



NOTICE OF COMMISSIONER'S COURT MEETING

Erath County Courthouse
County Courtroom, 100 W. Washington, Stephenville, Texas
Monday, August 25, 2025 9:00 AM

MINUTES

On the 25th day of August, 2025 the Honorable Commissioners Court of Erath County, Texas, convened in Regular Session hereof in the County Courtroom of the Erath County Courthouse for the following purport, to wit:

Members Present: Commissioner Precinct 1, Dee Stephens
Commissioner Precinct 2, Albert Ray
Commissioner Precinct 3, Sherman Edwards
Commissioner Precinct 4, Jim Buck
County Judge, Brandon Huckabee

1. Pledge of Allegiance.
County Judge, Brandon Huckabee
2. Invocation
3. Presentation in honor of Ruth Buzzi.
Ruth Buzzi presentation
4. Public Comments.
Public comments: Carla Trussell shared comments regarding agenda item #16
5. Public hearing for a speed limit on county road 386.
Public Hearing - Opened at 9:06 a.m.
No one to speak for or against speed limit on CR 386
Public Hearing Closed at 9:06 a.m.

Commissioner Ray requested that the speed limit be set to 45 mph like the rest of the road for consistency.

MOTION was made by County Judge Brandon Huckabee and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 2 Albert Ray to approve a COURT ORDER REDUCING SPEED LIMIT ON COUNTY ROAD ERATH COUNTY, TEXAS to **45 miles per hour**.

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-273

Skipped to Agenda Item #26.

Closed Executive Session in Accordance with the Open Meeting Act, Tex. Govt. Code 551.071 through 551.086, to discuss:

- a. Personnel**
- b. Legal Matters**
- c. Real Estate**
- d. Reconvene**

MOTION was made by County Judge Brandon Huckabee and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 1 Dee Stephens to recess regular and go into Closed Executive Session in Accordance with the Open Meeting Act, Tex. Govt. Code 551.071 through 551.086, to discuss: Personnel, Legal Matter and Real Estate (9:06 a.m.)

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-274

MOTION was made by Commissioner Precinct 3 Sherman Edwards and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 1 Dee Stephens to reconvene in regular session. (9:36 a.m.)

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-275

6. Discussions and action to approve a resolution authorizing grant to Meals on Wheels Program of Erath County.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Precinct 1 Dee Stephens and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 2 Albert Ray to approve a resolution authorizing grant to Meals on Wheels Program of Erath County.

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-276

7. Presentation from McKinstry on Joint Dispatch Center.

Joint Dispatch Center Presentation from McKinstry

8. Discussion and action to approve Addendum 2 for the Master Services Agreement for Joint Dispatch Center.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Precinct 3 Sherman Edwards and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 1 Dee Stephens to approve Addendum 2 for the Master Services Agreement for Joint Dispatch Center.

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-277

9. Discussion and action to go for bids for Dispatch consoles.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Precinct 2 Albert Ray and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 3 Sherman Edwards to go out for bids for Dispatch consoles.

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-278

10. Propose a Tax Rate.

MOTION was made by County Judge Brandon Huckabee and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 3 Sherman Edwards to Propose a Tax Rate of \$.3811

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-279

*Public hearing on the 2025-2026 Budget will be September 8, 2025

11. Land Development

- a. Discussion and action to approve a variance request for Homeland Estates located in pct 3.
- b. Discussion and action to approve a variance request for Homeland Estates located in pct 3.

11 a.) MOTION was made by Commissioner Precinct 3 Sherman Edwards and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 4 Jim Buck to approve a variance request for Homeland Estates for geotechnical report

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-280

11 b.) MOTION was made by Commissioner Precinct 3 Sherman Edwards and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 4 Jim Buck to deny a variance request for Homeland Estates bituminous pavement

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-281

12. Discussion and action to approve Democrat and Republican election judge appointments.
Discusión y acción para aprobar los nombramientos de jueces electorales demócratas y republicanos

MOTION was made by Commissioner Precinct 2 Albert Ray and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 1 Dee Stephens to approve Democrat and Republican election judge appointments.

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-282

13. Discussion and action to approve this First Amendment for the Ballot on Demand System, Procession and Services Agreement between Election Systems and Software, LLC and Erath County.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Precinct 1 Dee Stephens and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 2 Albert Ray to approve this First Amendment for the Ballot on Demand System, Procession and Services Agreement between Election Systems and Software, LLC and Erath County.

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-283

14. Discussion and action to approve Election Systems and Software Electronic Pollbook Software License, Maintenance and Support Agreement for the Elections Administration Office.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Precinct 3 Sherman Edwards and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 4 Jim Buck to approve Election Systems and Software Electronic Pollbook Software License, Maintenance and Support Agreement for the Elections Administration Office.

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-284

15. Discussion and action to approve real estate contract to purchase property from Brian and Joanie Bennet, and Jody and Susan Stone in PCT 1.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Precinct 1 Dee Stephens and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 2 Albert Ray to approve real estate contract to purchase property from Brian and Joanie Bennet, and Jody and Susan Stone in PCT 1.

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-285

16. Discussion and action to approve job description for a secretary for Commissioner Buck and Commissioner Ray.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Precinct 2 Albert Ray and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 4 Jim Buck to approve job description for a secretary for Commissioner Buck and Commissioner Ray.

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-286

17. Discussion and action to approve the Holiday Calendar for 2026.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Precinct 1 Dee Stephens and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 2 Albert Ray to approve the Holiday Calendar for 2026.

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-287

18. Discussion and action to go out for RFP on Countywide Data Phone Plan services.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Precinct 1 Dee Stephens and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 2 Albert Ray to go out for RFP on Countywide Data Phone Plan services.

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-288

19. Discussion and action to approve monthly departmental reports for June and July.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Precinct 2 Albert Ray and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 1 Dee Stephens to approve monthly departmental reports for June and July.

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-289

20. Discussion and action to approve the Imposition of Optional Fees for Calendar Year 2026.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Precinct 2 Albert Ray and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 4 Jim Buck to approve the Imposition of Optional Fees for Calendar Year 2026. (\$10.00 Road and Bridge)

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-290

21. Discussion and action on Tax Office Interlocal agreements.

No action taken on interlocal agreements

22. Discussion and action on supplemental pay for Indigent Services.

MOTION was made by County Judge Brandon Huckabee and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 3 Sherman Edwards approve supplemental pay for Indigent Services for July, August and September.

Ayes: (5) Dee Stephens, Albert Ray, Sherman Edwards, Jim Buck, Brandon Huckabee: Noes: (0) None
Motion Passed / Number 2025-291

23. Discussion and action to approve budget adjustments.

No budget adjustments presented

24. Discussion and action to approve invoices presented for regular and recurring payment as presented by the County Auditor and issue order to the County Treasurer to disburse the funds.

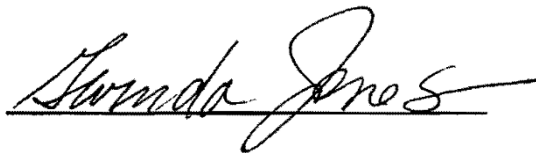
MOTION was made by Commissioner Precinct 4 Jim Buck and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 3 Sherman Edwards to pay the bills.

25. Discussion and action on burn ban.
Burn ban not needed
26. Closed Executive Session in Accordance with the Open Meeting Act, *Tex. Govt. Code 551.071 through 551.086*, to discuss:
 - a. Personnel
 - b. Legal Matters
 - c. Real Estate
 - d. ReconveneClosed Session held earlier in meeting.
27. Discussion and action on items discussed in executive session.
No action required from closed session.
28. Budget workshops with elected officials and department heads.
Longevity pay and certificate pay for sheriff's office for new hires with experience
29. Discuss any new business.
New Business:
Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget 09-03-2025
Public Hearing on the Tax Rate 09-08-2025
Approve a Tax Rate and Budget 09-25-2025
30. Adjourn.
Meeting was Adjourned by County Judge Brandon Huckabee at 11:03 a.m.

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ERATH

The above and foregoing is a true and complete copy of the minutes taken in my capacity as County Clerk of the Commissioners Court of Erath County, Texas, at the time and place heretofore set forth. DATED at Stephenville, Texas, this 25th day of August, 2025.

ATTESTED BY: GWINDA JONES, Erath County Clerk

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gwinda Jones", is written over a horizontal line.