

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ANGELINA**

Commissioners Court met in Regular Session on Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. at the Angelina County Courthouse Annex, Commissioners Courtroom, 606 East Lufkin Avenue, Lufkin, Texas with the following members present:

Keith Wright	County Judge
Kent Walker	Commissioner Precinct #1
Kermit Kennedy	Commissioner Precinct #2
Terry Pitts	Commissioner Precinct #3
Kenneth Jeffrey	Commissioner Precinct #4

1. Judge Wright called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. with all members present.
2. Opening prayer by County Judge, Keith Wright.
3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Flag of the State of Texas.
4. Public Forum: Don Lymbery asked the Court to use caution in regards to the consent agenda and only have routine items on it.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Consider approval of the minutes of November 28, 2023 Regular Session of Commissioners Court Meeting;
6. Consider approval of a budget transfer for the Tax Office;

Transfer from:	Printing & Forms	010-019-4611	\$ 50.00
Transfer to:	Office Supplies	010-019-4615	\$ 50.00

*Due to cover short fall

7. Consider approval of a budget transfer for the Sheriff's Department;

Transfer from:	Patrol Supplies	010-030-4453	\$3,200.00
Transfer to:	Vehicle Expense	010-030-4302	\$3,200.00

*Due to several unscheduled vehicle repairs of older vehicles within our fleet

8. Consider approval of a budget transfer for Angelina County Airport;

Transfer from:	Cost of Fuel	083-183-4304	\$ 300.00
Transfer to:	Gasoline/Oil	083-183-4116	\$ 300.00

*Used to pay for after hour call out fees

9. Consider approval of a budget transfer for Justice of the Peace, Precinct #1;

Transfer from:	Training Personnel	010-076-4248	\$1,500.00
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Transfer to: Office Supplies 010-076-4615 \$ 1,500.00
*Due to an unexpected office supply cost increase

10. Consider approval of a budget transfer for Justice of the Peace, Precinct #3;

Transfer from: R&M Facilities 010-078-4303 \$ 1,000.00
Transfer to: Utility Telephone 010-078-4701 \$ 1,000.00
*To pay the telephone bill for November and December 2023

11. Consider approval of a budget transfer for County Court at Law #1;

Transfer from: Professional Services 010-009-4182 \$ 500.00
Transfer to: Trial Expense 010-009-4621 \$ 500.00
*To cover cost for a competency evaluation performed by Dr. Kartye

12. Consider approval of a budget transfer for the County Landfill;

Transfer from: Profession Fee 080-180-4158 \$ 1,350.00
Transfer to: Contract Services 080-180-4123 \$ 1,350.00
*Due to printer warranty

13. Consider approval of a 2024 budget transfer from Expo contingency to cover the additional salary approved for the Office Administrator;

Transfer from: Contingency 088-188-4647 \$ 676.00
Transfer to: Admin. Assistants 088-188-4006 \$ 568.00
Payroll Taxes 088-188-4034 \$ 43.00
Retirement 088-188-4035 \$ 62.00
Workers Comp 088-188-4037 \$ 3.00

14. Consider approval of a budget transfer for Road & Bridge;

Transfer from: Hard Top Roads 035-135-4803 \$ 5,000.00
Culverts 035-135-4802 \$20,000.00
Contract Services 035-135-4123 \$20,000.00
Transfer to: Repair/Maint. Equip 035-135-4311 \$45,000.00
*Due to cover unexpected repairs for several vehicles

15. Consider approval of a budget transfer for the County Judge's Department;

Transfer from: Training Personnel 010-007-4248 \$ 700.00
Transfer to: Supplies Office 010-007-4615 \$ 700.00
*Due to unexpected office supplies

16. Consider approval of any departmental reports and routine items;

Terry Pitts made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Kent Walker seconded the motion.

Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey
Voted Against: (None)
Motion carried.

17. Terry Pitts made a motion to approve the final plat of FM Highway No. 2109 Subdivision No. 1 in Precinct #3. Kenneth Jeffrey seconded the motion.
Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey
Voted Against: (None)
Motion carried.

18. Terry Pitts made a motion to approve the report on the Adult Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) in Angelina County. Kermit Kennedy seconded the motion.
Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey
Voted Against: (None)
Motion carried.

19. The Court opened a public hearing at 10:13 A.M., pursuant to Chapter 291A of the Texas Health & Safety Code, which authorized the creation of the Angelina County Local Provider Participation Program (LPPF).

Don Lymbery said he would like to see the funds going to the hospital and how they are being spent added to the report.

Eric Robinson, with St. Luke's Health Memorial, said the funds are used primarily for indigent patients.

Jill Brewer, County Treasurer, explained the banking process for the funds.

Closed the public hearing at 10:16 A.M.

20. Kenneth Jeffrey made a motion to approve an order setting the Fiscal Year 2023 Local Provider Participation Fund (LPPF) rate at 6.00%. Kent Walker seconded the motion.
Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey
Voted Against: (None)
Motion carried.

21. Kenneth Jeffrey made a motion to approve a request from the County Treasurer for the County Judge to sign an amendment for the online banking contract with Commercial Bank of Texas. Kermit Kennedy seconded the motion.
Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey
Voted Against: (None)
Motion carried.

22. Kermit Kennedy made a motion to approve the Economic Development Grant program between Angelina County and Solar Star North Herty Storage, LLC, for the construction of a battery based, energy storage facility with an estimated cost of \$80 million dollars. Terry Pitts seconded the motion.

Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey
Voted Against: (None)
Motion carried.

23. Terry Pitts made a motion to approve a request from the Tax Office to increase ACH disbursement limits from \$6,000,000.00 daily to \$12,000,000.00 during December 2023 to February 2024. Kermit Kennedy seconded the motion.

Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey
Voted Against: (None)
Motion carried.

24. Kermit Kennedy made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Randall Roberts to the Workforce Board for a three-year term, representing the Adult Basic Education Sector for Deep East Texas. Terry Pitts seconded the motion.

Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey
Voted Against: (None)
Motion carried.

25. Kent Walker made a motion to approve the re-appointment of John White to the Workforce Board for a three-year term, representing the Labor Sector for Deep East Texas. Kermit Kennedy seconded the motion.

Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey
Voted Against: (None)
Motion carried.

26. Kent Walker made a motion to approve the appointment of Robert McLeod to the Workforce Board for a three-year term, representing the Vocational Rehabilitation Services. Terry Pitts seconded the motion.

Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey
Voted Against: (None)
Motion carried.

27. Kent Walker made a motion to approve Amendment #7 to the County Employee Benefit Plan, effective when the plan renewed on August 1, 2023. Terry Pitts seconded the motion.

Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey
Voted Against: (None)
Motion carried.

28. Judge Wright made a motion to appoint the following to a Jail Bid Review Committee for examining the bids and qualifications of each bidder for the proposed jail expansion:

Sheriff -Tom Selman
Warden-Nick Gardner
Architect- Wayne Gondeck
Angelina County Representatives-Judge Wright and Commissioner Walker

Terry Pitts seconded the motion.

Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey

Voted Against: (None)

Motion carried.

29. Kent Walker made a motion to award the contract for Professional Auditing Services to Axley & Rode, for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023-2025 with an annual renewal option for years 2026 and 2027. Terry Pitts seconded the motion. Kenneth Jeffrey abstained from voting.

Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy and Terry Pitts

Voted Against: (None)

Motion carried.

30. Terry Pitts made a motion to approve a request from James McMullen, Road & Bridge Administrator, to advertise and receive bids to purchase a Feeder Bin 10-yard hopper and 30 feet conveyor belt. Kent Walker seconded the motion.

Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey

Voted Against: (None)

Motion carried.

31. Terry Pitts made a motion to approve a policy update for the floating "birthday" holiday that was passed by the Commissioners Court on October 10, 2023. Kermit Kennedy seconded the motion.

Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey

Voted Against: (None)

Motion carried.

32. Terry Pitts made a motion to approve the Sheriff's Department to apply for the SB 22 Texas Rural Law Enforcement Grant for 2024, with the Sheriff's or County Judge's signature. Kenneth Jeffrey seconded the motion.

Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey

Voted Against: (None)

Motion carried.

33. Terry Pitts made a motion to approve the Sheriff's Department to accept a grant/donation of \$7,999.59 from the BULLET Organization for the purchase of a UAV/RPV quadcopter for law enforcement and search/rescue functions. Kermit Kennedy seconded the motion.

Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey

Voted Against: (None)

Motion carried.

34. Terry Pitts made a motion to approve a county policy establishing a procedure that a retiring Peace Officer must follow to purchase a county-owned firearm and the procedure the county department must follow to transfer ownership of the firearm; including a 30-day time limit from retirement. Kent Walker seconded the motion.

Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey

Voted Against: (None)

Motion carried.

35. Terry Pitts made a motion to pay the bills as submitted by the County Auditor. Kermit Kennedy seconded the motion.

Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey

Voted Against: (None)

Motion carried.

36. Judge Wright made a motion to adjourn at 10:40 A.M. Terry Pitts seconded the motion.

Voted For: Kent Walker, Kermit Kennedy, Terry Pitts and Kenneth Jeffrey

Voted Against: (None)

Motion carried.

I, Amy Fincher, Angelina County Clerk, do hereby attest to the accuracy of the Commissioners Court Minutes for December 12, 2023 on this 13th day of December, 2023.





Amy Fincher, Angelina County Clerk