



Lipscomb County

Dori Roots, County Judge
 Lipscomb, Texas 79056
 P.O. Box 69
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 FAX (806) 862-2603
 dori.roots@co.lipscomb.tx.us

COMMISSIONERS

Juan M. Cantu
Precinct OneBrandon Meier
Precinct TwoScotty Schilling
Precinct ThreeDan Cockrell
Precinct Four

FILED

JAN 05 2026

Chrissy Dunn
 COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLERK
 LIPSCOMB COUNTY, TEXAS

A MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF LIPSCOMB COUNTY, TEXAS, WILL BE HELD AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY JUDGE ON MONDAY, THE 12th DAY OF JANUARY 2026, AT 9:00 A.M. AND THE FOLLOWING AGENDA WILL BE CONSIDERED:

- 1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER
- 2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 3) OPENING PRAYER
- 4) PUBLIC COMMENTS
- 5) CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS
- 6) HEAR FROM RACHEL SCHWERZENBACH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF WOLF CREEK HERITAGE MUSEUM
- 7) APPROVE NEW BOARD MEMBERS FOR THE WOLF CREEK HERITAGE MUSEUM
- 8) CONSIDER TITLE CURATIVE MEASURES FOR REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN BLOCK 2, ORIGINAL TOWN OF HIGGINS TO VEST TITLE IN CANADIAN ISD, FORMERLY KNOWN AS HIGGINS ISD
- 9) HEAR FROM HIGGINS VFD ABOUT THE TEXAS FOREST SERVICE GRANT FUNDS THAT THEY WILL RECEIVE TO PURCHASE/BUILD A PUMPER TRUCK, LIPSCOMB COUNTY FRONT THE MONEY TO PURCHASE THE TRUCK
- 10) CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS
- 11) CONSIDERATION OF LEGAL CLAIMS AND READABLES FOR THE COUNTY
- 12) REVIEW OF JUSTICE OF THE PEACE REPORTS
- 13) HEAR FROM SHERIFF BEN EGGLESTON
- 14) CONSIDER MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT FOR HOUSE BILL 33 WITH THE TEXAS DPS
- 15) REPORT FROM COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT
- 16) REVIEW OF TREASURER REPORT
- 17) CONSIDER PURCHASING A CD AT FBSW FROM THE GENERAL FUND AND REVIEW CURRENT CD RATES ON EXISTING CD'S
- 18) HEAR FROM CHRISSY DUNN ON WHETHER TO PURCHASE CIVICPLUS SOFTWARE TO ASSIST CLERK'S OFFICE IN COMMISSIONERS COURT AGENDA, MINUTES AND POSTING OF MINUTES
- 19) APPROVE EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK UPDATES
- 20) CONSIDER PAUPER POLICY
- 21) APPROVE TO ACCEPT BIDS FOR PAUPER BURIALS FOR LIPSCOMB COUNTY
- 22) APPROVE THE 2026 PRIMARY ELECTION ORDER
- 23) CONSIDER THE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGISLATION TO EXEMPT TEXAS COUNTIES FROM THE STATE HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX
- 24) REPORT FROM JUDGE
- 25) CONSIDER BURN BAN
- 26) CONSIDER CONTACTING LAND OWNERS IN LIPSCOMB TO PURCHASE LAND IN ORDER TO BUILD A BARN TO BE USED BY THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE
- 27) UPDATE ON COUNTY ROADS
- 28) CONSIDER PURPLE WAVE AUCTION TO SELL EQUIPMENT AND OTHER COUNTY ITEMS
- 29) CONSIDER INSTALLING SOLAR RADAR SPEED LIMIT SIGNS
- 30) CONSIDER ACCEPTING DONATION OF EASEMENT FROM LOUISE LANDERS PURSUANT TO TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 81.032 FOR USE AS COUNTY ROAD 31
- 31) MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN
- 32) ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER CONSULTATION WITH COUNTY ATTORNEY AND CONSIDER PERSONNEL MATTERS,
 - A. Pursuant to the authority granted under government code chapter 555.071 and 555.074. The Commissioner's Court will convene in closed session to discuss the above agenda item.
- 33) RETURN TO OPEN SESSION
- 34) REVIEW OF PERSONNEL CHANGES
- 35) ADJOURN

IT IS CERTIFIED BY THE UNDERSIGNED THAT THIS NOTICE IS BEING POSTED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK, A PLACE CONVENIENT TO THE PUBLIC, IN THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE FOR AT LEAST 72 HOURS PRIOR TO THE DAY OF THE MEETING.

EXECUTED THIS 5th DAY OF JANUARY, 2026.

Dori Roots
 COUNTY JUDGE



COMMISSIONERS' COURT MINUTES FOR JANUARY 12TH 2026

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 12th day of January 2026, the Commissioners' Court of Lipscomb County, Texas convened for their regular session at 09:00 A.M. at the regular meeting place of the court at the courthouse in Lipscomb, Texas opening the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and invocation given by, Dan Cockrell Commissioner of Precinct # 4 with the following members present:

Honorable Dori Roots, County Judge; Juan Cantu Commissioner of Precinct 1, Brandon Meier Commissioner of Precinct 2; Scotty Schilling, Commissioner of Precinct 3; Dan Cockrell, Commissioner of Precinct 4; Kimberly Long, County Treasurer; Chrissy Dunn, County Clerk.

Also present: Ben Eggleston, Sheriff; Nancy Shepherd, Justice of the Peace; Raelene Copeland, Tax Assessor Collector; Matt Bartosiewicz, County Attorney; J.R. Sprague, County Extension Agent, Debbie Sprague, Chief Deputy Treasurer, Jason Watson with Higgins VFD.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None currently.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING ON 12/08/2025:

Motioned: Scotty Schilling

Seconded: Brandon Meier

The vote carried unanimously.

HEAR FROM RACHEL SCHWERZENBACH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF WOLF CREEK HERITAGE MUSEUM:

Tabled this agenda item until February Commissioners Court meeting.

APPROVE NEW BOARD MEMBERS OF THE WOLF CREEK HERITAGE MUSEUM:

Tabled this agenda item until February Commissioners Court meeting.

CONSIDER TITLE CURATIVE MEASURES FOR REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN BLOCK 2. ORIGINAL TOWN OF HIGGINS TO VEST TITLE IN CANADIAN ISD FORMERLY KNOWN AS HIGGINS ISD:

Motion made to donate the said property to the Canadian ISD in accordance to the state statute as presented by County Attorney Matt Bartosiewicz.

Motioned: Scotty Schilling

Seconded: Juan Cantu

The vote carried unanimously.

HEAR FROM HIGGINS VFD ABOUT THE TEXAS FOREST SERVICE GRANT FUNDS THAT THEY WILL RECEIVE TO PURCHASE/BUILD A PUMPER TRUCK, WITH LIPSCOMB COUNTY FRONTING THE MONEY TO PURCHASE THE TRUCK:

Motion made to approve interim financing for the Higgins Volunteer Fire Department for the purchase of a fire truck, in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.00, pending final financing arrangements. The Higgins VFD will repay the County upon receipt of funding from the Texas Forest Service Grant.

Motioned: Scotty Schilling

Seconded: Juan Cantu

The vote carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

None Presented

CONSIDERATION OF LEGAL CLAIMS AND READABLES FOR THE COUNTY. AS PRESENTED.

LIPSCOMB COUNTY TEXAS
Check Register
Bank: 10-GENERAL FUND

| <u>CHECK NUMBER</u> | <u>AMOUNT</u> | <u>CHECK DATE</u> | <u>PAYEE</u> |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------------|--|
| 7604 | 1,501.22 | 12/12/2025 | 000802-JUAN CANTU |
| 7605 | 118.56 | 12/15/2025 | 001436-WESTERN EQUIPMENT |
| 7606 | 8,746.30 | 12/15/2025 | 003116-WHOLESALE FUELS, INC. |
| 7607 | 350.00 | 12/17/2025 | 002258-GAILAN WINEGARNER |
| 7608 | 96.00 | 12/19/2025 | 003185-CITIBANK |
| 7609 | 89,100.00 | 12/22/2025 | 3689-PURPLE WAVE |
| 7610 | 825.47 | 12/26/2025 | 001667-AMA TECHTEL COMM - AMA |
| 7611 | 528.96 | 12/26/2025 | 002786-JOHN DEERE COMPANY |
| 7612 | 2,594.26 | 12/26/2025 | 000105-NORTH PLAINS ELECTRIC COOP |
| 7613 | 539.62 | 12/26/2025 | 000131-XCEL ENERGY |
| 7614 | 113,686.99 | 12/26/2025 | 000181-LIPSCOMB COUNTY PAYROLL ACCOUNT |
| 7615 | 1,000.00 | 12/29/2025 | 3694-CHRISSY DUNN, LIPSCOMB CO&DIST CLEI |
| 7616 | 276.91 | 01/08/2026 | 000423-EQUITY EXCHANGE |
| 7618 | 20.70 | 01/09/2026 | 000103-MOTOR PARTS OF PERRYTON, INC. |
| 7619 | 225.66 | 01/09/2026 | 002798-MOTOR PARTS OF CANADIAN / PERFORM |
| 7620 | 630.91 | 01/12/2026 | 002044-AT&T MOBILITY |
| 7621 | 59.18 | 01/12/2026 | 000012-BARTLETT'S ACE HARDWARE |
| 7622 | 975.44 | 01/12/2026 | 002566-BOOKER TIRE CENTER, INC |
| 7623 | 753.00 | 01/12/2026 | 002058-CANADIAN FAMILY PHYSICIANS |
| 7624 | 75.00 | 01/12/2026 | 002517-CDCAT TREASURER |
| 7625 | 854.03 | 01/12/2026 | 002795-CHRISSY DUNN |
| 7626 | 402.19 | 01/12/2026 | 003088-CINTAS CORPORATION |
| 7627 | 274.04 | 01/12/2026 | 003060-CIRA |
| 7628 | 3,695.43 | 01/12/2026 | 003185-CITIBANK |
| 7629 | 105.00 | 01/12/2026 | 000032-CITY OF HIGGINS |
| 7630 | 250.00 | 01/12/2026 | 000034-COUNTY JUDGES & COMMISSIONERS ASS |
| 7631 | 240.00 | 01/12/2026 | 002762-DAVID AND SALLY WITSCHI |
| 7632 | 8,935.75 | 01/12/2026 | 002518-DELO'S |
| 7633 | 380.14 | 01/12/2026 | 000423-EQUITY EXCHANGE |
| 7634 | 124.36 | 01/12/2026 | 001375-FEDEX |
| 7635 | 817.21 | 01/12/2026 | 000052-FOLLETT FOOD MARKET |
| 7636 | 9,297.02 | 01/12/2026 | 000057-FRONK OIL CO., INC. |
| 7637 | 511.00 | 01/12/2026 | 3569-GRASS SNATCHERS |
| 7638 | 1,243.20 | 01/12/2026 | 000077-HIGH PLAINS FOOD BANK |
| 7639 | 1,000.00 | 01/12/2026 | 000130-J.R. SPRAGUE |
| 7640 | 55,521.00 | 01/12/2026 | 3771-JOHN VANCE - VANCE AUTO GROUP |
| 7641 | 3,156.25 | 01/12/2026 | 002776-KERRIGAN TECHNOLOGY SERVICES |
| 7642 | 210.53 | 01/12/2026 | 003074-KIMBERLY LONG |
| 7643 | 5,069.44 | 01/12/2026 | 000090-LEMON, SHEARER, PHILLIPS |

| | | | |
|------|----------|------------|--|
| 7644 | 200.00 | 01/12/2026 | 002480-LEXISNEXIS RISK SOLUTIONS |
| 7645 | 50.00 | 01/12/2026 | 000099-LIPSCOMB COUNTY TAX A/C |
| 7646 | 200.00 | 01/12/2026 | 002763-LOCAL GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS |
| 7647 | 3,051.24 | 01/12/2026 | 000103-MOTOR PARTS OF PERRYTON, INC. |
| 7648 | 3,480.25 | 01/12/2026 | 000105-NORTH PLAINS ELECTRIC COOP |
| 7649 | 623.00 | 01/12/2026 | 002882-O&B TANK CO. INC. |
| 7650 | 30.00 | 01/12/2026 | 002750-OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GEN-CVC |
| 7651 | 260.02 | 01/12/2026 | 000109-PANHANDLE REGIONAL |
| 7652 | 168.41 | 01/12/2026 | 001445-PERFORMANCE EQUIPMENT, INC. |
| 7653 | 159.89 | 01/12/2026 | 000235-PERRYTON OFFICE SUPPLY |
| 7654 | 249.98 | 01/12/2026 | 3440-PTCI |
| 7655 | 535.50 | 01/12/2026 | 3450-RAELENE COPELAND |
| 7656 | 23.93 | 01/12/2026 | 3772-RYLEE JO HUMBERT |
| 7657 | 582.00 | 01/12/2026 | 003354-SEWARD CO WASTE MANAGEMENT |
| 7658 | 1,100.00 | 01/12/2026 | 002053-SOUTHWEST DATA SOLUTIONS LLC |
| 7659 | 15.25 | 01/12/2026 | 3722-SOUTHWIND CAR WASH |
| 7660 | 187.35 | 01/12/2026 | 000127-SPC LEASING CO. |
| 7661 | 1,721.76 | 01/12/2026 | 3770-SYLOGIST GOV. INC |
| 7662 | 130.00 | 01/12/2026 | 000919-TEARE MEMORIAL CLINIC |
| 7663 | 5,940.00 | 01/12/2026 | 3574-TEXAS AIR SYSTEMS |
| 7664 | 150.00 | 01/12/2026 | 000271-TEXAS ASSOC OF COUNTIES |
| 7665 | 70.00 | 01/12/2026 | 001298-TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES |
| 7666 | 30.00 | 01/12/2026 | 2691-TEXAS COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCTS |
| 7667 | 179.38 | 01/12/2026 | 002736-THE PIT STOP |
| 7668 | 96.00 | 01/12/2026 | 000147-TOWN OF DARROUZETT |
| 7669 | 3,760.89 | 01/12/2026 | 000154-WARREN POWER & MACHINERY |
| 7670 | 190.64 | 01/12/2026 | 000160-WELDON PARTS INC. |
| 7671 | 381.31 | 01/12/2026 | 000277-WEST TEXAS GAS, INC. |
| 7672 | 289.29 | 01/12/2026 | 001436-WESTERN EQUIPMENT |
| 7673 | 3,306.35 | 01/12/2026 | 003116-WHOLESALE FUELS, INC. |

TOTAL: 341,353.21

Motioned: Brandon Meier

Seconded: Scotty Schilling

The vote carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF THE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE REPORTS:

The total collected by the Justice of the Peace for the month of December was, \$2223.00 total revenue with \$ 1261.78 going to county revenue.

HEAR FROM SHERIFF BEN EGGLESTON:

Sheriff Eggleston reported for the month of December the office handled the following:

- . 170 total calls
- . 2 drunk drivers
- . A couple of burglaries
- . 1 Disturbance & Fight
- . 1 Felon in custody, with press a release on Facebook
- . 26 Traffic Stops
- . 1 Civil standby
- . A couple of funeral escorts
- . Several lifts assist
- . 1 arrest with narcotics
- . 1 accident with injury

CONSIDER MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT FOR HOUSE BILL 33 WITH TEXAS DPS:

As presented by Sheriff Ben Eggleston.

Motioned: Juan Cantu

Seconded: Scotty Schilling

The vote carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF TREASURER REPORT:

Jr's major plans for the month of January include, on 1/03/2026 Attend Auxiin training, 01/06/2026-01/09/2026 Show barn work, 01/14/2026 Expanding the cow herd and profitability, 01/17/2026 Livestock show work day, 01/23/2026-01/25/2026 Sheep and goats, 01/30/2026-01/31/2026 County livestock show day.

REPORT FROM COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT:

| | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| PAYROLL-HAPPY STATE BANK | \$75.54 | \$75.58 | | 4.35% | \$0.04 | \$0.00 |
| PAYROLL-FIRSTBANK SOUTHWEST | | | | | | |
| SEPT | \$14,603.94 | \$270,592.44 | \$270,768.05 | 4.43% | \$261.34 | \$14,940.90 |
| OCT | \$14,940.90 | \$280,897.89 | \$280,897.89 | 4.43% | \$224.41 | \$15,165.31 |
| NOV | \$15,165.31 | \$296,957.45 | \$296,957.45 | 4.30% | \$242.50 | \$15,407.81 |
| DEC | \$15,407.81 | \$291,453.85 | \$291,249.07 | 4.14% | \$278.88 | \$15,481.91 |
| OPIOID ABATEMENT FUND----FIRSTBANK SOUTHWEST | | | | | | |
| SEPT | \$4,776.07 | | | 4.43% | \$17.22 | \$4,793.29 |
| OCT | \$4,793.29 | | | 4.43% | \$17.37 | \$4,810.66 |
| NOV | \$4,810.66 | | | 4.30% | \$16.69 | \$4,827.35 |
| DEC | \$4,827.35 | | | 4.14% | \$16.64 | \$4,843.99 |
| SHERIFF SB22----FIRSTBANK SOUTHWEST | | | | | | |
| SEPT | \$37,459.89 | \$37,594.97 | | 4.43% | \$135.08 | \$0.00 |
| OCT | \$0.00 | | \$250,000.00 | 4.43% | \$259.79 | \$250,259.79 |
| NOV | \$250,259.79 | | | 4.30% | \$868.50 | \$251,128.29 |
| DEC | \$251,128.29 | \$2,316.90 | | 4.14% | \$863.44 | \$249,674.83 |
| DECEMBER 2025 INTEREST EARNED | | | | | \$27,330.22 | |
| FISCAL YEAR TO DATE INTEREST EARNED FOR FY 2026 | | | | | | \$77,310.10 |

This report is presented in accordance with the Texas Government Code Sections 114.021 and 2256.023, and, I certify, that, to the best of my knowledge, the above is true and correct.

Kimberly L. Long
Kimberly L. Long, Lipscomb County Treasurer

FILED
AT 3:00 O'CLOCK P.M.

**COUNTY FINANCES
TREASURER'S REPORT**

December 31, 2025

JAN 12 2026

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY FINANCES IN THE HANDS OF KIMBERLY L. LONG, TREASURER OF LIPSCOMB COUNTY, TEXAS.

Chimmy Dunn
COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLERK,
LIPSCOMB COUNTY, TEXAS

COMMISSIONERS' COURT, LIPSCOMB COUNTY, TEXAS met in Regular Session, January 12, 2026.

We the undersigned County Judge and Commissioners in and for Lipscomb County, Texas, hereby certify that we have this date made an examination of and compared the County Treasurer's Monthly Report for the month of DECEMBER filed with us on this 12th day of JANUARY, 2026 and have found the same to be correct and in due order and that the total of all funds held by the County Treasurer, as well as other assets in her hands is the sum of \$7,645,784.98.

| | December 31, 2025 | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | Beg-Cash: | Revenues | Acct/Pay | Payroll/TFR | End Cash |
| General Fund | 4,950,742.27 | 257,905.98 | (578,271.56) | | 4,630,376.69 |
| CD#1 | 635,095.08 | 2,184.55 | | | 637,279.63 |
| CD#2 | 638,118.53 | 2,194.95 | | | 640,313.48 |
| Money Market | 1,428,343.16 | 4,922.50 | | | 1,433,265.66 |
| HAVA | 254.89 | | | | 254.89 |
| Chapter 19 | | | | | |
| Sheriff Commissary | 1,455.93 | 89.26 | | | 1,545.19 |
| Sheriff Escrow | 29.48 | | | | 29.48 |
| Insurance Account | 23,975.00 | 46,325.70 | (48,872.42) | | 21,428.28 |
| Probation | | | | | |
| Probation Adm. | | | | | |
| AP Clearing | 11,252.17 | 38.78 | | | 11,290.95 |
| Payroll | 15,407.81 | 291,527.95 | (136,475.19) | (154,978.66) | 15,481.91 |
| ARPA | | | | | |
| Opioid Abatement Fund | 4,827.35 | 16.64 | | | 4,843.99 |
| Sheriff SB22 | 251,128.29 | 863.44 | (2,316.90) | | 249,674.83 |
| | 7,928,211.51 | 606,069.75 | (765,936.07) | (154,978.66) | 7,645,784.98 |

WITNESS OUR HANDS, officially, this 12th day of JANUARY, 2026:

Joe Books
County Judge

SEC
Commissioner Prec #1

B. A. M.
Commissioner Prec #2

Scotty Schilling
Commissioner Prec #3

Chimmy Dunn
Commissioner Prec #4

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE, County Judge and County Commissioners of said Lipscomb County, each respectively, on the 12th day of JANUARY, 2026.

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Kimberly L. Long, County Treasurer of Lipscomb County and says that the within and foregoing report is true and correct.

Kimberly L. Long
County Treasurer

FILED FOR RECORD THIS 12th day of January 2026, and recorded

13th Day of January, 2026.

Chimmy Dunn

County Clerk

Treasurers report was presented to the court.

Motioned: Scotty Schilling

Seconded: Brandon Meier

The vote carried unanimously.

CONSIDER PURCHASING A CD AT FBSW FROM THE GENERAL FUND AND REVIEW CURRENT RATES ON EXISTING CD'S:

CD rates discussed no action taken.

HEAR FROM CHRISSY DUNN ON WHETHER TO PURCHASE CIVIC PLUS SOFTWARE TO ASSIT CLERK'S OFFICE WITH THE COMMISSIONERS COURT AGENDA, MINUTES AND POSTING OF MINUTES:

Chrissy advised she would not be purchasing Civic Plus Software.

UPDATE THE COVID LEAVE POLICY:

Covid leave policy has been updated to employees using sick leave if employees have a Covid diagnosis.

****RESOLUTION OF THE LIPSCOMB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT**

REMOVING PAID COVID-19 LEAVE BENEFITS**

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 public health emergency, the Commissioners Court implemented paid COVID-19 leave provisions to support county employees affected by illness, quarantine requirements, or related disruptions; and

WHEREAS, federal and state emergency declarations related to COVID-19 have expired, and COVID-19 is now managed as an endemic illness under standard public health and workplace policies; and

WHEREAS, the continuation of special paid COVID-19 leave benefits is no longer necessary and is inconsistent with current operational, financial, and personnel management practices; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court finds it in the best interest of the County to rescind these temporary benefits and return to standard leave policies applicable to all other illnesses and absences;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commissioners Court hereby rescinds and terminates all paid COVID-19 leave provisions, effective immediately upon adoption of this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all employee absences related to COVID-19 occurring on or after the effective date shall be charged to the employee's available sick leave, vacation leave, compensatory time, or other applicable leave categories in accordance with existing County personnel policies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Treasurer's Office is directed to update all personnel manuals, employee guidance documents, and internal procedures to reflect the termination of paid COVID-19 leave benefits and to notify all County employees of this change.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of January, 2026, by the Commissioners Court of Lipscomb County, Texas.

FILED
AT 3:00 PM
O'CLOCK

JAN 12 2026

Judge John R. Roots
County Judge
CLERK OF THE
COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLERK
LIPSCOMB COUNTY, TEXAS

Commissioner, Precinct 1 Brandon Meier
Commissioner, Precinct 2 Juan Cantu
Commissioner, Precinct 3 David J. Kelly
Commissioner, Precinct 4 David J. Kelly

Motioned: Brandon Meier

Seconded: Juan Cantu

The vote carried unanimously.

APPROVE EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK UPDATES:

Kimberly Long discussed changes to employee handbook to reflect that if an employee chooses not to report to work when County offices remain open, employees must use available leave and failure to report to work as well as excessive or patterned weather-related absences may be addressed under existing attendance and performance policies. Whenever the Elected official deviates from regular office hours that the Elected Official should report the office closure to Commissioners court, so the office closure can be recorded in the minutes. Employees will be paid for weather-related closures from Administrative Leave.

Motioned: Juan Cantu
Seconded: Dan Cockrell
The vote carried unanimously.

CONSIDER PAUPER POLICY:

Consider the pauper policy for Lipscomb County by providing pauper services on, direct cremation with the cremains being delivered back to the family in a standard urn, or an immediate burial with a 20-gauge non-sealer casket with the county digging the grave, providing a plot and the county providing 5 death certificates.

APPROVE TO ACCEPT BIDS FOR PAUPER BURIALS FOR LIPSCOMB COUNTY:

Motioned: Dan Cockrell
Seconded: Juan Cantu
The vote carried unanimously.

APPROVE 2026 PRIMARY ELECTION ORDER:

Motioned: Brandon Meier
Seconded: Juan Cantu
The vote carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGISLATION TO EXEMPT TEXAS COUNTIES FROM THE STATE HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX:

FILED P.M.
AT 3:00 O'CLOCK

JAN 12 2026

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF LIPSCOMB §

Cherry-Dan
COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLERK
LIPSCOMB COUNTY, TEXAS

Resolution Supporting Legislation to Exempt Texas Counties from the State Hotel Occupancy Tax

WHEREAS, Texas Counties are the functional arm of state government and are responsible for the operation and management of numerous state programs as required or authorized by state law; and

WHEREAS, Texas Counties provide essential state services to constituents at the local level, many of which are fully or partially supported with funds disbursed by the State of Texas through the state appropriations process; and

WHEREAS, Texas Counties are required by state law to provide for the continuing education and professional development of county officials and employees, often requiring travel and overnight stays that are subject to the State of Texas Hotel Occupancy Tax; and

WHEREAS, the State of Texas currently exempts from the Hotel Occupancy Tax several entities, including federal agencies, state government officials and employees, and certain charitable, educational, and religious organizations, but does not exempt county governments, their officials, or employees; and

WHEREAS, when counties, as political subdivisions of the State, pay the State Hotel Occupancy Tax from revenues generated through local property taxes, it results in an inefficient practice known as "tax churn," in which one taxing entity collects taxes from another taxing entity, ultimately increasing the financial burden on local property taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, exempting Texas Counties from the State Hotel Occupancy Tax would reduce this inefficiency, improve governmental accountability, and help alleviate the impact of rising local property taxes on Texas citizens; and

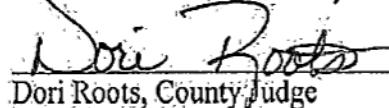
WHEREAS, the exemption would further align counties with other government and nonprofit entities already recognized under state law as exempt from this tax, ensuring consistent and equitable tax treatment across all public entities.

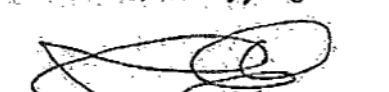
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Commissioners Court does hereby find that it is in the best interest of Texas counties and their taxpayers to support and favor the passage of legislation that exempts counties, their officials, and employees from paying the State of Texas Hotel Occupancy Tax when traveling on official county business.

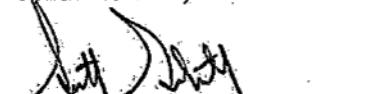
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the members of the Texas Legislature representing this county and to the Texas Association of Counties for distribution and advocacy in support of this legislation.

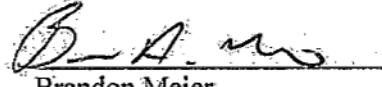
APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Lipscomb County Commissioners Court on this the

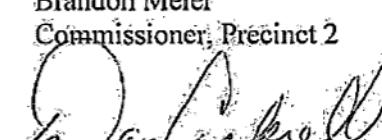
17th day of January, 2026.


Dori Roots, County Judge


Juan Cantu
Commissioner, Precinct 1


Scotty Schilling
Commissioner, Precinct 3


Brandon Meier
Commissioner, Precinct 2


Dan Cockrell
Commissioner, Precinct 4

Motioned: Scotty Schilling

Seconded: Dan Cockrell

The vote carried unanimously.

REPORT FROM JUDGE:

Judge Roots provided an update on the rural ambulance grant and stated that the County is still waiting for the finalized rules. Judge Roots has sent updates to the EMS Directors and Hospital Board Presidents informing them of the status. Once all rules and information are established, a meeting will be held so everyone can receive the information at the same time and begin preparing their grant applications. There will only be one grant of \$500,000 awarded to one of the EMS providers of the County.

Judge Roots also noted that new County credit cards will be issued soon. Current credit cards may continue to be used in the meantime.

Texas Air conducted an evaluation of the County's heating and air units and identified one small leak, which was repaired during the visit.

Judge Roots spoke with the engineer working on the Wolf Creek Bridge on Highway 23. Repair work is upcoming, and the bridge is expected to be closed for approximately 20 days.

Judge Roots also discussed the possibility of implementing a permitting process for new businesses coming into Lipscomb County.

Judge Roots stated that Lynsey has returned to work on a limited basis, working administratively four hours a day. She is restricted from lifting more than 10 pounds, and her full recovery may take up to two years. The County may need to consider alternative arrangements for her position. The Judge and Lynsey are working on a job description to provide to Lynsey's doctor.

Judge Roots also noted that Norma will be out soon due to an upcoming surgery.

Judge Roots mentioned that the criminal cases report was discussed to ensure the County remains in compliance with grant requirements. The county is currently at 66%, The Judge advised that the County needs to bring our report up to 90% by August to ensure the county continues to get grant funding.

CONSIDER BURN BAN:

Burn Ban Remains in Effect

CONSIDER AND APPROVE TO CONTACT LAND OWNERS IN LIPSCOMB TO PURCHASE LAND IN ORDER TO BUILD A BARN TO BE USED BY THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE, AS PRESENTED:

Motioned: Juan Cantu
Seconded: Dan Cockrell
The vote carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND APPROVE PURPLE WAVE AUCTION TO SELL EQUIPMENT AND OTHER COUNTY ITEMS, AS PRESENTED:

Motioned: Brandon Meier
Seconded: Scotty Schilling
The vote carried unanimously.

UPDATE ON COUNTY ROADS:

Commissioners discussed county roads.

CONSIDER INSTALLING SOLAR RADAR SPEED LIMITS SIGNS:

This matter was discussed, tabled until further information can be obtained.

CONSIDER AND ACCEPT DONATION OF EASEMENT FROM LOUISE LANDERS PURSUANT TO TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 81.032 FOR USE AS COUNTY ROAD 31.

Matt advised that we are waiting on surveyor. No action taken.

MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN:

Motion to approve and update the interlocal agreement between Lipscomb County and the City of Higgins, reflecting the current agreement, adding water service and a wood scraper, and to consider updating the effective date to January 12, 2026.

Motioned: Dan Cockrell

Seconded: Brandon Meier

The vote carried unanimously.

ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER CONSULTATION ON PERSONNEL MATTERS AT 9:45 A.M.:

Motioned: Scotty Schilling

Seconded: Juan Cantu

The vote carried unanimously.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AT 10:49 A.M.:

Motioned: Scotty Schilling

Seconded: Brandon Meier

The vote carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF PERSONNEL CHANGES:

Personnel Note – Precinct 1:

Juan Cantu, Commissioner of Precinct 1, advised that effective January 1, Dustin Harrison has been promoted to Foreman with a salary of \$63,682.76. Mr. Harrison will replace Mark Schoenhals, who has retired. Commissioner Cantu also stated that he is considering hiring Trenton Swenn of Shattuck, Oklahoma, pending the successful completion of a drug test. Commissioner Cantu further advised that Mr. Swenn currently holds a Class B CDL and will need to complete additional CDL requirements in order to operate a semi-truck. Mr. Swenn may request that the County pay for the CDL testing.

Personnel Note – Sheriff's Office:

The Sheriff advised that he will not be renewing Brenda Bolar's bond certificate. Effective January 8, Deana Duke is no longer employed with the Lipscomb County Sheriff's Office, and staff will be temporarily reassigned to cover the vacancy.

Personnel Note – Precinct 2:

Brandon Meier, Commissioner of Precinct 2, stated that his Foreman, Stanley Stable, has returned to work full time with restrictions following his surgery. Dori advised that caution should be exercised when modifying job requirements once an employee returns to work after an injury or surgery, particularly if the duties differ from the position for which the employee was originally hired.

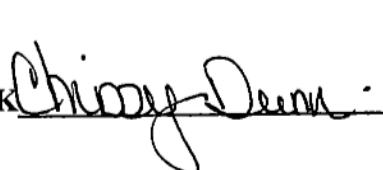
**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:51 P.M. WITH THE NEXT COMMISSIONERS COURT
SCHEDULED FOR A SPECIAL MEETING ON 26th DAY OF JANUARY 2026 AT 1:30
P.M.**

Motioned: Brandon Meier

Seconded: Dan Cockrell

The vote carried unanimously.

COUNTY CLERK

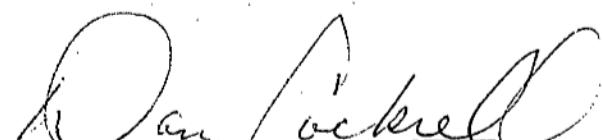
 

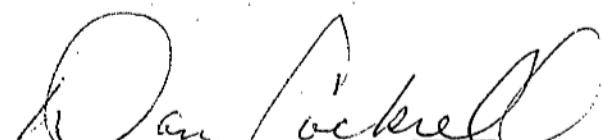
COUNTY JUDGE

The foregoing minutes approved this 26th day of January, 2026.


COMMISSIONER OF PREC #1


COMMISSIONER OF PREC #3


COMMISSIONER OF PREC #2


COMMISSIONER OF PREC #4