

**INVOCATION**

Commissioner Pct. 3-James Strain, DeKalb, TX

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pledge of Allegiance to the United States

**COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES**

**JULY 28, 2025**

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, that on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, 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 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025 with the **HONORABLE BOBBY L. HOWELL** present and presiding with the following Commissioners being present.

Sammy Stone

Tom Whitten

James Strain

Mike Carter

Commissioner Pct. #1

Commissioner Pct. #2

Commissioner Pct. #3

Commissioner Pct. #4

Also in attendance were the following County Officials:

- County Auditor Jennifer Beckett
- County Clerk Tina Petty
- County Legal Advisor Samuel Brown

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**

Court convened at 9:00 A.M. when the following **ORDERS, JUDGMENTS** and **DECREES** were had and **ORDERED** spread upon the minutes of the Court to-wit.

**Item 1:** Public Comments were made by Henry and Lavennia Martin, Texarkana, TX and Raul E. Garcia Texarkana, TX.

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

**Item 3: On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to approve the purchase of three 2025 Ford Explorers for \$147,180.40 for the Bowie County Sheriff's Office from Silsbee Ford & Silsbee Toyota Buyboard State Contract #724-23.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Item 4: On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Tom Whitten to approve the Presiding and Alternate Judges to be placed in the Election Worker Pool List.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Item 5: On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Tom Whitten to adopt the Election Systems and Software (ES&S) voting system version, EVS 6.1.1.0, as the adopted voting system for Bowie County with the addition of adding the Ballot on Demand system to be used during Early and Election Day Voting.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Item 6: On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner Sammy Stone and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to approve the purchase of Ballot on Demand printers from ES&S (BuyBoard #710.23), in the amount of \$124,914.00.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Item 7: On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner Tom Whitten and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to bring back from the table the Bowie County Travel Policy.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Item 8: On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter and duly second by Commissioner Sammy Stone to establish the Bowie County Travel Policy.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Item 9: On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to establish the Bowie County Credit Card Policy.**

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

**Motion carried.**

- Item 10:** On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to approve the Autopsy Transport contract between Bowie County and Tri-State Cremation.  
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.  
Motion carried.
- Item 11:** On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to declare surplus and approve the buyback of three 2025 Mack Trucks VIN#1M1PN4GY3SM015784, VIN# 1M1PN4GY7SM015786 and VIN# 1M1PN4GY5SM015785 for Precinct 4.  
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.  
Motion carried.
- Item 12:** On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to approve the lease purchase of three 2026 Mack Trucks VIN# 1M1PN4GY2TM019178, VIN# 1M1PN4GY9TM019176 and VIN# 1M1PN4GY0TM019177 from TIPS Contract #230802, in the amount of \$498,356.75 for Precinct 4.  
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.  
Motion carried.
- Item 13:** On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to approve the lease agreement with Cadence Bank for the purchase of three 2026 Mack Trucks, Master Lease No. 108376 and Schedule No. 70959-006 for Precinct 4.  
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.  
Motion carried.
- Item 14:** On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner Sammy Stone and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to approve Laura Harvey as the new ESD #2 Secretary.  
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.  
Motion carried.
- Item 15:** On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner Sammy Stone and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to bring back from the table bids for Jail Commissary services for the Bowie County Detention Center, RFP#2025-11.  
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.  
Motion carried.
- Item 16:** On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner Tom Whitten and duly second by Commissioner Jame Strain to approve and authorize the contract for request for proposals for Jail Commissary Services for the Bowie County Detention Center, RFP #2025-11.  
Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.  
Motion carried.

**Item 17: On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter and duly second by Commissioner Tom Whitten to reappoint Jami Duran to the Community Health Core Board of Trustees for a two year term expiring on August 31, 2027.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Item 18: On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter and duly second by Commissioner Sammy Stone to approve the Transfer Administration fee of \$20,000 from the LPPF to the County General Fund for FY2025.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Item 19: On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter and duly second by Commissioner Sammy Stone to approve the Treasurer's Investment Report as of June 30, 2025.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Item 20: On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Tom Whitten to approve the Treasurer's Monthly Report for May and June 2025.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Item 21: On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter 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 22: On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, 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 23: On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, a motion was made by Commissioner Tom Whitten and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carer to approve the minutes as an Order of the Court (July 14, 2025).**

**Motion was put to a vote and three (3) Commissioners voted yes and Commissioner James Strain abstained.**

**Motion carried.**

**Item 24: 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 25: 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 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025, 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.**