

An order of the Commissioners Court approving the filing of the September 25, 2023 minutes.

On Monday, September 25, 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

Commissioner Fletcher led the Invocation.
Commissioner Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Commissioner Hale led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

Judge Hill called to order the meeting of the Collin County Commissioners Court at 1:32 p.m. The Court recessed at 1:46 p.m. and reconvened at 1:46 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

President Hill called to order the meeting of the Collin County Health Care Foundation at 1:46 p.m. and adjourned the meeting at 1:46 p.m.

DECISIONS MANDATED BY LEGAL ENTITIES OUTSIDE OF COMMISSIONERS COURT AUTHORITY:

1. AI-54775 Personnel Appointments, Human Resources.
2. AI-54776 Personnel Changes, Human Resources.

FYI NOTIFICATION:

1. AI-54670 P-Card disbursement, Auditor.
2. AI-54712 Intra-County account transfers transmitted September 7, 2023, Auditor.

3. AI-54711 Addendum No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4 and No. 5 to Construction, Building Automation System Upgrades (IFB No. 2022-292) to make various changes to the Invitation for Bid, Purchasing.

COMMISSIONERS COURT BUSINESS:

Public comments related to an item on the Agenda.

Josh Murray, Lavon, spoke on agenda item AI-54527. He said WellPath has offered to renew their contract with Collin County and requested a 4.7% pay increase in order to maintain the same level of care. However, Collin County only offered a 1.8% pay increase. Mr. Murray said the County has reached a point where they will continue to grow and the only way to maintain the level of services is to increase tax rates. Resulting in Collin County raising taxes and decreasing the level of services they provide to the people. The Court has invested in an infrastructure they are unable to maintain. Collin County's services will continue to dwindle until something is done to resolve it. (Time: 1:37p.m.)

1. **Consent Agenda Items:** Judge Hill asked for comments on the consent agenda. Hearing none, a motion was made to approve the consent agenda. (Time: 1:37 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Duncan Webb

Second by: Commissioner Darrell Hale

Vote: 5-0: Passed

a. AI-54682 Disbursements for the period ending September 19, 2023, Auditor.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-868-09-25

b. AI-54683 Indigent Defense Disbursements, Auditor.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-869-09-25

c. AI-54704 Tax refunds totaling \$55,224.44, Tax Assessor-Collector.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-870-09-25

d. Advertisement(s):

1. AI-54744 Veterinary and Animal Care Supplies (IFB No. 2023-176), Development Services.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-871-09-25

2. AI-54637 Construction, Collin County Outer Loop Segment 3C from FM 2478 to US 75 (IFB No. 2023-303), Engineering.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-872-09-25

e. Award(s):

1. AI-54666 Professional Services, Surveying (RFQ No. 2023-240), and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute Personal Services Agreement for same, Engineering.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-873-09-25

2. AI-54700 Construction, Building Automation System Upgrades (IFB No. 2022-292) to various vendors, Facilities.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-874-09-25

3. AI-54679 Law and Mobile (MDC) Software Maintenance (Contract No. 2023-419) to Integrated Computer Systems, Inc., Information Technology.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-875-09-25

4. AI-54680 ICS CAD Software Maintenance (Contract No. 2023-420) to Integrated Computer Systems, Inc., Information Technology.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-876-09-25

5. AI-54699 Fleet Parts & Supplies (Contract No. 2023-335) to various vendors, Public Works.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-877-09-25

f. Agreement(s):

1. AI-54527 Memorandum of Understanding between the Collin County Adult Mental Health Court (AMHC) and the Collin County Mental Health Retardation Center d/b/a LifePath Systems (Contract No. 2023-321) to provide services and supervision for participants in AMHC, 219th District Court.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-878-09-25

2. AI-54667 Interlocal Agreement with the North Central Texas Emergency Communications District for local addressing and GIS services through and including September 30, 2025, Information Technology.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-879-09-25

g. Amendment(s):

1. AI-54676 No. 1 to Chiller Maintenance (Contract No. 2022-453) with Johnson Controls, Inc. to amend service agreement terms, extend the contract for one (1) year through and including September 30, 2024, and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute same, Facilities.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-880-09-25

2. AI-54713 No. 1 to Elevator Maintenance and Repairs (Contract No. 2022-422) with TK Elevator Corporation to provide various changes to the contract and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute same, Facilities.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-881-09-25

3. AI-54703 No. 1 to Inmate Health Care Medical Services (Contract No. 2022-061) with WellPath, LLC to increase compensation 1.8%, and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute same, Sheriff.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-882-09-25

4. AI-54756 No. 3 to Enterprise Evidence Management System (RFP No. 2018-048) with Foray Technologies, LLC to add system storage, and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute same, Information Technology.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-883-09-25

5. No. 3 to Interlocal Jail Services Agreement to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including September 30, 2024, set the rate for FY2024, and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute same, Sheriff:

a. AI-54605 City of Anna (Contract No. 2020-409).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-884-09-25

b. AI-54689 Anna ISD (Contract No. 2020-334).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-885-09-25

c. AI-54690 Community ISD (Contract No. 2020-365).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-886-09-25

d. AI-54707 Dallas Area Rapid Transit (Contract No. 2020-367).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-887-09-25

e. AI-54706 Town of Fairview (Contract No. 2020-420).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-888-09-25

f. AI-54692 City of Farmersville (Contract No. 2020-359).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-889-09-25

g. AI-54691 Farmersville ISD (Contract No. 2020-395).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-890-09-25

h. AI-54694 City of Lavon (Contract No. 2020-348).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-891-09-25

i. AI-54695 City of Lucas (Contract No. 2020-363).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-892-09-25

j. AI-54693 City of McKinney (Contract No. 2020-343).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-893-09-25

k. AI-54603 City of Melissa (Contract No. 2020-330).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-894-09-25

l. AI-54606 City of Parker (Contract No. 2021-005).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-895-09-25

m. AI-54696 City of Princeton (Contract No. 2020-361).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-896-09-25

n. AI-54698 Town of Prosper (Contract No. 2020-347).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-897-09-25

o. AI-54604 Town of St. Paul (Contract No. 2020-371).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-898-09-25

p. AI-54697 City of Wylie (Contract No. 2020-337).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-899-09-25

6. AI-54663 No. 5 to AiLIS Software Maintenance Services for County Clerk (Contract No. 2017-022) with Granicus, LLC to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including September 30, 2024, and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute same, County Clerk.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-900-09-25

h. Change Order(s):

1. AI-54759 No. 17 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, and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute same, Construction & Projects.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-901-09-25

i. Contract Renewal(s):

1. AI-54721 HVAC Maintenance and Repairs (Contract No. 2021-244) with Assured Mechanical Solutions, LLC to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including September 30, 2024, Facilities.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-902-09-25

2. AI-54723 HVAC Maintenance and Repairs (Contract No. 2021-244) with Houk Air Conditioning, Inc. to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including September 30, 2024, Facilities.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-903-09-25

3. AI-54724 Fire Alarm/Fire Sprinkler Inspections, Testing, Maintenance and Repairs (Contract No. 2022-259) with Star Asset Security, LLC to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including September 30, 2024, Facilities.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-904-09-25

4. AI-54778 Fire Alarm/Fire Sprinkler Inspections, Testing, Maintenance and Repairs (Contract No. 2022-259) with American Fire Protection Group, Inc. to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including September 30, 2024, Facilities.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-905-09-25

5. AI-54678 Software Maintenance for Brazos eCitation (Contract No. 02130-11) with Tyler Technologies, Inc. to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including August 31, 2024, Information Technology.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-906-09-25

6. AI-54673 Prisoner Transport (Contract No. 2021-238) with US Corrections, LLC to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including September 30, 2024, Sheriff.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-907-09-25

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

1. AI-54741 \$701,511 to increase Maintenance & Operations to cover FY2023 expenses for Jail Operations, Sheriff.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-908-09-25

k. Receive and File, Auditor:

1. AI-54745 CSCD (FY2020).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-909-09-25

2. AI-54749 Juvenile Probation (FY2021).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-910-09-25

3. AI-54746 Myers Park (FY2021).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-911-09-25

4. AI-54747 District Attorney (FY2022).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-912-09-25

5. AI-54748 Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4 (FY2022).

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-913-09-25

l. Miscellaneous:

1. AI-54668 Adoption of the FY 2024 Fee Schedule, Budget.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-914-09-25

2. AI-54653 Voting precinct boundary changes, Elections.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-915-09-25

3. AI-54705 Acceptance of the FY2022 State Criminal Alien Assistance Program Grant award in the amount of \$139,207, Sheriff.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-916-09-25

4. AI-54753 FY 2024 Non-Pay for Performance salary increases, Human Resources.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-917-09-25

5. AI-54755 FY 2024 Pay for Performance salary increases, Human Resources.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-918-09-25

6. AI-54774 Personnel Appointments, Human Resources.

COURT ORDER NO. 2023-919-09-25

2. General Discussion Items:

a. AI-54813 County website update, Administrative Services.

Bill Bilyeu, County Administrator, updated the Court on the County's website. The website has allowed Collin County to meet some of the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) requirements. Many changes have already been made, one of them being an elastic search tool that allows the website to update itself and populate the top 10 most commonly requested searches. One of the challenges being faced is Collin County's progressiveness in regards to the information displayed on the website. Mr. Bilyeu said there are many interfaces that have been built and are wanting to be kept. It takes a lot of work to get to and maintain these interfaces, which is why they are trying to make sure it can be completed effectively and is done financially reasonable. Another change made was the flexibility for designated staff members to be able to access and update their department's website. Mr. Bilyeu also said the current website has mobile technology, which allows for easier access on mobile devices. Commissioner Hale asked how many webpages we currently have, Mr. Bilyeu responded and said there are over 10,000 pages. (Time: 1:42p.m.)

NO ACTION

b. AI-44358 Conference of Urban Counties update, Commissioner, Precinct 1.

Commissioner Fletcher updated the Court on the recent CUC (Conference of Urban Counties) meeting. She said there is a 60-page report coming out including all of the bills effecting county government. Also, there is a possible CE (Continuing Education) opportunity coming to North Texas for those on the Court who still need hours. HB3697 deals with future corridors within the County, Commissioner Fletcher suggested the Court look into this upcoming bill and possibly mimic what Williamson County has done in order to retain current authorities and stay in compliance. It was also mentioned there are dollars to be had for bridges that are deteriorating and to contact the County's district representative for TxDOT (Texas Department of Transportation) to access those funds for bridge repairs. (Time: 1:45p.m.)

NO ACTION

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 at the August 28th Commissioners Court meeting CDF (Citizens Defending Freedom) produced a document with answers to the elections office response included within the agenda. At that time, CDF requested the document be added to the minutes of the meeting, recently they were notified that documents provided by citizens were not allowed to be attached to the Court minutes. She said since the August 28th Commissioners Court meeting CDF has not heard any meaningful communication from the Court despite each of the Commissioners receiving a hard and electronic copy of the document as well as a follow up email. On that day, more than 40 concerned citizens spoke in unison about their lack of trust in the voting machines. Ms. Lindstrom said she along with several speakers will be reading the CDF document to the Court so it can be part of the record. “Original Suggestion #1: Get rid of the machines, all of them, BMD (Ballot Marking Device), Tabulators, Electronic Pollbooks, etc. There is no getting around the fact that these machines have been illegally certified. Nobody can rescue the fact that the ballots cannot be verified by the voter, and that the accreditation of VSTL (Voting System Test Laboratories) is compromised by invalid signatures, expirations, and word salad redefinition of terms. They are illegal by federal law. 52 USC (United States Code) 21081 requires a voting system including the optical scanning voting systems used in Texas to permit the voter to verify in a private and independent manner, the votes selected by the voter on the ballot before the ballot is cast and counted. Texas voting machines only allow the voter to verify the text and do not allow the voter to verify that bar codes from ES&S (Election Systems & Software) machines say the same thing as the text and the optical scanners only record the selections specified by the bar codes. In other words, the bar codes are the votes and the voter cannot verify them. This makes the machines illegal under this federal law.”

Judge Hill asked Bill Bilyeu, County Administrator, if he could comment on whether or not he has followed up on the allegations and concerns towards the election machines being illegal. Mr. Bilyeu said the Texas SOS (Secretary of State) office has validated repeatedly that the systems are in compliance and are certified. Judge Hill then asked Mr. Bilyeu if the Court has the authority to make a determination on whether the election machines are in compliance with the law and the requirements. Mr. Bilyeu said the Court does not have the authority to make the determination, it is certified by the state of Texas, not the County.

Lee Moore, Fairview, continued reading the CDF document. “This makes the machines illegal under this federal law. They also violate HAVA (Help America Vote Act) Section 231 A and B which state that the testing labs must be accredited. There are no valid accredited testing labs. They have not been accredited since 2017. There is no accreditation certificate for Pro V&V (Professional Verification and Validation), the testing lab for ES&S. No one can produce a valid VSTL accreditation certificate because there is not one in existence. They are illegal by State Law. Texas Election code 122.001 Voting System Standards, which states a voting system may not be used in an election unless the system complies with the voting system standards adopted by the Election Assistance Commission. Texas Administrative Code, rule 81.60

voting system certification procedures must be in compliance with the following procedures for certification. The applicant must have the nationally accredited VSTL deliver a copy of all nationally qualified software/ firmware and source codes for the system. Since there is no nationally accredited test lab, we are in violation of this state law.”

Pam Sardo, Nevada, said on the SOS website the technical assessor said he would not certify the machines again without significant changes. Ms. Sardo continued reading from the CDF document. “Original Suggestion #2: If 2024 turns out to be a similar to the 2020 election or even greater turnout, the County can still allow precinct voting on Election Day for those who want to vote in their precinct. Denton County does this. The election office tags convenience for using countywide voting, the auditability of the election should take precedence over convenience. Just because the Elections Office believes countywide is auditable, does not mean this is true. We share the opinion of the SOS which complained about the auditability of countywide polling centers. Belief in a system must be backed up by facts. The SOS says in its audit of the 2020 Election Report the Countywide Program is not auditable. There are many quotes throughout the report that show problems with the auditability of our elections. Here are just a few. One of FAD's (Forensic Audit Division) goals was to reconcile data regarding the number of voters who checked in to vote and the number of ballots cast as reflected in the canvass. While this sounds simple, this process is complicated by the fact that all four counties use countywide voting. This effort at reconciliation revealed issues with communication between voting equipment, issues with recording keeping, and issues with maintaining the proper chain of custody. Data is less reliable. This inconsistency is primarily due to the fact that the four counties participate in the Countywide Polling Place Program. In addition to auditability, recounts are more difficult and more expensive with countywide voting. The Election Office says that the votes can be sorted by precinct at each location, but is that being done anywhere in the county? Instead of dismissing the issue due to convenience, we should work towards a solution that makes our elections more auditable. A possible solution is one way for large counties to handle the volume and need for polling places is to go to consolidated precinct polling places so that there can still be fewer locations and the ballots can be stored by precinct. With consolidated precinct voting polling locations are assigned based on precinct, ballots are cast into ballot boxes per precinct, larger locations may facilitate more precinct ballot boxes, counties using machines would still have plenty of machines to accommodate, and ballots are auditable by precinct.” Ms. Sardo said as mentioned before, the members of CDF are willing to hand count. She also said there was an elections commission that has not met for many years despite nation, regional, and local wide issues.

Cynthia Brugge, Fairview, continued reading the CDF document. “Original Suggestion #3A: Follow the law, not the SOS guidance when it is in clear contradiction to the stated law. Numbering of ballots. Section 52.062, numbering of ballots. Ballots prepared by each authority responsible for having the official ballot prepared shall be numbered consecutively beginning with the number one. At Commissioners Court on August 28th, Judge Hill indicated he will advocate for sequentially numbered ballots, where are we on that? Will we have sequentially numbered ballots in the November election? We would like an update on this

item as it effects the eligibility of our elections. We would like to see this implemented as soon as possible.” Ms. Brugge said the conversation Judge Hill and Mr. Bilyeu had regarding the SOS comments is just hearsay. If the Court is serious about addressing the CDF’s concerns there should be a meeting held where these items can be discussed.

Mark Brugge, Fairview, said the fact these individuals are having to read the CDF document for it to be on the record is a reflection on the Court and everyone else involved. Mr. Brugee said the Court comes across as if they care, but yet there is no dialogue. This issue is not going away, it is a movement. He thanked all of the speakers who are present and reading the CDF document.

Julie Goode, Frisco, continued reading the CDF document. “Original Suggestion #3B: Follow the law, not the SOS guidance when it is in clear contradiction to the stated law. Partial manual count, the law says all races in three precincts. Follow the law. The SOS has issued guidance that says that counties that are enrolled in the Countywide Polling Place Program may conduct the partial manual count by precinct or by polling place. This is contrary to the law. A hybrid method recounting some ballots by precinct and some by polling place is illegal, and there is no SOS advisory stating anything about a hybrid method. Collin County Elections conducted the partial manual count of the 2020 election in this hybrid method. The County leadership believes that they are following the law. Belief requires justification or it is an empty hope. The justification provided by the Election Office illustrates the exact opposite. Laws are written with precise language, and the law indicates the partial manual count shall be done by precinct and all of the races in those selected precincts should be counted. The SOS has issued an advisory to the law that issues advice on that law and expands the law to include by precinct or by polling place. Again, that is not what the law says. Nevertheless, the SOS advisory is best summarized to say that the county may choose option one or option two, but they may not pick and choose and do a little of option one and then switch to option two when it is convenient. The SOS would have indicated “and/ or” if they intended a hybrid method, but they did not. There is no “and” indicating both methods can be used. We call this picking and choosing a hybrid method of doing the partial manual count. How is this hybrid method auditable? We requested the emails to Collin County Elections asking for the directive to conduct the partial manual count in this way in the 2020 General Election. They could not provide any documentation, any. However, the state SOS did provide the emails and they did direct the county to conduct the partial manual count in this way.”

Shannon Ayers, Frisco, continued reading the CDF document. “By permitting counties to partially manually recount by vote center on election day is a violation of Texas Election Code 127.201. This new SOS waiver sets up an environment that prevents a precinct audit which can hinder the detection of electronic ballot code counting fraud. Original Suggestion # 4A: Any future renewal of the contract with ES&S should require the absence of the iDRAC8 (integrated Dell Remote Access Controller) component in the system. We are grateful there is agreement between us to remove this component from the current server and future renewals of contracts. At Court on August 28th a motion was made to remove and surplus

the current iDRAC8 component. Mr. Bilyeu indicated it had already been removed and he could place it on your counter, we would like to see this component. We do not trust that it can be removed, iDRAC8 components are generally integrated into the system. How can we verify?”

John Sefcik, Fairview, continued reading the CDF document. “Original Suggestion #4B: Any future renewal of the contract with ES&S should require access to the source code. Who can verify that the source code? There is no reason why a termination clause could not be added to your next contract if the system is misrepresented or is found to have issues with the code or lack of best practices. The Elections Office and Commissioners may trust the SOS to renew the software. That trust is misplaced in that they do not hold ES&S accountable by stating in the most recent Technical Examiner Reports that, for example ES&S has addressed most of the issues in the hash validation bug found in EVS (Electronic Voting System) 6.1.0.0. Mostly fixed? Citizens want it to be fully fixed and this does not help the case for the SOS validation procedures.”

David Kemp, Plano, said Collin County has to be one of the largest counties in the country ran by mostly republican administration. This makes Collin County target number one. Mr. Kemp continued reading the CDF document “Original Suggestion #4B: Any future renewal of the contract with ES&S should require access to the source code. Who can verify that the source code does not contain bad code? Can the elections office or other county entity nominate someone to inspect the software that the SOS has possession of? When the SOS blindly ignores evidence of expired accreditation certificates, it does not breed trust that the other steps in the process are being handled correctly. Can you help us have experts inspect the software that Collin County uses in its machines? Original Suggestion #4C: Any future renewal of the contract with ES&S should require a provision that after the source code is reviewed by independent CISSP (Certified Information Systems Security Professional) professional if they have legitimate concerns, the contract can be nullified. There is no reason why a termination clause could not be added to your next contract if the system is misrepresented or is found to have issues with the code or lack of best practices. The Elections Office and Commissioners may trust the SOS to review the software. That trust is misplaced in that they do not hold ES&S accountable by stating in the most recent Technical Examiner Reports that, for example ES&S has "addressed most of the issues" in the hash validation bug found in EVS 6.1.0.0. Mostly fixed? Citizens want it to be fully fixed and this does not help the case for the SOS validation procedures.”

Mike Grilz, Prosper, continued reading the CDF document. “Original Suggestion #5: Bring in a CISSP certified professional to secure the main elections office building, the timing of this evaluation needs to be discussed between all parties. While we are still sandwiched between Dominion Voting and Dallas Morning News we need to protect the Elections Office from any potential vulnerabilities. Dr. Walter Daugherty and Professor David Clements describe the implications of this scenario, the short answer is that the press and elections should be separated and sharing a wall with Dominion Voting is a potential vulnerability that needs to be investigated by an independent certified CISSP professional. Three central

counting and polling machines are at this location and are turned on during an election. The closeness of Dominion Voting provides proximity to a hack at that site. We would like an independent CISSP certified professional to insulate and isolate us from these vulnerabilities. Since this issue is of interest to the public, we require a public report of the findings and measures taken to secure the Elections office.” Mr. Grilz said CDF has brought a lot of information to the Courts attention regarding the machines used for elections across the country. Due to doubts and concerns towards the election machines, he suggested the Court remove them to reduce the risk of fraud.

Judge Hill said when you vote on a paper ballot in Collin County and take the time to write down the serial number of your ballot, it is possible to track your ballot online after the election is over. This allows you to verify how your ballot was counted towards the totals and insures your vote was counted correctly.

Diana Biscan, Plano, said she recently attended an event and spoke with families and individuals who expressed their fears and concerns about the 2024 election. Ms. Biscan continued reading the CDF document. “Original Suggestion #6: Get rid of BMD and go to hand marked ballots. The BMD is the machine used where a person inserts their ballot, touches the screen with their selections and it prints out their ballot selections with a barcode and the english underneath. Alex J. Halderman is a professor of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of Michigan and is known for his expertise in election machine vulnerabilities. He was charged as a subject matter expert to write a report in the Curling v Raffensberger case in Georgia. Here is a direct quote from that report. “All voting systems face cybersecurity risks” and quotes the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine who says: “There is no realistic mechanism to fully secure vote casting and tabulation computer systems from cyber threats.” In a subsequent article after the report was released Halderman says: “The most effective remedy for the problems we found and others like them is to rely less on BMDs. The risk of attack is much lower when only a small fraction of voters use BMDs, as in most states, than when all in person voters are forced to use them, as in Georgia.” Collin County uses BMDs exclusively for in person voting. The exception is curbside voting. Another expert, Dr. Andrew Appel, Professor of Computer Science at Princeton University is also adamantly against the extensive use of BMDs.”

Avis Novak, McKinney, continued reading the CDF document. “Original Suggestion #7: Register of Ballots Form, standardized form from SOS. This form reconciles how many ballots are used by a polling place. Collin County only uses this form on Election Day. It needs to be filled out daily, including during early voting so that there is a chain of custody of the ballots. The statement given by the Election Office is partially true. The Register of Ballots Form reconciles the number of ballots given at the beginning of the day, the number of ballots used or spoiled, and the number of ballots returned and accounted for at the end of the day to the office. The form EV (Early Voting) Unused Ballot Accountability Form that is similar but does not track the number of ballots used and returned back to the office. There is one more form called the EV Daily Report, this form has some of the information from the Register of Ballots Form but does not verify how many ballots were issued to a location, and then reconcile voting transactions that

occurred that day and unused ballots to ensure that all ballots are accounted for. We are advocating for a chain of custody for all ballots. The number of ballots given to each location at the beginning of the day should match the number of ballots used or spoiled and the number of ballots given back to the office at the end of the day. And this tracking should be done for all ballots, used and unused. Custody of ballot must be ensured during the entire election period.”

Tom Klein, McKinney, continued reading the CDF document. “Original Suggestion #8: Increase the text font on the bottom of the ballot so that voters can read their ballot, especially those who wear glasses or are visually impaired. Also, if we are allowed to hand count, this step will help auditors to not strain when reading the ballots during auditing. CDF is grateful that the Elections Office will review this. Can both sides of the ballot be utilized? Of course, if the county went to hand marked ballots, the current version of the absentee ballot could be used. Not only are the absentee ballots more easily read, they would also be more easily audited by citizen auditors. We have not had any feedback since the August 28th meeting, can we get an update on where this stands? Original Suggestion #9: Allow voters to mark a hand marked ballot at the main Elections Office instead of using a BMD. Since there is a law that says you cannot have two methods of voting at one polling location, can the Elections Office set up a secondary polling place where hand marked ballots can be cast? If not, we request a return all hand marked ballots for everyone who votes in person except those who require assistance (curbside, visually impaired, etc.) which should be a limited number of voters. Denton County uses hand marked ballots for most of their voters. We participated in an audit of their 2020 ballots and did not see any ballots that were in question as to the intent of the voter. However, education on how to fill out a ballot can help to alleviate issues with those who over vote. If an absentee ballot is returned and has two bubbles filled in, then it is considered an over vote and neither vote counts. This would be similar if a voter hand marked a ballot in person and made two selections. It would still be considered an over vote.”

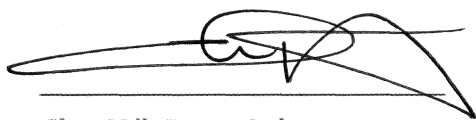
Judge Hill asked Mr. Klein what was meant by, under Original Suggestion #9, “If not, we request a return all hand marked ballots.” Debbie Lindstrom clarified if you cannot allow for one polling place to be available for people to mark a hand marked ballot then she requests everybody to return to a hand-marked ballot.

Margie McAllister, McKinney, said the ideas being presented are all great ideas. CDF has access to experts who can discuss with the Court to come up with more great ideas, thus avoiding having to read each one off a document. She hopes the Court can come back with a way to make this a much smoother process. Judge Hill mentioned to Ms. McAllister the document being read today came out of a five hour meeting he had with many of the members sitting in the gallery. She said she understands and is appreciative, but this needs to be an ongoing two way conversation between the Court and concerned citizens. Ms. McAllister continued reading the CDF document. “Original Suggestion #10: County Judge and Commissioners advocate for transparency and accuracy in the voting roster. The number of voters, names and the voter identification should match from precinct, to the county, to the state. If they do not match,

you should not certify the election. There are three parts to this question, numbers matching, names matching, certified or canvassing the election. Canvassing according to the EAC (Election Assistance Commission), is a combination of all the data generated during an election cycle. More importantly, it is a process that allows election officials to confirm the accuracy of the election data and identify areas for improvement. The canvass process aggregates and confirms every valid ballot cast and counted, including mail, uniformed and overseas citizens, early voting, Election Day, and provisional ballots. I would add based on Collin County documents from 2020, canvassing also includes monitoring unused ballots. TEC (Texas Election Code) 127.131 rightfully says that the central counting station judge signs and certifies the accuracy of an election. But there is much more to this process. A simple look at official documents from 2020 shows the canvassing process which is also outlined in TEC 67.002 and 67.004.”

David Quick, Celina, addressed some recent concerns regarding the operation of golf carts on roadways within master planned communities. Some public servants in Collin County have recently begun to misinterpret long-standing state law to say motor vehicles classified as golf carts must remain within platted master plan communities on roads with a posted speed limit of less than 35 MPH (miles per hour). However, section 551.403A1, since 2009 has authorized the operation of golf carts on all roadways within platted boundaries of master planned communities, regardless of the posted speed limit. Opinion NO. GA-0966 made by Greg Abbott, while acting as Texas Attorney General, found the 35MPH limitation found elsewhere did not apply to the operation of golf carts in master planned communities. In other words, determining golf carts may be operated on any platted roadway within a master plan community regardless of the posted speed limit. Nothing within the transportation code has changed since Opinion NO. GA-0966. (Time: 2:32p.m.)

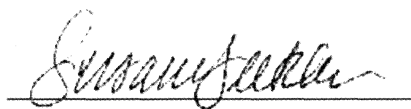
There being no further business of the Court, Judge Hill adjourned the meeting at 2:32p.m.



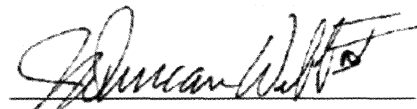
Chris Hill, County Judge



Darrell Hale, Commissioner, Pct 3



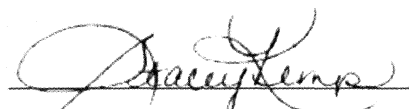
Susan Fletcher, Commissioner, Pct 1



Duncan Webb, Commissioner, Pct 4

Not Present

Cheryl Williams, Commissioner, Pct 2



ATTEST: Stacey Kemp, County Clerk