham and Fairfield. Early voting for Wortham will be held at the Wortham Fire Department. On election day voting will be held at the School Administration office. Early voting will be on April 22 through the 25 and April 28 and 29. Election Day is on May 3rd.

16. Order of Election.

See Agenda Item #15.

17. Information on Pollbooks-Renee McBay

Renee Stated that she has 14 poll books and there are 13 polling locations. She is requesting to purchase 5 extra poll books with cases and printers to have on hand for safe keeping.

18. Appointment for Heart of Texas Housing finance Board of Directors.

Comm. McSwane MOVED to appoint Kim Stevens as director of the Heart of Texas Housing Finance Corporation. Comm. Lane SECONDED the motion.

ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

19. Affidavit on Home Delivered Meals.

Comm. Bonner MOVED to accept $1,278.00 from the Texas Department of Agriculture as they are closing out the 2024 program. Comm. Lane SECONDED the motion.

ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

20. County Child Welfare Services Non-Financial Agreement.

Comm. Bonner MOVED to approve the County Child Welfare Services Non-Financial Agreement. Comm. McSwane SECONDED the motion.

ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

21. Discuss and Approve changes to Road Use Agreement.

See Agenda Item #7.

The language in the Road Use Agreement is a 90-day automatic renewal. The permit will automatically renew if needed and remain as the original agreement with same permit number. Revisions were made to the Road Use Agreement and approved in Agenda Item #7.

22. Discuss and Approve Agreement with City of Oakwood.

Comm. Lane MOVED to enter into an agreement with the City of Oakwood, contingent on map depicting the patrolled area. Comm. McSwane SECONDED the motion.

AYE-COMM. LANE AND COMM. MCSWANE
OPPOSE-COMM. RIDGE AND COMM. BONNER
DECLINED VOTE TO BREAK THE TIE-JUDGE GRANT
TABLED

23. Process Purchasing Firetruck.

Representatives from VFD's in the county discussed the need for a program to replace aging fire apparatus. Some of the equipment is over 20 years old. They are having a difficult time getting grants approved.

Comm. Lane MOVED to purchase 1 Rescue truck for Wortham VFD and 3 Tanker/Pumpers, 1 each for Dew VFD, Teague VFD and Streetman VFD at approximately $480,000.00 for each unit based on the quote received. Comm. Ridge SECONDED the motion.

ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

24. Discuss donating old Butler Firetruck to Teague Rescue Team.

Comm. Lane MOVED to donate a C-70 Chevrolet Truck purchased by the county to Teague Rescue Team to be used for training purposed. Comm. Bonner SECONDED the motion.

ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

25. Tarrant Regional Water District Communication Tower Agreement.

Comm. Ridge MOVED to renew the Tarrant Regional Water District Communication Tower Agreement. Comm. Lane SECONDED the motion.

ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

Comm. Bonner MOVED to adjourn. Comm. Ridge SECONDED the motion.

ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

I, Renee Gregory, County Clerk of Freestone County, Texas, do hereby certify that the above Commissioner Court Minutes are true and correct record of the proceedings from the Commissioners Court Meeting.

ATTEST:

Renee Gregory, County Clerk