

An order of the Commissioners Court approving the filing of the August 7, 2023 minutes.

On Monday, August 7, 2023, 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
Commissioner Susan Fletcher, Precinct 1
Commissioner Cheryl Williams, Precinct 2
Commissioner Darrell Hale, Precinct 3
Commissioner Duncan Webb, Precinct 4

Judge Hill led the Invocation.
Commissioner Hale led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Commissioner Williams 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. The Court recessed at 3:46 p.m. and reconvened at 3:58 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

President Hill called to order the meeting of the Collin County Health Care Foundation at 4:51 p.m. and adjourned the meeting at 4:52 p.m.

FYI NOTIFICATION:

1. AI-54319 Intra-County account transfers transmitted June 29, 2023, Auditor.
2. AI-54349 Intra-County account transfers transmitted July 6, 2023, Auditor.
3. AI-54369 Intra-County account transfers transmitted July 14, 2023, Auditor.
4. AI-54406 Intra-County account transfers transmitted July 24, 2023, Auditor.
5. AI-54363 Change Order No. 15 to Construction, Collin County Adult Detention Facility, Phase 1 Addition (IFB No. 2021-239) with Ratcliff Constructors, L.P. to make various changes to the contract, Construction & Projects.

6. AI-54358 County Road 168 intersection modification update, Public Works.
7. AI-54398 Addendum No. 1 to Professional Services, Surveying (RFP No. 2023-240) to provide various changes to the contract, Purchasing.
8. AI-54408 Turnover, Human Resources.
9. AI-54409 Voluntary Turnover, Human Resources.
10. **Notification of budget adjustment(s)/amendment(s):**
 - a. AI-54306 \$400,000 to establish the budget for the FY2023-2024 Veterans Treatment Court Grant, Auditor.

COMMISSIONERS COURT BUSINESS:

Public comments related to item AI-54414 on the Agenda.

Dr. Mark Quinn, Melissa, serves on the Collin County Planning Board. On several occasions, Dr. Quinn had recommended Collin County aggressively go after federal funds for infrastructure and road needs. He is concerned about the current population growth in Collin County and that bond money may be going towards places people are moving away from to come here. It could be complicated and may require additional staff, but it could be a way to handle some of the growth while not raising taxes more than necessary.

Rutledge Haggard, Chair of the Myers Park Advisory Board, said we are very privileged to have a park like Myers Park in Collin County. They have some items on the bond issue they are hoping to get approved which would solve having to ask for repairs of these aging items every year.

Lisa Allison, Frisco, asked the Court for support to allow Collin County residents to vote on the bond proposition which includes an expansion of and improvements to CCAS (Collin County Animal Services). Ms. Allison has been one of many advocating for Frisco to have their own animal shelter since it is one of the largest cities in Texas without a shelter in their city limits. The overcrowded conditions at CCAS with dogs stacked in crates in the hallways is stressful for the staff, animals, volunteers and visitors. She appreciates all the staff does for the animals at the shelter, but the shelter is simply out of space. CCAS was built in 2006 as a stray hold Facility and never meant to be an adoption facility. At that time, it was supporting a much smaller population, and there has not been an expansion since it was built. Ms. Allison

also asked the Court if they could find a way to support or fund low-cost spay and neuter clinics until the expansion is complete.

Aditya Nimbalegundi, Frisco, said CCAS is currently at 150% capacity which is not okay. Mr. Nimbalegundi asked for the expansion of the CCAS facility and to move forward with the bond issue. It is very clear the shelter is taking in more dogs and cats than it has room for which has led to the congestion. Fatal diseases such as parvovirus effect the puppies. This is the perfect opportunity to add kennel space, quarantine space, and medical rooms which will significantly help the shelter and the animals.

1. **Consent Agenda Items:** Judge Hill asked for comments on the consent agenda. Commissioner Fletcher pulled checks 536212, 536408 and 536423 from item 1a for recusal. Commissioner Hale pulled 1M9 for comment. With no further comments, a motion was made to approve the remainder of the consent agenda. (Time: 1:39 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Darrell Hale
Second by: Commissioner Susan Fletcher
Vote: 5-0: Passed

a. AI-54365 Disbursements for the period ending August 1, 2023, Auditor.
COURT ORDER NO. 2023-649-08-07

A motion was made to approve checks 536212, 536408 and 536423. (Time: 1:40 p.m.).

Motion by: Commissioner Darrell Hale
Second by: Commissioner Cheryl Williams
Vote: 4-0: Passed
Abstained: Commissioner Susan Fletcher

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-650-08-07

b. AI-54366 Indigent Defense Disbursements, Auditor.
COURT ORDER NO. 2023-651-08-07

c. AI-54399 Tax Refunds totaling \$687,001.92, Tax Assessor-Collector.
COURT ORDER NO. 2023-652-08-07

d. **Advertisement(s):**

1. AI-54378 Road Materials, Flexbase (Grade 1, Type A) (IFB No. 2023-343), Public Works.
COURT ORDER NO. 2023-653-08-07

e. **Award(s):**

1. AI-54377 Professional Services, Right of Way Acquisition Services (RFP No. 2023-034) to various vendors, and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute agreements for same, Engineering.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-654-08-07

2. AI-54407 Chilled Water Pipe Replacement (Coop Quote No. 2023-354) to The Brandt Companies, LLC through BuyBoard Contract No. 638-21, Facilities.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-655-08-07

f. **Agreement(s):**

1. AI-54410 Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Fairview concerning Fairview Parkway from Medical Drive to Ridgeview Drive, 2018 Bond Project No. RI18033, Engineering.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-656-08-07

2. AI-54411 Interlocal Agreement with the City of Allen concerning the construction of Ridgeview Drive from Chelsea Boulevard to US 75, 2018 Bond Project No. RI18029, Engineering.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-657-08-07

3. AI-54402 Tax Collections Services Agreement between the Collin County Tax Assessor-Collector and Raintree Municipal Utility District No. 1, Tax Assessor-Collector.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-658-08-07

g. **Amendment(s):**

1. AI-54405 Addendum No. 1 to Dealer Deputy Agreement between Collin County Tax Assessor-Collector and Eldorado Motors, Inc. d/b/a Eldorado Chevrolet to increase inventory and bond amount, Tax Assessor-Collector.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-659-08-07

h. **Change Order(s):**

1. AI-54381 No. 3 to YMCA HVAC Rentals (Contract No. 2022-445) with HERC Rentals, Inc. to add two and one half (2 1/2) weeks of rental of a 40 ton AC/Heat combo unit, and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute same; budget adjustment in the amount of \$6,822, Facilities.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-660-08-07

i. Contract Renewal(s):

1. AI-54357 Roads, Joint & Crack Sealing Services (IFB No. 2021-232) with Wopac Construction, Inc. to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including September 30, 2024, Public Works.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-661-08-07

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

1. AI-54392 \$2,000 to fund training courses for the Law Librarian, Law Library.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-662-08-07

2. AI-54376 \$7,465 to purchase two (2) cash counting machines with printers, Tax Assessor-Collector.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-663-08-07

3. AI-54348 \$22,293 to purchase a DS85i Three Station Folder Inserter Machine, Elections.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-664-08-07

4. AI-54323 \$28,000 for intern stipends, utilizing State Forfeiture Funds, District Attorney.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-665-08-07

5. AI-54305 \$205,847 to establish the budget for the 493rd District Court, Budget.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-666-08-07

k. Receive and File, Auditor:

1. AI-54322 Law Library (FY2021).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-667-08-07

2. AI-54320 Constable, Precinct 1 (1st Quarter FY2023).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-668-08-07

3. AI-54395 Monthly financial reports for May 2023.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-669-08-07

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

1. AI-54371 July 10, 2023.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-670-08-07

m. **Miscellaneous:**

1. **AI-54417** Grant an exemption to the County Cell Phone Policy to purchase cell phones for Veterans Court contract employees, utilizing the Veterans Court Jury Donations Fund, 296th District Court.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-671-08-07

2. **AI-54394** Grant application for the FY2023-2024 VALOR Mental Health Grant in the amount of \$175,000, through the Texas Veterans Commission, 296th District Court.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-672-08-07

3. **AI-54342** Amendment No. 2 to Community Mental Health Grant program (Contract No. HHS000477100010) to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including August 31, 2024 with a county match of \$36,456, 471st District Court.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-673-08-07

4. **AI-54401** Redesignation of Private Road Schmoldt Way as Indoor Golf Way with associated address updates, GIS/Rural Addressing.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-674-08-07

5. **AI-54274** Rescind Court Order No. 2023-482-06-12 for the award of Vehicle: Ford Expedition for Sheriff's Office (Contract No. 2023-256) to Silsbee Ford, Inc., and payment of restocking fees in the amount of \$800 utilizing Federal Forfeiture Funds, Public Works.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-675-08-07

6. **AI-54415** Acceptance of the Citibank rebate in the amount of \$12,739.46 to be deposited in the Going the Extra Mile Employee Incentive Program line item, and budget amendment for same, Purchasing.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-676-08-07

7. **AI-54343** Acceptance of a trailer into the Sheriff's Office fleet, and budget amendment in the amount of \$5,316, utilizing Federal Forfeiture Funds, to purchase graphics for same, Sheriff.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-677-08-07

8. **AI-54418** Personnel Appointments, Human Resources.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-678-08-07

9. AI-54419 Personnel Changes, Human Resources.

Commissioner Hale congratulated the following employees who all received promotions: Magda Rodriguez, Matthew Creek, Roxana Scott and Shelby Wright. With no further comments, a motion was made to approve this item. (Time: 1:40 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Darrell Hale
Second by: Commissioner Cheryl Williams
Vote: 5-0: Passed

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-679-08-07

2. **General Discussion Items:**

a. AI-54414 Proposed Bond Election, Engineering.

Rusty Glover, Chairman of the Collin County Planning Board, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Planning Board’s recommendations for the 2023 Bond Election. The project funding recommendations include a public health facility, justice projects, animal shelter facility project, parks and open space projects and road projects. The planning process for the 2023 Bond Election began in February of 2023, and several meetings have been held since then. Collin County’s debt capacity analysis is currently at \$683,374,864, but there are some concerns. Our growth rate is currently at 3%. However, we are all aware Collin County has grown at a higher rate than 3% over the past 10 years, and \$683,374,864 is not enough. With over 80 people moving to Collin County daily, the Board members decided the ideal debt capacity would need to be \$1 billion. This would increase the current tax rate to 5.4% from 4.4%. This is not the Planning Board’s recommendation, but they wanted to make sure they brought it to the Court’s attention.

Judge Hill asked Mr. Glover to clarify his concerns when it comes to the \$683,374,864. A major concern is in regards to the roads. The Planning Board has allocated a recommendation of roughly \$380 million towards road projects, but the Board believes there will be a bigger demand for roadway infrastructure due to the rapid growth in the County. Mr. Glover said roadway infrastructure is the biggest need and where he would like to see more money than recommended. Commissioner Fletcher asked if Mr. Glover is saying the other needs are not worthy of additional funding. Mr. Glover said he is not saying they are not worthy, but roadway infrastructure would be the largest need and number one priority. Commissioner Webb said Mr. Grovers concern is related the growth rate of 3%, but he thinks it will be substantially and materially more which then would support a larger bond analysis. Mr. Glover agreed. At a meeting Mr. Glover recently attended, there was information which predicted a growth of 594,000 people over the next five years with a majority of those people moving to Collin County.

Mr. Glover presented the following breakdown of the project funding recommendations: the Public Health Facility Project budget recommendation is \$13,360,685; Justice Facility Project is \$261,864,179; CCAS is \$5,700,000; Parks and Open Space Project is \$22,450,000; and the Road Project is \$380,000,000. Mr. Glover said there are fewer people adopting pets, and there is an increase in stray animals due to the growth in Collin County. The CCAS was built in 2006 and has not been expanded since. The Parks and Open Space Project was a well discussed item. Originally, there was an ask of \$22 million for Myers Park, but the funds were scaled back to \$2,450,000. Myers Park asked for \$11 million for a farm museum Project, but the Planning Board was unsure how often it would be utilized. Mr. Glover said there was a \$6 million item in the budget that was for a sewer line, but the Planning Board decided it would be more of a benefit to the City of McKinney. Therefore, they recommended the city build the sewer line instead of the county. The Road Project funding recommendation is the biggest item in terms of need. As population continues to grow, we will continue to look for grants and reach out to the federal government for ways to help share some of the costs for roadway infrastructure. Commissioner Webb asked if the decision for the project funding recommendation was unanimous. Mr. Bilyeu confirmed the vote for the \$683,374,864 was unanimous, and all but two members voted for the \$1 billion recommendation.

Judge Hill thanked everyone who worked on the Project Funding Recommendation. If there were no financial constraints, he would support every item on the list. However, we don't have the luxury to work without financial constraints. What we have learned from the Collin County Budget and Human Resources department is in next year's budget, taking just the elementary recommendations, we are looking at a budget that is \$12 million upside down before the Budget Workshop. Collin County has never been in this situation before. The only way to close the \$12 million gap would be to raise taxes, and this would be a significant tax increase that would actually be over the rollback rate. Because of the fact that Collin County has been diligent in the years past, they have an unused rollback increment which would allow us to recapture it. We could raise taxes up to the state defined limit, and then could raise taxes more than that due to previous years where taxes were not raised. As long as we stay short of the unused increment rollback rate, none of the citizens would get to vote on the tax rate. However, the citizens are able to vote on the bond election rate. Judge Hill is concerned that, after the Court potentially raises property taxes, they will then be asking the citizens if they are willing to raise their own taxes to approve the Bond Election. He is still in favor of the bond election but is concerned we will need to craft a message for the citizens to make sure they understand what is being voted on and why it is important. This means taking out anything at all that may not be necessary right now. His opinion is to take out items that are not geared toward County responsibilities but rather towards the cities' responsibilities. In every bond election, Collin County has always put money in for grants to the cities for parks and open space for example. In this proposal, there is \$20 million under parks and open space that is meant for giveaway grants for the cities that are chosen. Collin County needs the \$20 million to go towards road projects. He would ask the cities who want wanting to build parks and open space to hold a Bond Election for those funds instead of asking the County for them.

A motion was made by Judge Hill to shift \$20 million from Parks and Open Space and \$5.7 million from the Animal Shelter Facility Project to the Roads Project and to clarify the road bond does not include city funds. (Time: 2:32 p.m.)

Commissioner Fletcher said Myers Park is the County's facility, and she is very committed to what needs to be done there. Regarding roads, it is important for the County to consider projects that move people between communities even if they are not LARs (Limited Access Roadways) and are within cities. We have done a lot of planning on how these roads will move people between communities. The Commissioner would rather use the extra \$20 million designated for Parks and Open spaces and partner with the cities on roads that are on the transportation plan and fit the County's needs.

Commissioner Fletcher is also fully committed to the Animal Shelter. There have been many air conditioning problems this summer and other issues. We need to have a facility where we can safely care for the animals. Judge Hill had said half of Frisco is in Denton County, but all the animals from Frisco are being brought to Collin County. The Commissioner clarified that Frisco funds 32% of the entire animal shelter which is more than their fair share. Judge Hill agreed the County should continue to partner regionally on LARS, major thoroughfares and County roads. However, he does want to separate out the grants that are given to the cities.

Commissioner Webb asked Mr. Daugherty to confirm that previously provided grants to the surrounding cities, had to be on a thoroughfare plan and were ranked by eligibility, meeting needs, and minimizing or improving mobility within Collin County. Mr. Daugherty agreed those elements were a part of the process. The intent was they support regional flow.

Commissioner Williams said, since she has been a member of the Court, they have only provided grants to cities as it related to improvements in mobility across the county. They have never awarded dollars to pave a neighborhood street. She is happy with what the Planning Board brought to the Court and does not feel the need to make any changes to it. The Court has always gone on the premise that there should be a bond election every five years. One way to address it may be to do it in shorter increments like every four years.

Commissioner Webb also agreed with the Planning Board's recommendations. He is, however, concerned with cities developing and not preserving enough land for parks and open spaces. He also agreed with Commissioner Williams' suggestion of shorter increments for bond elections.

Commissioner Hale said we are not at the peak on intake with the animal shelter. Since COVID, people are not adopting. Animals are coming in but not going out. It will always max out if this continues. Regarding open space, constituents are concerned Collin County is turning into a giant parking lot. We need to partner with the cities to try to preserve some green space. He also thinks the Court needs to go

with the Planning Board's recommendation which had a majority vote to go up to the \$903 million. Regarding the Outer Loop, corridors are closing off, and we don't have multiple years to wait to acquire ROW (Right of Way). He would be supportive of modifying parks and open space.

Judge Hill made a motion to approve the issuance of \$261,864,179 for the Judicial Facilities Projects. (Time: 3:03 p.m.)

Motion by: Judge Hill
Second by: Commissioner Susan Fletcher
Vote: 5-0: Passed

A motion was made to approve the issuance of \$13,360,685 for the Public Health Project (Medical Examiner). (Time: 3:03 p.m.)

Motion by: Judge Hill
Second by: Commissioner Susan Fletcher
Vote: 5-0: Passed

A motion was made to approve the issuance of \$380,000,000 of bonds for the designing, developing, constructing, renovating, improving, extending, expanding and maintaining roads and bridges within Collin County. (Time: 3:12 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Duncan Webb
Second by: Commissioner Cheryl Williams
Vote: 5-0: Passed

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-680-08-07

Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the issuance of \$5,700,000 for the Animal Shelter Facility Project. (Time: 3:06 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Cheryl Williams
Second by: Commissioner Duncan Webb
Vote: 4-1: Passed
Nay: Judge Chris Hill

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-681-08-07

A motion was made by Commissioner Williams to approve the issuance of \$22,450,000 for the Parks and Open Space Projects. (Time: 3:07 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Cheryl Williams

Second by: Commissioner Darrell Hale

Vote: 3-2: Passed

Nay: Judge Chris Hill & Commissioner Susan Fletcher

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-682-08-07

After a lengthy discussion and determining that each Commissioner has the right to place items on the agenda, the Court agreed to put the bond proposition language on the August, 14th general meeting agenda. (Time: 3:46 p.m.)

The Court recessed at 3:46 p.m. and reconvened at 3:58 p.m. Commissioner Duncan Webb did not return to Court.

b. **AI-54421** Salary Supplement for Pretrial Diversion Felony Prosecutor in the amount of \$3,898.75, utilizing the District Attorney Pretrial Intervention Program Special Revenue Fund, Commissioner, Precinct 1.

Greg Willis, District Attorney, said he is in need of a Pretrial Diversion Prosecutor which is a felony level position. This is not a sought after position because whoever is in this position cannot try cases. This is due to the salary being funded by the Pretrial Intervention Program Special Revenue Fund. Law says the pre-trial diversion participant fee money can be used towards fees or expenses associated with the program. Mr. Willis found a candidate who has taken a pay cut from the City of McKinney where she was making \$103 thousand as a municipal prosecutor. She is more than qualified for this position. Mr. Willis is asking the Court for a salary supplement for Pretrial Diversion Felony Prosecutor in the amount of \$3,898.75 utilizing the District Attorney Pretrial Intervention Program Special Revenue Fund.

Cynthia Jacobson, Human Resources, clarified the use of supplement funds follows policy and is not an issue. A motion was made to approve this item. (Time: 4:03 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Susan Fletcher

Second by: Commissioner Darrell Hale

Vote: 4-0: Passed

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-683-08-07

c. AI-54445 Texas Transportation Commission's removal of \$480,000,000 from US 380 and Spur 399 Projects, County Judge.

Clarence Daugherty, Engineering, said there is an annual process that TxDOT (Texas Department of Transportation) goes through to set the priorities for the next 10 years. Also the RTC (Regional Transportation Council) has a 10-year plan which is similar to the TxDOT plan but limited to North Texas. This year, TxDOT asked the RTC to switch some of the sources of funds around to provide TxDOT the ability to fund Projects. This was agreed to. However, when the final draft of the UTP (Unified Transportation Program) came out, they had reduced the amount of funds to be allocated towards Collin County's part of the trade. A letter was drafted by Collin County to the Texas Transportation Commission to emphasize the problem this causes. The two Projects that have been reduced in funding are the US380 Freeway and the McKinney Bypass Spur 399 around the airport. There is no guarantee the money will be put back or put back in time. The concern is, when it comes time for construction, the funds will not be available. This letter is intended to express the Court's concern.

Commissioner Webb said our region, specifically Collin County, is being penalized. This could be devastating to the City of McKinney and our whole region. One of the things Commissioner Webb has asked during this process is, if the Commission does not put the \$490 million back in the UTP this year, will they commit to doing so next year. Commissioner Hale said Precinct 3 will be the most affected by this. If you are traveling down US380, you will be slowed up during certain hours of the day already. Any kind of delay is unacceptable. This also affects Denton and Hunt Counties as well as SH121. Commissioner Fletcher said this delay would continue to stifle the economic engine here in North Texas. To divert and shift that to Harris County which has a much larger footprint when it comes to limited access freeways just does not make sense. And to cut down on a road that is already rated an F makes no sense. Population will continue to grow, and there is nothing we can do to stop it.

With no further comments, a motion was made to approve this item. (Time: 1:48 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Duncan Webb

Second by: Commissioner Darrell Hale

Vote: 5-0: Passed

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-684-08-07

Commissioner Susan Fletcher had to leave Court due to a prior commitment. (Time: 4:44 p.m.)

d. AI-54453 Boards & Commissions Appointments, Commissioners Court.

A motion was made to appoint Catherine Gibb to the Child Protective Services Board (Time: 4:45 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Cheryl Williams

Second by: Commissioner Darrell Hale

Vote: 3 – 0: Passed

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-685-08-07

e. AI-54382 **Public Hearing** - Placement of regulatory signs on County Road 392 at County Road 728 and at County Road 447, Public Works.

Jon Kleinheksel, Public Works, requested the Court's approval to place regulatory signs on County Road 392 at County Road 728 and at County Road 447. All requirements necessary have been met.

Judge Hill opened the public hearing at 1:49 p.m. and asked for comments. Hearing none, Judge Hill closed the public hearing at 1:49 p.m. A motion was made to approve the item. (Time: 1:49 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Cheryl Williams

Second by: Commissioner Susan Fletcher

Vote: 5-0: Passed

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-686-08-07

f. AI-54352 Addition of five (5) vehicles to the Sheriff's Office fleet, Sheriff.

James Skinner, Collin County Sheriff, is asking for the addition of five vehicles to be make ready and parked in the underground garage at the Sheriff's Office in a reserved capacity for emergency use. This request stems from the mass shooting that occurred in Allen. On that day, 32 deputies responded to the scene at the Allen Premium Outlet Mall leaving a massive recall at the Sheriff's Office when the shooting occurred. Individuals who already had units assigned took a number of posts across the county and districts that were left open by those deputies who responded to the mass shooting. Calls were also covered for Allen Police Department. Twelve deputies were in uniform and ready to go, but there were no vehicles for them to use. The five vehicles being requested are not to be used under any circumstances unless it is an emergency.

Jon Kleinheksel, Public Works, confirmed the vehicles have not been prepped for police service and will need to go through make ready process. These vehicles have already been assigned to the Sheriff's Office

to be used as replacement vehicles once a patrol car hits 150 thousand miles. Monika Arris, Budget, said not all of the make ready is budgeted. There are some items that are taken from the old cars and placed onto the new ones so additional funding would be necessary. Mr. Kleinheksel said it would cost \$65,000 per vehicle for make ready and for all of the equipment to be placed on each car.

A decision was made by the Court to hold this item.

HELD

g. AI-54328 2023 Benefits Presentation, Human Resources.

Cynthia Jacobson, Human Resources, provided a PowerPoint presentation on benefit costs for the County. This included data regarding budget verses actual claims, average premium cost per employee, utilization of medical benefits, catastrophic cases, out-of-network rates, diabetes, top diagnoses by cost, major cost drivers, stop-loss carrier, and pharmacy.

Ms. Jacobson listed some items of note throughout the presentation. One was regarding the raw claims data which showed costs had decreased in 2022 by 4%. She said this is probably due to the decrease in COVID-19 costs which had increased costs over the last few years. Ms. Jacobson noted the stop-loss reimbursement is for claims that go over a certain amount and then the County gets money back. This enables the County to budget lower than actual claims due to having a reserve of funds. All County employees utilize the medical benefits and in 2022, there was an increase in high-claims where the amounts were between \$50,000 and \$200,000. Although sixty-one percent of catastrophic cases are for employees, the really high-cost claims are for dependents.

For major cost drivers, Ms. Jacobson noted the increase in ER visits and the determination some of those visits could have been done at urgent care instead. The County has hired a nurse liaison to assist staff in knowing how to differentiate between needing to go to the ER and when to go to urgent care. Ms. Jacobson noted pharmacy costs are a major cost driver for the County's plan. Over the last five years, prescription payments have increased significantly especially since medical conditions are treated with medications rather than hospitalizations. The top two conditions utilizing prescriptions were inflammatory and diabetes with such drugs as Ozempic which can also be used for weight loss. Commissioner Williams asked if Ozempic is not covered by United Healthcare for weight loss. Ms. Jacobson stated it is covered to treat diabetes after employees have tried other drugs first. She added Wegovy, the weight-loss version of Ozempic is not covered because United Healthcare does not consider weight-loss a condition. Additionally, United Healthcare expressed they would rather cover the hospitalizations for conditions rather than prescription medications which would improve those conditions. Commissioner Williams expressed concern with this statement. Ms. Jacobson discussed some options

Judge Hill requested holding the rest of Ms. Jacobson's presentation as well as her other presentation due to the time and loss of a quorum. The Court moved to the item which was skipped over earlier, Board and Commissions Appointments (Time 4:43 p.m.)

HELD

h. AI-54329 2023 TCDRS Presentation, Human Resources.

HELD

3. Executive Session Items:

The Court did not recess into Executive Session.

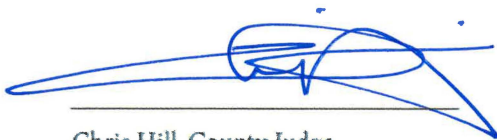
Public Comments not related to an item on the Agenda.

Debbie Lindstrom, McKinney, said she would like to discuss two security issues in the Collin County election system. The first was BMD (ballot marking devices) and the second was the IDRAC 8 component listed in the County contract. The BMD's are the machines where the public inserts their ballot, uses the touch screen to make selections, and then they are printed out along with barcodes onto the ballot. Alex Halderman is a professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Michigan and is known for his expertise in election machine vulnerabilities. Ms. Lindstrom read off some of his quotes from a report he provided as a subject matter expert in a case in Georgia as well as from an associated article he wrote after the report was made public. In his report, Mr. Halderman recommended relying less on BMD's. Ms. Lindstrom proposed the County eliminate the BMD's and go back to hand-marked ballots. Ms. Lindstrom said the IDRAC 8 component is a Dell integrated remote access controller. When she asked the elections office about this component, they said it was used for our ballot on-demand printers. However, when consulting with three different nationally recognized cyber experts, Ms. Lindstrom was told this is not the primary purpose of the IDRAC 8. She said each of the experts were surprised the component would be listed in the contract. Furthermore, the experts said under no circumstances should it be there as it provides an open back door into the system and is an unacceptable vulnerability. Ms. Lindstrom petitioned the Court to hire an independent certified expert to inspect the County's election system for any vulnerability associated with having the IDRAC component. Further, she requested any future renewal of the contract be contingent on the absence of this component and on the condition that the source code for the entire system be made available for inspection.

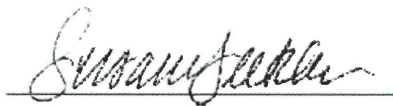
Chuck Reynolds, Celina, said during the writing of the American Constitution, an emphasis was placed on keeping the decision-making authority close to the everyday citizen. He asked the Court to consider that elections are simple math and election equipment is proprietary which should disturb everyone. Colonel Shawn Smith, an experienced tester in preventing intrusions into military equipment, was quoted as saying the ES&S (Election Systems & Software) testing is woefully insufficient and therefore is not

secure. Additionally, Colonel Smith researched the supply chains of all the assemblies for the major brands and found they are all foreign made, particularly in Communist China, which means it is not secure from that aspect either. Clay Pieree, the most highly certified cyber expert, brought to light the election equipment can be hacked within minutes. Mr. Reynolds stated election equipment is not secure. He added there is evidence of actual election fraud, and he has three examples. In DeKalb County Georgia, the election equipment placed Michelle Spears third and gave her zero votes in her own precinct. However, a count of the paper ballots proved she was actually the winner. Another troubling discovery was nineteen percent of the citizens votes were missing from that election. In Mesa County Colorado, the election image identified file manipulation in two elections from different years. Dr. Daugherty's study included the CBR's in 300 counties. Most of them indicated manipulation regardless of the brand, ES&S system, or demand. Mr. Reynolds said our current election process is completely inadequate for our current technological environment. Therefore, it is simply common sense that we must hand count and hand-mark ballots.

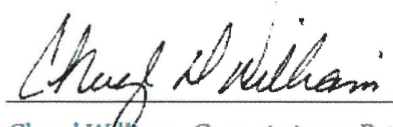
With no further business of the Court, Judge Hill adjourned the meeting at 4:51 p.m.



Chris Hill, County Judge



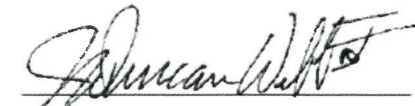
Susan Fletcher, Commissioner, Pct 1



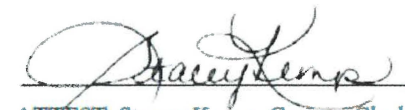
Cheryl Williams, Commissioner, Pct 2



Darrell Hale, Commissioner, Pct 3



Duncan Webb, Commissioner, Pct 4



ATTEST: Stacey Kemp, County Clerk