

***There was a Public Hearing held beginning at 9:00 A.M. regarding the 2024-2025 TAX RATE. 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. 3-James Strain, DeKalb, TX

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pledge of Allegiance to the United States

**COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES  
AUGUST 26, 2024**

**BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024, 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 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2024 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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Judge Howell stated that fiber lines are good for the County.

**REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**

**Court convened at 9:03 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 Adam Huggins, New Boston, TX.**

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

**Item 3: This item was passed-authorize the County Judge to sign Bowie County Broadband Agreement With Southwest Arkansas Telecommunications and Technology, Inc. d/b/a Four States Fiber and Texarkana College.**

**Item 4: On this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to adopt the Bowie County Tax Rate for the 2024 tax year.**

**Motion was put to a vote and three (3) Commissioners voted yes and one (1), Commissioner Tom Whitten voted no, Judge Howell voted yes.**

**Motion carried.**

**Item 5: On this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024, a motion was made by Commissioner Tom Whitten and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to approve the 2024 Bi-State Justice Building Budget and the October 24<sup>th</sup> IAC Special Called Meeting Minutes.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Item 6: On this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Tom Whitten to accept the retirement of Gerold Rankin, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3, effective August 16, 2024.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Item 7: On this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to appoint Ellen Eubanks to the position of Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3 for the remainder of the current term of that office.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Item 8: On this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to accept the retirement of Mary Hankins, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4, effective September 30, 2024.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Item 9: On this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to approve the Treasurer's Monthly Report for July, 2024.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Item 10: On this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024, a motion was made by Commissioner Sammy Stone 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 11: On this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024, 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 12:** On this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024, 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 (August 12, 2024-Regular Session; August 19, 2024-Special Session).

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

Motion carried.

**Item 13:** There was no Executive Closed Session to discuss security matters, personnel matters and litigation as allowed in the Government Code, Section 551.0725.

**Item 14:** 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 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024, 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.