



Lipscomb County

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COMMISSIONERS
Juan M. Cantu
Precinct One

Brandon Meier
Precinct Two

Scotty Schilling
Precinct Three

Dan Cockrell
Precinct Four

SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE

A SPECIAL 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 26th DAY OF JANUARY 2026, AT 1:30 P.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 THE COUNTY EMS DIRECTORS PRESENTATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE HB3000 RURAL AMBULANCE GRANT
- 7) CONSIDER THE EMS INTER LOCAL AGREEMENTS FOR BOOKER, DARROUZETT, FOLLETT, HIGGINS
- 8) 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.

- 9) RETURN TO OPEN SESSION
- 10) REVIEW OF PERSONNEL CHANGES
- 11) MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN
- 12) 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 16th DAY OF JANUARY, 2026.


COUNTY JUDGE

FILED
AT 1:35 O'CLOCK P.M.

JAN 16 2026


COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLERK
LIPSCOMB COUNTY, TEXAS



COMMISSIONERS' COURT MINUTES FOR JANUARY 26TH, 2026

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 26th day of January 2026, the Commissioners' Court of Lipscomb County, Texas convened for their special session at 01:30 P.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, Juan Cantu, Precinct 1 Commissioner with the following members present:

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

Also present: Raelene Copeland, Tax Assessor Collector; Matthew Bartosiewicz, County Attorney; Kathy Price, Justin Longhofer and Kris Hogan with the Higgins-Lipscomb Hospital District; Jonathon Sell, with the Booker Hospital District; Rich Henkel and Lane Hill, with the Darrouzett Hospital District

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None currently.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING AS AMENDED:

With adding to **"Approve Employee Handbook Updates"** that Employees will be paid for weather-related closures from administrative leave.

Motioned: Dan Cockrell

Seconded: Scotty Schilling

The vote carried unanimously.

HEAR THE COUNTY EMS DIRECTORS PRESENTATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE HB3000 RURAL AMBULANCE GRANT:

• Follett Hospital District

Follett Hospital District informed the Court that they will not be applying for consideration under the grant program. District representatives stated that other hospital districts may have a greater need and could benefit more directly from the available funding.

• Higgins-Lipscomb Hospital District

Higgins-Lipscomb Hospital District reported that it has been in operation since January of the previous year. The district currently operates two ambulances:

- A 1996 Diesel Ford four-wheel drive ambulance with approximately 38,000 miles, which is currently unusable
- A 2010 Diesel Chevrolet two-wheel drive ambulance with approximately 30,000 miles

Higgins-Lipscomb Staffing includes:

- 3 paramedics
- 7 EMTs

In addition to emergency medical services, the district provides community outreach services and has received a medical equipment grant from the State for \$178,000.

Annual personnel costs are approximately \$207,000. The district currently has approximately \$130,000 in savings and annual tax revenue of approximately \$496,000, which is projected to increase.

Higgins-Lipscomb Hospital District is in the process of remodeling a portion of the Higgins school, donated by Canadian ISD. The remodeled facility will provide living quarters and ambulance barn.

- **Booker Hospital District**

Booker Hospital District was presented by **Jonathon Sell**, EMS Director and owner of **ISM Staffing Management**, which operates both Booker EMS and OGH EMS.

Booker EMS operates three licensed ambulances:

- A **2024 diesel 4-wheel drive Chevrolet** ambulance with approximately **40,000 miles**
- A **2019 diesel Ford** ambulance with approximately **120,000 miles**
- A **2016 diesel Chevrolet** ambulance with approximately **95,000 miles**

Two ambulances are staffed at all times, with the third unit available to be staffed by personnel as needed.

In **2024**, Booker EMS responded to approximately **293 calls**, and in **2025**, responded to approximately **142 calls to date**. Primary call types include 911 emergency responses, occasional nursing home transfers, sports standby coverage, local medical aid, and occasional mutual aid responses.

Booker EMS staffing includes:

- **9 paramedics**
- **3 Advanced EMTs**
- **10 EMTs**

The district's primary challenge is paramedic education and training. Mr. Sell reported that Booker Hospital District maintains approximately **\$298,000** in various EMS-dedicated accounts. The hospital district provides \$800,000.00 to Booker EMS and runs approximately \$700,000.00 in expenses. While Booker EMS does not have the greatest demonstrated need for the grant, the district requested consideration as an alternate recipient.

- **Darrouzett Hospital District**

Rich Henkel serves as the EMS Director for the Town of Darrouzett. Mr. Henkel also owns a private company that provides full staffing services for Darrouzett's emergency medical operations.

Darrouzett EMS currently operates two ambulances:

- **Primary Ambulance:**
A **2008 Chevrolet** ambulance with approximately **75,000 miles**, equipped with **2-wheel drive**. This unit is staffed full-time with a **paramedic and an EMT**.
- **Backup Ambulance:**
A **2002 ambulance** with approximately **36,000 miles**, also **2-wheel drive**, maintained primarily as a secondary or reserve unit.

Darrouzett EMS staffing includes:

- **7 paramedics**
- **2 Advanced EMTs**
- **3 EMTs**

The service responds to approximately **7–10 calls per month**, totaling close to **100 calls annually**. The majority of calls originate from **911 dispatch**, including resident welfare checks and other medical-related emergencies.

Darrouzett EMS generally does not perform routine patient transfers, except when transferring a Darrouzett resident. EMS services are provided **free of charge** to Darrouzett residents.

In addition to serving its own community, Darrouzett EMS frequently assists surrounding areas. Approximately **25% of calls** involve responses outside Darrouzett, as the town's geographic location often allows EMS crews to arrive faster than other providers in the county.

Mr. Henkel noted that key challenges include **aging equipment**, increasing **repair costs**, rising **personnel expenses**, and ongoing **fuel costs**. Mr. Henkel stated that Darrouzett Hospital District currently maintains approximately **\$235,000** in an operating account funded through tax revenue, along with approximately **\$40,000** in savings. Mr. Henkel stated that the district has recently begun billing insurance companies for services provided to Darrouzett taxpayers in an effort to generate additional revenue and support ongoing EMS operations.

CONSIDER EMS INTER LOCAL AGREEMENTS FOR BOOKER, DARROUZETT, FOLLETT, HIGGINS:

Motioned: Scotty Schilling
Seconded: Juan Cantu
The vote carried unanimously.

ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER CONSULTATION WITH COUNTY ATTORNEY AND CONSIDER PERSONNEL MATTERS AT 2:40 P.M.

A. Pursuant to the authority granted under government code chapter 555.074 the Commissioners' Court will convene in closed session to discuss the above agenda item.

Motioned: Juan Cantu
Seconded: Scotty Schilling
The vote carried unanimously.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AT 3:07 P.M.

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

Commissioners Court awarded the Rural Ambulance Grant to the Darrouzett Hospital District based on the district's appraised valuation of approximately **\$38 million**. The Court also identified Higgins-Lipscomb Hospital District as the alternate recipient, as that district has a larger appraised valuation of approximately **\$216 million** and greater potential opportunity to generate additional revenue through its tax base.

REVIEW OF PERSONNEL CHANGES:

None at this time

MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN:

None at this time

**COURT ADJOURNED AT 3:18 P.M. WITH THE NEXT COMMISSIONERS COURT SCHEDULED
FOR 9th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026 AT 9:00 A.M.**

Motioned: Dan Cockrell
Seconded: Scotty Schilling
The vote carried unanimously.

COUNTY CLERK _____ COUNTY JUDGE _____

The foregoing minutes approved this 9th day of February, 2026.

COMMISSIONER OF PREC #1

COMMISSIONER OF PREC #2

COMMISSIONER OF PREC #3

COMMISSIONER OF PREC #4