

There was a Public Hearing held at 9:00 A.M. regarding an amendment to the guidelines and criteria regarding a TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT. Everyone in attendance was asked to sign a sign-in sheet and after discussion the hearing was closed at 9:01 A.M.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Pct. 2-Tom Whitten, Texarkana, TX

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance to the United States

**COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES
DECEMBER 11, 2023**

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this 11th day of December, 2023, the **HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS COURT** of Bowie County, Texas met in **REGULAR SESSION** at the Courthouse in New Boston, Texas after due notice had been posted on the 8th day of December, 2023 with the **HONORABLE JUDGE BOBBY L. HOWELL** present and presiding with the following Commissioners being present.

Sammy Stone	Commissioner Pct. #1
Tom Whitten	Commissioner Pct. #2
James Strain	Commissioner Pct. #3
Mike Carter	Commissioner Pct. #4

Also in attendance were the following County Officials:

- County Auditor Jennifer Beckett
- County Clerk Tina Petty
- County Legal Advisor Randle Smolarz

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

Court convened at 9:02 A.M. when the following **ORDERS, JUDGMENTS and DECREES** were had and **ORDERED** spread upon the minutes of the Court to-wit.

Item 1: There was no Public Comments.

Item 2: There was no Commissioners Court response to Public Comments.

Item 3: On this 11th day of December, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to approve amendments to the Bowie County Tax Abatement Guidelines and Criteria.

Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.

Motion carried.

Item 4: On this 11th day of December, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to give permission to advertise for bids to purchase (3) three prisoner transport vans for the Sheriff's Department.

Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.

Motion carried.

Item 5: On this 11th day of December, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Tom Whitten to approve the purchase of the Guardian RFID System from Buyboard Contract #669-22, in the amount of \$84,016.13 from AARPA Funds for the Bowie County Detention Center.

Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.

Motion carried.

Item 6: On this 11th day of December, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter and duly second by Commissioner Sammy Stone to request permission to advertise for request for proposals for the flooring replacement at the Recovery Center.

Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.

Motion carried.

Item 7: On this 11th day of December, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner Tom Whitten and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to open bids for laying hot mix asphalt on Nile Avenue RFP #2023-14 for Bowie County Precinct 2.

Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.

Motion carried.

Item 8: On this 11th day of December, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner Tom Whitten and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to approve the bid for Gibson Asphalt and authorize the contract for laying hot mix asphalt on Nile Avenue RFP #2023-14 for Bowie County Precinct 2.

Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.

Motion carried.

Item 9: On this 11th day of December, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to approve the 2024 Payroll Calendar.

Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.

Motion carried.

Item 10: On this 11th day of December, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner Sammy Stone and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to amend the 2023 Payroll Calendar and move the December 27th pay date to December 22nd.
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.
Motion carried.

Item 11: On this 11th day of December, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to authorize the County Judge to enter into an agreement with Paul Miller to represent Bowie County in the mandamus action against Bowie County and its employees in HANNAH KINCHELOE vs. JUSTICE COURT OF TEXARKANA ET AL, Cause No. 23C1116-CCL.
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.
Motion carried.

Item 12: On this 11th day of December, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to approve a countywide culvert policy on all county roads with the addition of: If the driveway is to be poured concrete, whether existing or new installation, Commissioner will install the new pipe and cover with material such as limestone rock, concrete is to be done by owner.
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.
Motion carried.

Item 13: On this 11th day of December, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner Tom Whitten and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to approve budget adjustments (line item transfers).
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.
Motion carried.

Item 14: On this 11th day of December, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to approve payment of accounts payable and payroll.
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.
Motion carried.

Item 15: On this 11th day of December, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner Tom Whitten and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to approve the minutes as an Order of the Court (November 27, 2023).
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.
Motion carried.

Item 16: There was no Executive Closed Session to discuss security matters, personnel matters and litigation as allowed in the Government Code, Section 551.0725.

Item 17: There was no action to authorize the County Judge to execute settlement participation and release forms regarding confidential partial settlement matters in the Texas opioid multi-district litigation for Bowie County in the matter of *County of Bowie v. Purdue Pharma L.P. et al.*

On this 11th day of December, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner Sammy Stone and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to adjourn.
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.
Motion carried.