

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF FALLS COUNTY

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES COUNTY OF FALLS

COMMISSIONER'S COURT MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2025-2026 BUDGET

VOTE ON ADOPTION OF COUNTY BUDGET

VOTE ON RATIFICATION OF PROPERTY TAX RATE REFLECTED IN BUDGET

VOTE ON ADOPTION OF TAX INCREASE

1. Proof of posting of notice in accordance with the provisions of Title 5, Chapter 551, Government Code (Vernon's Texas Codes Ann. 1994) as amended, known as the Texas Open Meetings Act.

Judge Elliott asked for proof of posting and the same was affirmed by Elizabeth Perez, County Clerk, on the north and south door and the 2nd floor bulletin board.

2. PUBLIC HEARING on tax increase for 2025 tax rates per \$100 valuation for Falls County's fiscal year 2025/2026, including specifically the following items:

Proposed 2025 tax rate for:

- | | | |
|-------|---|------------|
| (i) | M & O (Maintenance and Operations) | \$0.637150 |
| (ii) | I & S (Interest and sinking fund obligations on debt) | \$0.016400 |
| | Total County | \$0.653550 |
| (iii) | F.M.L. (Farm to Market Lateral Roads) | \$0.111100 |
| | Total Proposed Tax Rates..... | \$0.764650 |

No comments.

3. Presentation and discussion concerning salaries set by 82nd Judicial District Judge.

Georgie Patterson, County Auditor, stated these salaries were presented in our hearing on August 26, 2025 and Judge Russ approved exactly what is in our budget.

4. Public comments and questions, and comments and responses from Commissioners and County Judge.

Wally Burns had questions regarding the tax rate increase. He wanted to know what the factors were that contributed to the tax rate increase and if the tax rate increase was above 3.5% that requires an election. The County Judge and Commissioners clarified the tax rate increase for Mr. Burns.

5. Discussion and/or action concerning 2025-2026 budget including anticipated income and expenses; the Falls County Detention Center; departmental line items; all funds, including general fund and Farm-to-Market Lateral Road Fund.

No action.

6. PUBLIC HEARING on the proposed 2025-2026 Budget for Falls County. Public comments and questions, and responses from Commissioners, County Judge, and staff.

No comments or questions.

7. Comments from Elected County Officials and County Employees.

No comments.

8. Discussion and/or action concerning adopting salaries of county employees including public comments.

No public comments. Commissioner Green made a motion to adopt the salaries of county employees. Commissioner Albright seconded; motion carried.

9. Discussion and/or action including the formal adoption and recorded vote pertaining to the adoption of the 2025/2026 budget.

Commissioner Green made a motion to formally adopt and record the vote pertaining to the adoption of the 2025/2026 budget. Commissioner Albright seconded; motion carried.

Judge Elliott-Yea, Commissioner Albright-Yea, Commissioner Green-Yea, Commissioner Willberg-Yea, & Commissioner Wuebker-Yea

10. Discussion and/or action including a recorded vote to ratify the property tax increase reflected in the 2025/2026 budget as required by Local Government Code 111.008. "This budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$997,763 which is a 8.97% increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is \$507,349".

Commissioner Green made a motion to record the vote ratifying the property tax increase reflected in the 2025/2026 budget. Commissioner Albright seconded; motion carried.

Judge Elliott-Yea, Commissioner Albright-Yea, Commissioner Green-Yea, Commissioner Willberg-Yea, & Commissioner Wuebker-Yea

11. Discussion and/or action including the formal adoption and recorded vote pertaining to the adoption of the tax increase for 2025 tax rates per \$100 valuation for Falls County's fiscal year 2025/2026, including specifically the following items:

Proposed 2025 tax rate for:

(iv)	M & O (Maintenance and Operations).....	\$0.637150
(v)	I & S (Interest and sinking fund obligations on debt).....	\$0.016400
	Total County	\$0.653550
(vi)	F.M.L. (Farm to Market Lateral Roads).....	\$0.111100
	Total Proposed Tax Rates.....	\$0.764650

Commissioner Albright made a motion to formally adopt and record the vote for the Tax Increase for 2025. Commissioner Wuebker seconded; motion carried.

Judge Elliott-Yea, Commissioner Albright-Yea, Commissioner Green-Yea, Commissioner Willberg-Yea, & Commissioner Wuebker-Yea

12. Public comments.

No public comments.

13. Elected official reports.

Sheryl Pringle, County Treasurer, stated that she went with positive pay at the bank a few weeks ago. Sheryl said last week that Nueces County reported a \$2 million loss, this is what is trying to be prevented with positive pay in place.

Judge Elliott stated that he is working with a company to get information on getting text notifications for the county, allowing people to receive text notifications regarding important dates for things happening in the county. He also stated that on the next agenda we will see a SAVNS contract that has been signed. They changed the third party on the contract.

Commissioner Green stated that he is getting more information on grants for the flood. When he gets more information, he will share it with everyone.

14. Discussion and/or action concerning American Rescue Plan. (swap out a bridge in Pct. 4)

Jerri Gauntt, with GrantWorks, stated that we need to switch the bridge on CR 446 for the bridge on CR 442. Jerri also stated that she had some policy documents that she wants Steve Sharp, ADA, to look over.

Commissioner Wuebker made a motion to switch the bridge on CR 446 for the bridge on CR 442. Commissioner Green seconded; motion carried.

15. **Executive Session Government Code §551.071, to Consult with Attorney, re. accepting new proposed national opioids settlement agreements with Purdue, the Sackler family and 8 Certain Manufacturer Defendants: Alvogen, Inc., Amneal Pharmaceuticals Inc., Apotex Corp., Hikma Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc., Indivior Inc., Mylan, Sun Pharmaceutical Industries, Inc., and Zydus Pharmaceuticals (USA) Inc.**

After the executive session, the Commissioners' Court may consider, in open session, any motions one or more of its members wish to make, regarding this item including.

We went into executive session at 10:18 a.m., and went back into regular session at 10:30 a.m.

16. Consideration of authorizing the County Judge to execute participation and release forms regarding settlement offers dealing with the 8 Certain Manufacturer Defendants: Alvogen, Inc., Amneal Pharmaceuticals Inc., Apotex Corp., Hikma Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc., Indivior Inc., Mylan, Sun Pharmaceutical Industries, Inc., and Zydus Pharmaceuticals (USA) Inc. concerning the Texas opioid multi-district litigation for the County in the matter of *County of Falls v. Purdue Pharma, L.P. et al.*

Commissioner Wuebker made a motion to accept the Purdue Pharma, Alvogen, Inc., Amneal Pharmaceuticals Inc., Apotex Corp., Hikma Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc., Indivior Inc., Mylan, Sun Pharmaceutical Industries, Inc., and Zydus Pharmaceuticals (USA) Inc. settlements and authorized the County Judge to execute participation and release forms regarding settlement offers. Commissioner Green seconded; motion carried.

17. Discussion and/or action concerning county investments.

Commissioner Albright made a motion to go with the recommendation of the County Treasurer for the county investments. Commissioner Green seconded; motion carried.

18. Discussion and/or action concerning ESD #2's 2024 annual audit.

Commissioner Wuebker made a motion to accept ESD #2's 2024 annual audit. Commissioner Willberg seconded; motion carried.

19. Discussion and/or action concerning Sheriff and Constable fees.

Commissioner Green made a motion to add Immediate Removal of unauthorized occupants for \$125 plus per deputy/per hour after two hours \$30 and to remove the \$100 plus per deputy/per hour after two hours. Commissioner Albright seconded; motion carried.

20. Discussion and/or action concerning contracting with NET Data and / or Engineer Austin for extracting NET Data's legacy data pertaining to Sheriff's Office.

There were two bids received. Commissioner Green made a motion to accept the bid from Engineer Austin. Commissioner Willberg seconded; motion carried.

21. Discussion and/or action concerning purchase of safety equipment with FY 2025 Sheriff SB22 Grant funds.

Commissioner Albright made a motion to approve the purchase of safety equipment with FY 2025 Sheriff SB22 Grant funds. Commissioner Willberg seconded; motion carried.

22. Discussion and/or action concerning jail surveillance upgrade.

Commissioner Albright made a motion to approve the jail surveillance upgrade; the funds will come from the inmate jail commissary. Commissioner Wuebker seconded; motion carried.

23. Discussion and/or action concerning accrued compensatory time for employees.

Commissioner Albright made a motion to approve the payment of compensatory time for employees. Commissioner Green seconded; motion carried.

Georgie Patterson, County Auditor, requested that the compensatory time be paid the last pay period of September. Commissioner Albright made a motion for the compensatory time be paid the last pay period of September. Commissioner Wuebker seconded; motion carried.

24. Discussion and/or action concerning approval of the distribution of FY 2025 annual unclaimed capital credits revenue.

Commissioner Albright made a motion to approve the FY 2025 annual unclaimed capital credits as presented. Commissioner Green seconded; motion carried.

25. Discussion and/or action concerning Interlocal Agreement for Assessment and Collection of Taxes/Addendum.

Commissioner Green made a motion to accept the Interlocal Agreement for Assessment and Collection of Taxes/Addendum for City of Rosebud and City of Marlin. Commissioner Albright seconded; motion carried.

26. Discussion and/or action concerning setting public hearing for records archive fee for October 13, 2025.

Commissioner Green made a motion to set the public hearing for records archive fee for October 13, 2025. Commissioner Willberg seconded; motion carried.

27. Discussion and/or action concerning credit card for Road & Bridge, and Resolution Authorizing Indebtedness and Security.

No action taken.

28. Discussion and/or action concerning Road & Bridge personnel going to training.

Commissioner Albright made a motion to approve Road & Bridge personnel to go to training. Commissioner Green seconded; motion carried.

29. Review and discussion of Road and Bridge precinct work reports, including Administrator's progress report.

Jeff Jackson, Road and Bridge Administrator, gave a report for the Road and Bridge department. Jeff stated that they need motor graders. He received two proposals from CAT and John Deere. Jeff will need to go out for bids for the purchase of a new motor grader.

30. Discussion and/or action concerning the approving of payment of bills, including reimbursements, late charges, the transfer of cash or funds from any line item or departments to another, book transfers and any budget amendments; including but not limited to discussion and action concerning department or non-departmental items with line items that go past their budgeted amounts.

Commissioner Albright made a motion to approve the payment of all bills, budget amendments, and payroll. Commissioner Wuebker seconded; motion carried.

31. Approval of minutes of prior meetings of Commissioner's Court.

Commissioner Wuebker made a motion to approve the minutes of the prior meeting. Commissioner Willberg seconded; motion carried.

32. Adjournment.

Judge Elliott adjourned the meeting at 10:53 a.m., after all items had been discussed.

Signed this 22nd day of September 2025.


Jay T. Elliott, County Judge


Milton Albright, Comm.Pct#1


F. A. Green, Comm.Pct#2


Jason Willberg, Comm.Pct#3


Nita Wuebker, Comm.Pct#4


Elizabeth Perez, County Clerk