THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ARE AS FOLLOWS:

THE STATE OF TEXAS ~ COUNTY OF GRIMES ~ BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this the 2nd day of June 2021 at 9:00 a.m., there was a Regular Meeting of the Commissioners Court of Grimes County, Texas at the Grimes County Annex Building, 114 W. Buffington, Anderson, Texas with the following members present:

County Judge, Joe Fauth III  
Commissioner, Pct. #1, Chad Mallett  
Commissioner, Pct. #2, David E. Dobyanski  
Commissioner, Pct. #3, Barbara Walker  
Commissioner, Pct. #4, Phillip Cox  

COUNTY JUDGE JOE FAUTH III

1. Call to order.
   a. Invocation
      b. Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag
      c. Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag “Honor the Texas Flag. I pledge Allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.”

Judge Joe Fauth called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Public Comments.

   We look forward to hearing from the citizens of Grimes County. If you wish to share any thoughts and/or concerns during the Public Comment portion of the Meeting, you must sign-in with the County Clerk before the Meeting is called to order. Public comments are limited to 2 minutes per person.

   - Mr. Carl Dry spoke about safety concerns on CR 304 and CR 302 and presented the court with a petition with 68 signatures from citizens wishing to have the roads striped.
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- Commissioner David Dobyanski announced there will be a blood drive on Sunday at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Plantersville and breakfast will be provided. He also announced that the Food Pantry in Anderson will be opened on Thursday.

- Judge Joe Fauth announced that Hurricane season opened yesterday and reminded citizens to be prepared in case of a storm and to start planning now. He also stated that the county is reviewing the county’s generators at all county facilities.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Items identified within the Consent Agenda are of a routine nature and will be passed with one vote without being discussed separately. If a member of the Court requests that a particular item be discussed, prior to the Meeting, the Agenda item will be pulled from the Consent Agenda and discussed as part of the regular agenda at the appropriate time. One vote will approve the remaining items on the Consent Agenda.

3. Consider and take action to approve the Treasurer’s List of Claims and Bills.

4. Consider and take action to approve payroll.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Barbara Walker to approve consent agenda items.
SECONDED BY Commissioner David Dobyanski

VOTE IN FAVOR 5 VOTE OPPOSED 0 MOTION PASSED

GRIMES COUNTY BUILDING MAINTENANCE MANAGER - AL PEELER

5. Update on on-going projects: Grimes County Jail and Grimes County Justice Center.

Commissioner Phillip Cox gave a report on the new Justice Center. There was a conference call yesterday. The contractor is working on getting the HVAC system up and running. There have also been more rain delays.

GRIMES COUNTY HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR - TALITTA COLEMAN

6. Review, consider and take action on Grimes County’s Texas County & District Retirement System (TCSRS) plan assessment for Plan Year 2022. (See Attachment #6.)

Talitta Coleman stated that there was a 1.95 percent increase at a cost of $123,522.96. The rate change goes into effect January 1, 2022. Judge Joe Fauth indicated that he would like to discuss this item during the budget hearings. This item was tabled.

GRIMES COUNTY COMMISSIONER PCT. #4 - PHILLIP COX

7. Discuss and take action to approve the Grimes County Fairgrounds Lease Agreement between Grimes County, Texas and the Grimes County Fair Association.

Present were members of the Grimes County Fair Association Board Members: Rodney Floyd – President; Stephanie Burzynski - Treasurer and Colton McCulloch – Board Member. Also present was Grimes County Fairgrounds Manager Randy Krueger.
There was a lengthy discussion between commissioners and board members as well as County Attorney Jon C. Fultz and Randy Krueger over the terms of the lease agreement between Grimes County and the Grimes County Fair Association (GCFA). The Fair Association has been operating without a lease for the past 2 years. Previous years there had been some type of agreement in place. The Grimes County Fair Association claims that their organization has provided improvements to the Fairgrounds in the amount of $579,000 over the past twenty years. The GCFA is asking the county to let them use the Fairgrounds for a period of 14 days plus extra days for meetings and other events for zero rent for a term of 15 years. The GCFA claims that other organizations have also used the Fairgrounds without a lease agreement in years past. Randy Krueger suggested the county charge an amount of $10,000 per year as a financial commitment, not rent. County Attorney Jon C. Fultz suggested that there be a termination clause that says anyone can cancel within 180 days with no cause and suggested a shorter term of 5 years. There was also a discussion about the GCFA donating time and labor for projects in lieu of payment. County Attorney Jon Fultz stated that the Fairgrounds has never made a profit and runs a $100K deficit every year. Randy Krueger stated that the rental rates for the Expo Center is $3,150 for a Saturday rental, $900 to rent the Barns, $450 to rent the Rodeo Arena, $900 to rent the Lions Club building and $450 to rent the Go Texan Building with a $350 security deposit. He also stated that the county would typically charge about $5,000 for a weekend and $10,000 - $15,000 for an entire week. Stephanie Burzynski stated that Brazos County wanted to charge them $10,000 for 2 weeks and Washington County $12,000 for 2 weeks. That included security and cleanup. Randy Krueger explained that most of the set up and take down work at the Fairgrounds is performed by the Diversion Crew from the Sheriff’s Department. There was a discussion about how many days the GCFA would be allowed to use the Fairgrounds. There was also a discussion about the amount of “rent” should be charged, if any. After much discussion an agreement was made on the terms and the amount.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Phillip Cox to approve the Grimes County Fairgrounds Lease Agreement between Grimes County, Texas and the Grimes County Fair Association with the following terms. 15 years, 180 days no default cancellation, $5,000 per year payment in cash or in-kind improvements and any extra to be carried over to subsequent years, with the use of the fairgrounds for 14 days for the fair, 12 days for monthly meetings and 10 days for various other events that will be coordinated with the Fairgrounds Manager, as well as other changes in language that will be provided by County Attorney Jon C. Fultz to be effective January 1, 2022. SECONDED BY Commissioner Barbara Walker

VOTE IN FAVOR  5  VOTE OPPOSED  0  MOTION PASSED

GRIMES COUNTY CLERK - VANESSA BURZYNSKI

8. Consider and take action to apply for the Texas Bar Historical Association Grant. (See Attachment #8.)

County Clerk Vanessa Burzynski stated that she has applied for the Texas Bar Historical Association Grant. The application deadline was May 30, 2021. This grant would help fund preservation projects in the county for historical court records such as probate records and commissioners court records.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Barbara Walker to apply for the Texas Bar Historical Association Grant. SECONDED BY Commissioner David Dobyanski

VOTE IN FAVOR  5  VOTE OPPOSED  0  MOTION PASSED
9. Consider and take action to approve TAC Risk Management Pool property renewal, with a coverage period beginning July 1, 2021 through July 1, 2022. (See Attachment #9.)

Two representatives from TAC (Texas Association of Counties) were in court to help answer questions. Joe Szewczyk and Lisa McCaig. Lisa McCaig stated that the deductible has increased from $1,000 to $5,000. Total cost for the year will be $71,773.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Chad Mallett to approve TAC Risk Management Pool property renewal, with a coverage period beginning July 1, 2021 through July 1, 2022
SECONDED BY Commissioner David Dobyanski
VOTE IN FAVOR 5 VOTE OPPOSED 0 MOTION PASSED

ROAD & BRIDGE ENGINEER - HARRY WALKER

10. Discuss and take action to begin process of selling the FM 3090 property and the Stoneham property. (See attachment #10).

Harry Walker stated that the property is ready to be sold and recommended it be sold as is. Commissioner Barbara Walker stated that she obtained a bid to have the mobile home removed for $4,500. She also got a bid to have the community center moved at a cost of around $20,000-$25,000 within a 20 mile radius or have it demolished for $11,000. Another option is to let the Fire Department burn it down.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Chad Mallett to begin process of selling the FM 3090 property and the Stoneham property. SECONDED BY Commissioner David Dobyanski
VOTE IN FAVOR 5 VOTE OPPOSED 0 MOTION PASSED

11. Consider and take action to authorize Road & Bridge to go out for bids on the following: 1) Reconstruction of a portion of CR 302, 2) Reconstruction of a portion of CR 215 (CITF project), and 3) Purchase of Cold Mix Asphalt material.

MOTION BY: Commissioner David Dobyanski to go out for bids on the following: 1) Reconstruction of a portion of CR 302, 2) Reconstruction of a portion of CR 215 (CITF project), and 3) Purchase of Cold Mix Asphalt material.
SECONDED BY Commissioner Phillip Cox
VOTE IN FAVOR 5 VOTE OPPOSED 0 MOTION PASSED

12. Consideration and possible approval of the renewal of the Special Road Use and Indemnity Agreement for the Blue Jay Solar project. (See Attachment #12.)

Two representatives from Blue Jay Solar were present in court. Pat Ringer and Morris Schioban. This is Blue Jay Solar's first renewal. Harry Walker stated that the roads are in bad shape and not being maintained as they should be.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Chad Mallett to approve the renewal of the Special Road Use and Indemnity Agreement for the Blue Jay Solar project for 30 days.
SECONDED BY Commissioner David Dobyanski
VOTE IN FAVOR 5 VOTE OPPOSED 0 MOTION PASSED
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Presentation of Road & Bridge Report

GRIMES COUNTY JUDGE - JOE FAUTH III

13. Discuss and take action to approve the application for the 2021 American Rescue Plan, a.k.a. Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF).

MOTION BY: Commissioner Chad Mallett to approve the application for the 2021 American Rescue Plan, a.k.a. Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF).  
SECONDED BY Commissioner David Dobyanski  
VOTE IN FAVOR  5  
VOTE OPPOSED  0  
MOTION PASSED

14. Discuss and take action to allow Elected Officials or Department Heads to use budgeted salary dollars for overtime pay with the consideration that the money must be available within their budget and does not exceed their current budgeted amount for salaries including overtime pay.

County Auditor Jessi Murphy stated that Elected officials and Department Heads can request a line-item transfer to move money for overtime pay. No action taken.

15. Review and determine best practices for purchasing items needed for the County to conduct business, taking action to modify, delete, or add to the County’s purchasing policy as determined. (See Attachment #15.)

This item was tabled. No action taken.

16. Consider and take action regarding the Burn Ban and authorize the County Judge as signatory.  

No action taken.

17. Receive any updates on the Strategic Plan.

Commissioner Barbara Walker stated that she had received an email from CHI St. Joseph EMS Supervisor Billy Rice indicating that he had received new ventilators for the ambulance trucks at a cost of around $20,000 - $25,000 each.

18. Adjourn.

MOTION BY: Commissioner David Dobyanski to adjourn.  
SECONDED BY Commissioner Chad Mallett  
VOTE IN FAVOR  5  
VOTE OPPOSED  0  
MOTION PASSED

Judge Joe Fauth adjourned the Meeting at 11:54 a.m.