

State of Texas	§	Court Order
Collin County	§	2022-873-09-12
Commissioners Court	§	

An order of the Commissioners Court approving the filing of the August 8, 2022 minutes.

On Monday, August 8, 2022, the Commissioners Court of Collin County, Texas, met in Regular Session in the Commissioners Courtroom, Jack Hatchell Collin County Administration Building, 4th Floor, 2300 Bloomdale Road, City of McKinney, Texas, with the following members present, and participating, to wit:

Judge Chris Hill Present
Commissioner Susan Fletcher, Precinct 1
Commissioner Cheryl Williams, Precinct 2
Commissioner Darrell Hale, Precinct 3
Commissioner Duncan Webb, Precinct 4

Commissioner Fletcher led the Invocation.
Judge Hill led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Commissioner Webb led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

Judge Hill called to order the meeting of the Collin County Commissioners Court at 1:30 p.m. and recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 2:04 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 2:21 p.m. and adjourned at 2:46 p.m.

President Hill called to order the meeting of the Collin County Health Care Foundation at 2:45 p.m. and adjourned the meeting at 2:46 p.m.

DECISIONS MANDATED BY LEGAL ENTITIES OUTSIDE OF COMMISSIONERS COURT AUTHORITY:

1. AI-52493 Personnel Appointments, Human Resources.

COMMISSIONERS COURT BUSINESS:

Public Comments

The public comments session began after Executive Session at 2:21 p.m.

Joshua Murray, Lavon, thanked the court for the opportunity to speak. Mr. Murray was thankful that Public Works website had been updated to reflect the delay in public works was due to the drought we are experiencing. In 2018, the county took out a transportation bond for updating the thoroughfares. Due to budget season approaching and the delays the county has experienced with public works, Mr. Murray would like an update on the remaining balance for that bond including status of the projects needing to be completed. Mr. Murray searched for an Emergency Notification System provided by the County but was unable to find one. He would like the County to establish a notification system for the public to be made aware of local emergencies due to weather, health or infrastructure failures.

Joe Harwell, Plano, spoke on election integrity. In the world, the United States is a shining beacon of hope. We are the land of hope, prosperity and people have the opportunity to be whatever they want when they come here. Texas is the beacon within the United States as the last hope for conservative measures. People from all over the country are moving here because we showcase conservative values and smaller government. Within Texas, you have Collin County. The sixth largest county in Texas and the 43rd largest county in the United States. Collin County needs to lead the way for election integrity. We need to lead the state, lead the country and lead the world. Mr. Harwell asked the court how their families are going to view their actions three or four years from now. It is time to remove the machines from elections and use paper ballots that are hand counted. Mr. Harwell said a secret ballot count must be viewed as a violation of our civil rights.

Joseph Cruz, Princeton, read the resolution that was passed April 4, 2022 by the Collin County Republican Party Executive Committee. The resolution pertains to the use of paper ballots in elections in Collin County to avoid election fraud.

Shannon Ayres, Frisco, stated the Secretary of State failed to authenticate the certification of election machines. The Secretary of State is not authorized to ignore or suspend specific sections of the election code and is violating several Texas Constitutional Codes. If the Secretary of State and the Legislation are not able or willing to verify the certification of the election machines, then it falls to the County Commissioners to ensure the integrity of the elections. The residents of Collin County have a healthy skepticism about the elections, and it is up to the local government to restore their faith in voting. Ms. Ayres knows that the Court wants fair elections as well and assured the Commissioners the public is willing to work with them to restore integrity to the election process.

Barbara Isaacs, Fairview, said, in November 2021, Governor Abbott authorized funding for a full forensic audit of the 2020 election in four Texas counties including Collin County. On December 21, 2022 the Secretary of State announced the results of phase one from this audit. Ms. Isaacs would like the court to ask the Secretary of State for an update on this audit and a date when they can expect this report. Ms. Isaacs asked if the court could confirm if the auditors were looking at the actual paper ballots of the 2020 election in their investigation. The audit process has not been independent or transparent. According to a

Rasmussen poll on July 7, 2022, 52-59% of American voters maintain that cheating likely effected the 2020 election outcome. The best way to restore voter confidence in the election process is for Collin County to perform a full and thorough forensic audit of the votes and the paper ballots that were submitted in 2020. This audit needs to be independent and transparent with the findings. Ms. Isaacs asked the court to preserve all evidence in regards to the 2020 general election due to the historical significance that data and information provides.

Mark Brugge, Fairview, said he appreciates the commissioners and the opportunity to speak in court. Mr. Brugge requested the court show him the same respect and put voting integrity as an item on the agenda for court discussion. Mr. Brugge was in court last week when it was said by Judge Hill that Collin County uses paper ballots. However, he finds this statement to be inaccurate as the paper ballots are printed from machines with a bar code and then submitted back into a machine for counting. The county needs to hand count the paper ballots to help ensure the accuracy of the election. Election machines and election servers are vulnerable to being hacked.

Lori Sexty, Allen, said paper ballots cannot be hacked. Paper ballots provide physical proof of the voter's intent. Counting ballots in public provides 100% oversight and transparency. When Ms. Sexty spoke last week, she made these same statements. However, as she walked away, Judge Hill stated that Collin County uses paper ballots. Ms. Sexty thought she had been misinformed but later felt the Judge demeaned her and was trying to discredit her. Ms. Sexty told Judge Hill that she has lost all respect for him due to his disrespect to her. While the county uses paper ballots, they are printed from a machine and then submitted into another machine. We need paper and pen ballots, cameras on the vote counters and one day voting with same day results. There needs to be no more use of Dominion voting machines. Hand count the vote for complete transparency.

Margaret Whitt, Murphy, asked the court to join other counties in declaring a state of invasion for Collin County. Parker County has declared a state of invasion due to the surge of immigrants after President Biden took office. The Supreme Court has not allowed states to enforce federal immigration laws. Therefore, states need to declare a state of invasion to activate a constitutional response from the federal government. Although Governor Abbot has not declared a state of invasion, several Texas counties already have. The Parker County Sheriff told the commissioners that fentanyl overdoses caused by the surge in illegal immigration posed a significant threat to their county. Along the border, apprehensions have risen above 1.7 million in the last 9 months alone. Border Patrol agents between Brownsville, TX and San Diego, CA detained over 232,628 illegal border crossers in May. That is the highest number in 23 years of counting. Fentanyl overdoses have become the number one cause of death in adults aging 18-45 years old. If Texans don't save Texas, no one will.

1. **Consent Agenda Items:** Judge Hill asked for comments on the consent agenda. The Judge held item 1i1 for a future date. Commissioner Fletcher pulled check #526774 for recusal. Hearing no other comments, a motion was made to approve the consent agenda. (Time: 1:32 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Duncan Webb

Second by: Commissioner Susan Fletcher

Vote: 5 – 0 passed

a. **AI-52469** Disbursements for the period ending August 2, 2022, Auditor.

COURT ORDER NO. 2022-715-08-08

A motion was made to approve check #526774. (Time 1:32 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Cheryl Williams

Second by: Commissioner Darryl Hale

Vote: 4-0 Passed

Abstained: Commissioner Susan Fletcher

COURT ORDER NO. 2022-716-08-08

b. **AI-52470** Indigent Defense Disbursements, Auditor.

COURT ORDER NO. 2022-717-08-08

c. **AI-52477** Tax refunds totaling \$464,794.72, Tax Assessor-Collector.

COURT ORDER NO. 2022-718-08-08

d. **Advertisement(s):**

1. **AI-52474** Coffee: Services & Supplies (RFP No. 2022-163), Purchasing.

COURT ORDER NO. 2022-719-08-08

e. **Agreement(s):**

1. **AI-52489** Interlocal Agreement with the City of Parker concerning the design of city owned water utility relocations for the FM 2551 roadway widening project (2007 Bond Project No. RI070074) and budget amendment in the amount of \$59,285 for same, Engineering.

COURT ORDER NO. 2022-720-08-08

f. Change Order(s):

1. AI-52476 No. 1 to Services: Coffee (IFB No. 2017-159) with Daihohs USA, Inc. d/b/a First Choice Coffee Services to extend the contract for four (4) months through and including January 31, 2023, include a price determination, and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute same, Purchasing.

COURT ORDER NO. 2022-721-08-08

g. Budget adjustment(s)/amendment(s):

1. AI-52478 \$8,499 to reallocate funds for the Spay/Neuter Program, Development Services.

COURT ORDER NO. 2022-722-08-08

h. Filing of the Minute(s), County Clerk:

1. AI-52462 July 11, 2022.

COURT ORDER NO. 2022-723-08-08

i. Miscellaneous:

1. AI-52465 Temporary Court Administrator position for the District Courts, 471st District Court.

HOLD

2. AI-52479 Creation of North Collin County Municipal Utility District No. 1, Administrative Services.

COURT ORDER NO. 2022-724-08-08

3. AI-52494 Personnel Appointments, Human Resources.

COURT ORDER NO. 2022-725-08-08

4. AI-52495 Personnel Changes, Human Resources.

COURT ORDER NO. 2022-726-08-08

2. General Discussion Items:

a. AI-52475 2022 Benefits Presentation, Human Resources.

Cynthia Jacobson, Human Resources, gave a PowerPoint presentation on Collin County 2022 Benefits.

Total claims cost increased from 2020 to 2021. This was mostly due to COVID-19 related incidents. The county had six of their employees die due to COVID-19. In 2021, the employees paid 10% of the total claims cost and the county paid 90%.

For COVID-19 related claims alone, the county paid \$3,170,421 in 2021 and, so far in 2022, has paid \$354,729. Total overall spent from 2020 to current is \$5,781,096. These costs include vaccines, testing and confirmed diagnosis.

In the fiscal year budget versus claims per employee, the county budgeted \$15,600 with expected claims totaling \$18,197. In 2021, the county budgeted \$15,600, and the claims totaled \$17,285. These totals included stop loss reimbursements. In the fiscal year budget versus claims per employee without stop loss, the county budgeted \$15,600 in 2021, and claims totaled \$21,643. In 2022, the county is budgeting \$15,600 with expected claims estimated at \$21,546.

In 2021, the average premium cost per employee was \$15,909. Collin County's premium cost per employee was \$21,502. The county pays above average for insurance premiums per employee. The average number of insured members for the county was 3,602. Every insured employee covers an average of 1.44 dependents. There were 104 claims over \$50,000 in 2021. Claims over \$50,000 are considered catastrophic cases. Of the 104 claims, 67 were between \$50,000 and \$100,000, and 13 of the 104 claims were over \$200,000. Four catastrophic cases accounted for 54% of 2021 total COVID-19 related spending.

Ten percent of insured adults had a diabetes diagnosis. Diabetes numbers are not comparable to last year as UHC (United Health Care) has changed the methodology for determining a diabetes diagnosis. Thirty percent of pharmacy costs paid were for adults with diabetes and 9% of medical paid was for adults with diabetes.

Collin County has a Nurse Liaison position that focuses on overall health of county employees. The previous employee in this position left in August of 2021, and the county did not have a liaison until one was hired in July 2022. The Nurse is responsible for engaging members to participate in wellness and EAP (Employee Assistant Program). In 2022, the Nurse will focus on adult diabetes.

The major cost drivers for the county were infectious and parasitic diseases totaling \$2.1 million in claims. This is 24% of total catastrophic claims cost. The amount spent in this category increased 102% from last year. The second highest claim cost was circulatory claims totaling \$1.6 million. This accounted for 17% of total catastrophic claims cost. Insured individuals with more than \$50,000 in medical net payments represent 2% of claimants but 47% of medical costs. Human Resources is concerned about the cancer diagnosis category. Though usually in the top 3 for claimants, it has dropped to the number five since COVID-19. Human Resources is concerned about employees doing the necessary testing to catch cancer early before it becomes a higher risk and high cost treatment.

Stop Loss Fees increased from \$3,507,705 in 2020 to \$4,324,936 in 2021. However, the Stop Loss Reimbursement was not exceeded in either year. In 2020, the Stop Loss Reimbursement was \$3,655,140 and in 2021 it was \$6,491,064. The Carrier Impact in 2020 was -4%, and in 2021 the impact was -50%. The incurred fee was less than what we gave the carrier for reimbursements.

Total pharmacy costs in 2021 were \$8,222,934. This accounted for 24% of the total costs paid by the county and increased 5% since 2020. Over the last five years, specialty drug payments, non-specialty drug payments and plan paid per prescription have all increased. The employees pays 8% of the pharmacy costs while the county pays the remaining 92%. One employee with a very high prescription cost has left the county, and that will affect the total spent on pharmacy medications in 2022. Of the top 15 prescriptions, only 3 are not specialty medications. Two of the three highest cost medications will not be included in 2022 due to this employee leaving the county. Specialty drug costs for the county's plan increased from \$917 per member to \$974 per member. Specialty drugs accounted for 43% of total pharmacy costs in 2020 and in 2021. Non-specialty drugs accounted for the remaining 57%.

Collin County is self-insured and pays all medical claims itself rather than paying an insurance company to pay for claims. The county has a \$500 copay for emergency room visits. If the employee is admitted to the hospital for their emergency room visit, the \$500 copay is waived. There are several options available for employees to seek treatment before heading to the emergency room. These options include primary care physician, convenience care clinic and urgent care clinic.

Only 17% of employees use the total dental benefits provided by the county. The average for dental plan deductibles is \$51, and Collin County's deductible is \$50. The average dental plan maximum is \$1,763. Collin County's dental plan maximum is \$1,000.

Employee Only coverage is \$119 per month; Employee + Spouse coverage with Collin County is \$250 per month; Employee + Child(ren) is \$205 per month; Employee + Family is \$330 per month.

Insurance rates for full-time employees have been stable since 2014 for both the Advantage Plan and Advantage Plus Plan. This will continue into 2022. Additional information provided by Human Resources included plan demographics and an Employee Contribution Percentage Survey. Ms. Jacobson briefly reviewed retiree insurance and how the county's insurance plans meet the requirements for the Affordable Care Act.

Collin County offers wellness incentives for eligible employees. This includes a \$200 wellness payment and a \$25 monthly insurance discount if they complete the required assessments. Eighty-one percent of insured employees participated in the Wellness Utilization program. This is 14% above the normal participation for employers. The wellness incentives are in place to help motivate employees to live a

healthier lifestyle. In a 2021 BMI statistics comparison, Collin County had a higher percentage of obese individuals compared to Texas and the United States overall. (Time 1:33 p.m.)

NO ACTION

3. Executive Session Items:

The Court recessed into Executive Session at 2:04 p.m. under Chapter 551.072, Real Estate, of the Government Code to discuss the acquisition of parcels for the Collin County Outer Loop from FM 2478 (Custer Road) to US 75.

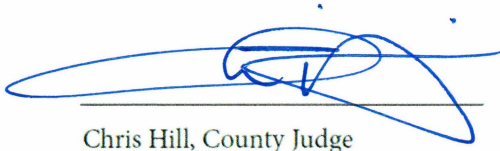
The Court reconvened at 2:21 p.m.

AI-52511 Acquisition of right of way for parcels associated with the Collin County Outer Loop from FM 2478 (Custer Road) to US 75, Engineering.

NO ACTION

The Court began the public comments session at 2:21 p.m.

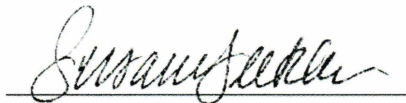
There being no further business of the Court, Judge Hill adjourned the meeting at 2:46 p.m.



Chris Hill, County Judge



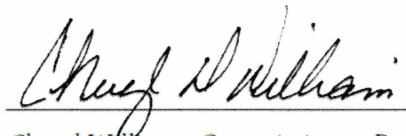
Darrell Hale, Commissioner, Pct 3



Susan Fletcher, Commissioner, Pct 1



Duncan Webb, Commissioner, Pct 4



Cheryl Williams, Commissioner, Pct 2



ATTEST: Stacey Kemp, County Clerk