

**INVOCATION**

Commissioner Pct. 3-James Strain, DeKalb, TX

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pledge of Allegiance to the United States

**COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES**

**MARCH 23, 2026**

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, that on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026, 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 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026 with the **HONORABLE 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 (absent)	Commissioner Pct. #4

Also in attendance were the following County Officials:

- County Auditor Jennifer Beckett
- County Legal Advisor Samuel Brown

And the following staff member also present:

- County Clerk Chief Deputy Denise Thornburg

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner James Strain announced there is a track meet in Hooks, TX.

**REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**

Court convened at 9:01 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 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026, a motion was made by Commissioner Tom Whitten and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to make the following changes to the Bowie County Precinct 2 Labor Table for FY 2026.**

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

**Item 4: This agenda item was passed regarding the Regulations of Political Signs on Bowie County-owned or controlled polling places.**

**Item 5: On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Tom Whitten to authorize setting the date of April 27, 2026 for a Public Hearing and publication of notice of such hearing in a newspaper of general circulation on the creation of a reinvestment zone to be known as Bowie County Reinvestment Zone-Red Barn Solar LLC for purposes of tax abatement to provide economic development within the county and to take up for consideration an application for tax abatement deemed to be in due form, from Red Barn Solar LLC.**

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

**Item 6: On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026, a motion was made by Commissioner Sammy Stone and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to give notice to other taxing jurisdictions of tax abatement pursuant to Chapter 312, Texas Tax Code.**

**Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioner voted yes and none voted no.  
Motion carried.**

**Item 7: On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Tom Whitten to approve the Certificate of Resolution approving the issuance of bonds by Tarrant County Cultural Education Facilities Finance Corporation on behalf of Christus Health Facilities.**

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

**Item 8: On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Sammy Stone to approve the presentation of Governor Abbot's Proclamation announcing March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.**

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

**Item 9: On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026, a motion was made by Commissioner Sammy Stone and duly second by Commissioner Tom Whitten to approve the cell phone allowance for Jan Lishman and Casey Winchell for the Juvenile Probation Department.**

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

- Item 10: On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Tom Whitten to approve the contract between Quadient, INC and Bowie County for \$6,670.80 from TX SMARTBUY State Contract #985-C1.  
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.  
Motion carried.**
- Item 11: On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Tom Whitten to approve the corrected resolution for the 2026-2027 grant submission for the State Crisis Intervention Grant Program to the Office of the Governor  
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.  
Motion carried.**
- Item 12: On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026, a motion was made by Commissioner Tom Whitten and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to approve the corrected resolution for the 2026-2027 grant submission for the Juvenile Justice & Truancy Prevention to the Office of the Governor.  
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.  
Motion carried.**
- Item 13: On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Sammy Stone to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Bowie County Sheriff's Office and Correct Solutions Group, LLC regarding Cost Recovery Additive.  
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.  
Motion carried.**
- Item 14: On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026, a motion was made by Commissioner Sammy Stone and duly second by Commissioner Tom Whitten to approve the Treasurer's Monthly Report for February, 2026.  
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.  
Motion carried.**
- Item 15: On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026, a motion was made by Commissioner Tom Whitten and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to approve the Auditor's Monthly Report for February 2026.  
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.  
Motion carried.**
- Item 16: On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Sammy Stone 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 17: On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Tom Whitten 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 18: On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026, a motion was made by Commissioner Tom Whitten and duly second by Commissioner Sammy Stone to approve the minutes as an Order of the Court (March 9, 2026).**

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

**Item 19: There was no adjournment into Executive Session pursuant to the following Sections:**

- a. Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code: Consultation with attorney regarding legal issues relating to pending or contemplated litigation.**
- b. Section 551.072 of the Texas Government Code; Deliberation of the purchase, exchange lease or value of real property.**
- c. Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code; Personnel Matters.**
- d. Section 551.087 of the Texas Government Code; Deliberation regarding Economic Development Negotiations.**

**Item 20: There was no action taken 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 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026, a motion was made by Commissioner Sammy Stone and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to adjourn.**

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