THE STATE OF TEXAS ~ COUNTY OF GRIMES ~ BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this the 17th day of March 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 Present
- Commissioner, Pct. #1, Chad Mallett Present
- Commissioner, Pct. #2, David E. Dobyanski Present
- Commissioner, Pct. #3, Barbara Walker Present
- Commissioner, Pct. #4, Phillip Cox Present

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."

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.

No Public Comments
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.

5. Consider and take action to approve Budget Amendments and/or Line Item Transfers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Amendment for FY 2021 ~ 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FUNDS TO BE INCREASED IN THE FOLLOWING LINE ITEM:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINE ITEM#</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0010-0375-3068</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| FUNDS TO BE INCREASED IN THE FOLLOWING LINE ITEM: |
| LINE ITEM# | DESCRIPTION | AMOUNT |
| 0010-0489-4445 | DIRECT VICTIM EXPENSES | $300.00 |

Reason: Donations received for Direct Victim Expenses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line Item Transfer for FY 2021 - 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FUNDS TO BE DECREASED IN THE FOLLOWING LINE ITEM:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINE ITEM#</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0010-0451-4505</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| FUNDS TO BE INCREASED IN THE FOLLOWING LINE ITEM: |
| LINE ITEM# | DESCRIPTION | AMOUNT |
| 0010-0423-4507 | COMPUTER HARDWARE | $2,542.60 |

Reason: To purchase monitors and docking stations for Sheriff’s Office Investigators.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Barbara Walker to approve consent agenda items.
SECONDED BY Commissioner Chad Mallett
VOTE IN FAVOR 5 VOTE OPPOSED 0 MOTION PASSED

GRIMES COUNTY BUILDING MAINTENANCE MANAGER - AL PEELER

6. Update on on-going projects: Grimes County Jail and Grimes County Justice Center.
Justice Center – Building is coming along nicely. Walls are 2/3 taped and floated. South parking lot has been poured and has a 28-day cure period. Rain has delayed additional concrete work. Water will be connected on Thursday. Anderson Water Company will shut off water from 10pm to 1am to connect the lines. Entergy stated that they will shut off power at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday. Entergy has installed one pole and one transformer. Hopefully power will be connected soon. Power is at a critical stage now. Three commissioners have called Entergy trying to get answers on why it is taking so long to get power connected. No proposed move in date.

Jail – Mold remediation is still on hold due to CDC measures and the jail has not been cleared for contractors to return to work.

7. Discuss and take action to approve County property for auction. (See Attachment #7.)

**MOTION BY:** Commissioner Chad Mallett to approve County property for auction and all auction proceeds will be returned to the General Fund.
**SECONDED BY:** Commissioner David Dobyanski

**VOTE IN FAVOR** 5   **VOTE OPPOSED** 0   **MOTION PASSED**

8. Discuss and take action on choosing bid for replacing proprietary control system at the Law Enforcement Center. (See Attachment #8.)

Al Peeler presented three bids for consideration.

a. Stanley Convergent Security Solutions $90,097.00 w/1 year warranty
b. Sydaptic, Inc. $$90,000.00 w/lifetime warranty
c. Cornerstone Service & Supply $119,701.00 w/ 1 year warranty

Al Peeler recommended using Stanley Security with a 1-year warranty. Stanley Security also offers a 2-year warranty for an additional cost of $3,297. A discussion was held on the value of having a 1- or 2-year warranty.

**MOTION BY:** Commissioner Chad Mallett to award the contract to Stanley Convergent Security Solutions without additional warranty for replacing proprietary control system at the Law Enforcement Center.
**SECONDED BY:** Commissioner David Dobyanski

**VOTE IN FAVOR** 3   **VOTE OPPOSED** 1   **ABSTENTION** 1   **MOTION PASSED**

Commissioner Barbara Walker abstained.  
Commissioner Phillip Cox voted No.  
Commissioner David Dobyanski voted Yes.  
Commissioner Chad Mallet voted Yes.  
Judge Joe Fauth III voted Yes.


Historical Commission Chairman Al Peeler gave the court a brief overview of the activities of the Historical Commission. The Historical Commission is alive and well. Activities and meetings were slowed down by COVID. The monthly meetings now include history lessons on Grimes County History. The commission lost 2 treasurers and 2 committee members. There
Grimes County Commissioners Court
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2021
Page 4 of 6

will be a bluegrass music festival on March 27th at 6pm at the Historic Anderson Park. The Texas Ramblers will be performing. The Historical Commission is making plans to renovate the Steinhagen Log Cabin as well as tear down some old structures. The Historical Commission voted on Steve Story to be the new treasurer. The Historical Commission will be presenting newly revised bylaws to the Commissioners Court next month.

GRIMES COUNTY ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR - LUCY YBARRA

10. Review and approve additions and changes to the Grimes County Early Voting Ballot Board Democratic Party representation. (See Attachment #10.)

Elections Administrator Lucy Ybarra presented a list of Early Voting Ballot Board Members to Commissioners Court for approval.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Barbara Walker to approve additions and changes to the Grimes County Early Voting Ballot Board Democratic Party representation.
SECONDED BY: Judge Joe Fauth III
VOTE IN FAVOR 5  VOTE OPPOSED 0  MOTION PASSED

11. Consider and take action to approve upgrades to current Vista contract. (See Attachment #11.)

Elections Administrator Lucy Ybarra presented a revised contract with Vista for the court to consider in the amount of $13,750.00. Lucy was also accompanied by two representatives from Vista. Vista has been scanning and digitizing the voter registration records and storing them electronically. This contract will add better scanners and a better system to make the process run more faster and more efficiently. Lucy stated that she can use her Chapter 19 funds to help pay for this project. Her current contract expires in August of this year.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Chad Mallett to approve upgrades to current Vista contract.
SECONDED BY: Commissioner David Dobyanski
VOTE IN FAVOR 5  VOTE OPPOSED 0  MOTION PASSED

GRIMES COUNTY IT DIRECTOR- GREGG CANNON

12. Discuss and take action to approve a six (6) month agreement between Dark Trace and Grimes County in the amount of $7,560.00 to install a security monitoring appliance to protect the County against malicious hacker activity not covered by anti-virus solutions.

IT Director Gregg Cannon presented a 6-month agreement with Dark Trace for internet security monitoring services. Gregg Cannon explained that this will enhance our security that other programs cannot provide. There was an option for the county to commit to an annual contract in the amount of $38,000 to go into effect on October 1, 2021. Mr. Cannon was not sure if he could get the 6 months without having to commit to an annual contract, but he would check on that. The 6 month "trial" period would only provide 2 out of the 6 components to the complete package. When asked if he had money in his budget for this, Mr. Cannon stated that he might have to put some other projects on hold to cover the cost. Several attacks have been attempted on our network, but hackers have not been able to get into our network, thanks to our current virus protection called Crowd Strike. Ransomware is another problem Counties are dealing with. Any breaech could be catastrophic.
MOTION BY: Judge Joe Fauth III to approve a six (6) month agreement between Dark Trace and Grimes County in the amount of $7,560.00.
SECONDED BY: Commissioner David Dobyanski
VOTE IN FAVOR 5  VOTE OPPOSED 0  MOTION PASSED

GRIMES COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT - CHIEF TODD GREENE

13. Discuss and take possible action to approve the Grimes County Sheriff’s Office to change cell phone providers.

Chief Todd Greene is asking the court to approve a change in cell phone providers for the Sheriff’s office. Currently the Sheriff’s office is using AT&T but are wanting to switch over to Verizon. Todd Green stated that Verizon would provide better coverage in the county. During the winter storm last month, the AT&T cell towers were down and did not have enough generators to keep them running. The monthly cost is also lower. Verizon is offering $39.99 a month per line and $37.99 a month for each MiFi device. Verizon is also offering a credit of $300 per line which would be $24,000 total. The total cost savings would be about $10,000 per year. Verizon also offers push to talk for an additional $5 per line. Verizon currently has 15 cell phone towers in Grimes County.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Phillip Cox to approve the Grimes County Sheriff’s Office to change cell phone providers from AT&T to Verizon.
SECONDED BY: Commissioner David Dobyanski
VOTE IN FAVOR 5  VOTE OPPOSED 0  MOTION PASSED

ROAD & BRIDGE ENGINEER - BARRY WALKER

14. Consideration and possible approval of the plat of Legacy Estates subdivision, located on CR 410 in Pct. 4. (See Attachment #14.)

MOTION BY: Commissioner Phillip Cox to approve the plat of Legacy Estates subdivision, located on CR 410 in Precinct 4.
SECONDED BY: Commissioner Barbara Walker
VOTE IN FAVOR 5  VOTE OPPOSED 0  MOTION PASSED

15. Consideration and approval of two (2) variance requests by Patricia Best related to a possible replat of property in Mill Creek Estates. (See Attachment #15.)

This item was tabled since the court cannot grant a variance based on current Subdivision Rules. Harry Walker stated he will talk to Jon C. Fultz the county attorney about this.

16. Consideration and possible award of bid for Hurricane Harvey GLO-CDBG grant project construction.

Road and Bridge Engineer Harry Walker presented the bids for the Hurricane Harvey GLO-CDBG grant project. The low bidder including base bid and all alternates was Eubank Excavation. Mr. Walker stated that this was the second round of bidding and the bids were still higher than the amount budgeted for this project. The grant will only cover $264,494 for the construction. The additional funds ($145,000) will need to come from Road and Bridge’s fund balance.
MOTION BY: Commissioner Chad Mallett to award the Hurricane Harvey GLO-CDBG grant project construction to Eubank Excavation in the amount of $409,355.01.
SECONDED BY: Commissioner David Dobyanski
VOTE IN FAVOR 5 VOTE OPPOSED 0 MOTION PASSED

Presentation of Road & Bridge Report

Harry Walker stated that his department will be working 4/10-hour days beginning this week. Hours will be 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Monday thru Thursday and will be closed on Friday.

The Blue Jay Solar Project has begun construction. They have a lay down yard and TXDOT has placed signs on the roadways.

An equipment auction was held yesterday.

Commissioner Barbara Walker asked Harry Walker if he could look into issues on CR 328 with limbs on the road and possible road damage.

GRIMES COUNTY JUDGE - JOE FAUTH III

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

No action taken.

18. Receive any updates on the Strategic Plan.

No updates on the Strategic Plan.

19. Adjourn.

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

Judge Joe Fauth adjourned the Meeting at 11:00 a.m.