



## 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2026

  
Dori Roots  
COUNTY JUDGE

AT 1:30 FILED P.M.  
O'CLOCK

JAN 16 2026

*Chasay Durr*  
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.

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#### • 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.

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- **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.

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**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.**

**REURN 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026.

COMMISSIONER OF PREC #1

COMMISSIONER OF PREC #2

COMMISSIONER OF PREC #3

COMMISSIONER OF PREC #4