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 August 19, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., in the Courtroom of the Freestone County Courthouse, 118 E. Commerce Street in Fairfield, Texas.

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

1. Approve minutes of August 12, 2026, special meeting.
NO ACTION

2. Budget transfers and amendments.
Comm. McSwane MOVED to approve Budget transfers, and Amendments. Comm. McGowan SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

Comm. Bonner MOVED to accept and approve revised Budget transfers, and Amendments. Comm. McSwane SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

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

4. Approve payroll.
NO ACTION

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. Ridge MOVED to approve authorizing Resolution for the Bridging Immigration Related Deficits Experienced Nationwide (BIDEN) Grant. Comm. McGowan SECONDED the motion.

ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

6. Burn Ban.

NO ACTION

7. Special Road Use Agreements, Contracts, Permits, Bonds, Consider Notifications of Telephone Construction and Applications for Plats or Replats.

Comm. Ridge MOVED to accept Road Use Agreement Permit #2471 with Aqua Texas Inc on County Road 196 and Right-of-Way Bond from Associated Well Services, Inc., Bond Number B150105029 in the amount of $100,000.00. This Bond will terminate on August 7, 2027. Comm. McSwane. SECONDED the motion.

ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

8. Approve bonds and education certificates of County Officials and Employees.

Comm. McSwane MOVED to accept education certificates from AI Training for Scott Shaw, Dallas, McGee, Lloyd Lane, Erika Mejia and 2025-2026 DIR-Certified Cybersecurity Awareness Training for Erika Mejia. Comm. McGowan SECONDED the motion.

ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

9. Accept donation in the amount of $500.00 from Community National Bank & Trust of Texas to Senior Services.

Comm. McGowan MOVED to accept a donation in the amount of $500.00 from Community National Bank & Trust of Texas to Senior Services. Comm. Ridge SECONDED the motion.

ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

10. Discretionary Exemption on Road Base Materials in accordance to Local Government Code 262.024.
NO ACTION

11. Award Sealed Bids for Bulk Fuel, Road Base Materials, and Solid Waste.
Comm. Bonner MOVED to accept any and all bids for Bulk Fuel, Road Base Materials, and Solid Waste. Comm. McSwane SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

12. Public Hearing – Plan's for County Clerk's Archive Fund.
Court entered into a Public Hearing at 9:30 A.M.
Court came out of Public Hearing at 9:35 A.M.

Comm. McGowan MOVED to approve Plan for County Clerk's Archive Fund. Comm. McSwane SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

13. Records Management & Preservation Plan for 2026-2027 for County Clerk.
Comm. McSwane MOVED to approve Plan for County Clerk's Records Management & Preservation Plan for 2026-2027. Comm. Bonner SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

14. Public Hearing – Plan for District Clerk's Archive Fund.
Comm. Ridge MOVED to ***TABLE*** Public Hearing – Plan for District Clerk's Archive Fund. Comm. McGowan SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

15. District Clerk Preservation and Restoration Plan for 2026-2027.
Comm. Ridge MOVED to ***TABLE*** District Clerk Preservation and Restoration Plan for 2026-2027. Comm. McGowan SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

16. Discuss and consider possible action on admin time bank and verbiage of policy on admin time.
Comm. Bonner MOVED to ***TABLE*** possible action on admin time bank and verbiage of policy. Comm. McGowan SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

17. Final Report on Cybersecurity and AI Training. – Dane McBroom.

Comm. McGowan MOVED to ***TABLE*** Final Report on Cybersecurity and AI Training. Comm. McSwane SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

Comm. Bonner MOVED to approve the Final Report on Cybersecurity and AI Training. Comm. McGowan SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

18. Budget Review.

Comm. McSwane MOVED to approve the new salary grades for FY 2027, listed below. They will become effective October 1, 2026. Comm. Bonner SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

FY 2027 PAY SCALE EDITS

GRADE 1 WILL BECOME GRADE 2 AND SO FORTH FOR THE NEW HIRE BASE SALARY RATES

2026 SALARIES		2027 SALARIES
$31,200	6 EMPLOYEES WILL INCREASE $2,000	$33,200
$33,200	5 EMPLOYEES WILL INCREASE $2,000	$35,200
$33,700	3 EMPLOYEES WILL INCREASE $1,500	$35,200
$34,000	4 EMPLOYEES WILL INCREASE $2,000	$36,000
$35,200	1 EMPLOYEES WILL INCREASE $2,000	$37,200
$35,200	1 EMPLOYEES WILL INCREASE $2,200	$37,400
$37,200	1 EMPLOYEES WILL INCREASE $2,000	$39,200
$39,200	0 EMPLOYEES WILL INCREASE $2,000	$41,200

21 (2 OPEN POSITIONS/19 EMPLOYEES)

19. Public Hearing on Budget.

Court entered into a Public Hearing at 4:29 P.M.
Court came out of Public Hearing at 4:35 P.M.

20. Vote to set salaries, expenses, or allowances for 2026-2027 Fiscal Year.

Comm. McSwane MOVED to set salaries, expenses, or allowances for 2026-2027, Fiscal Year, based from changes made today**.** Comm. Bonner SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

21. Vote to ratify tax increase. (If tax rate is above effective No-New-Revenue tax rate, must be a separate vote to ratify tax increase.)
Comm. McSwane MOVED to ratify the new tax rate at 0.3299. Comm. Bonner SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

22. ADOPT BUDGET. Approve order Adopting the Tax Rate and authorizing the Tax Assessor/Collector to assess and collect taxes in accordance with the tax rate.
Comm. Ridge MOVED to Adopt the Budget. Comm. McGowan SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

Comm. McSwane MOVED to approve order Adopting the Tax Rate on $100.00 of valuation for the County of Freestone for the tax year 2026 of $0.3299 and authorizing the Tax Assessor/Collector to assess and collect taxes in accordance with the tax rate. Comm. McGowan SECONDED the motion.
ALL AYE ***MOTION CARRIED***

Comm. McSwane MOVED to adjourn. Comm. Bonner 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 a true and correct record of the proceedings from the Commissioners Court Meeting.

ATTEST:

Renee Gregory

Renee Gregory, County Clerk

