

HICKORY COUNTY COMMISSION
MEETING OF OCTOBER 3, 2022
MINUTES

1. The meeting of October 3, 2022 was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Presiding Commissioner Mertz. Present were, Commissioner Pearson, Commissioner Breshears, Sue Dorman, Brian Bennett, Sheriff Greg Burke, Beverly Ryan, Lucas Hadley, Jordon Graham, Treasurer Kenny Ratliff, Becky Richards, Carolyn Ream, Circuit Clerk Cee Cee Smith, Cole Cihy, Matt Ford, Bob and Kathy Leper, Jennifer Wilson with N-Form, Robert Sawyer and County Clerk Tamara Weidman. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Pearson and a second by Commissioner Breshears the minutes of the Meeting of September 22, 2022 were approved as presented. 2-0 vote
2. Jennifer Wilson with N-Form presented a set of drawings on the prospective floor plan of the Old Dollar General building renovated into a judicial court system as well as a drawing of what the front of the building would look like. Jennifer explained that she could make changes to the plans, this was just a preliminary drawing to review. The projected cost of the project would be \$2,008,800 (6,696 square foot x \$300 per square foot). Jennifer had also sent estimated costs on an addition north of the current historic courthouse at \$1,400,000 and an addition to the south of the jail building at \$1,200,000.
3. Paula Shepard, ARPA administrator was not present.
4. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Pearson and a second by Commissioner Breshears the authorization to dispose of accounts payable records for 2012, 2013 and 2017 was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
5. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file the employee leave summary report for September 2022.
6. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Commissioner Pearson the demand warrants and documents for accounts payable for the end of September 2022 was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
7. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file Prosecuting Attorney Keaton Ashlock's monthly report of fees collected for August in the amount of \$711 and September 2022 in the amount of \$725. 2-0 vote
8. Public Comments:
 - Hickory County's unemployment rate is at 3%.
 - Shannon Stewart has sent several emails about grants that are available.
9. Matters for discussion and/or consideration of the Commission:
 - Sheriff Burke explained that the Sheriff's office will not get cars that were ordered in March. He asked if it was possible to purchase in another state. Presiding Commissioner Mertz will check on that.
 - New radios are being installed in patrol vehicles.
 - ARPA funds can only be used on renovations not new construction.
 - Carolyn Ream – Emergency Management Director received notice the EMPG grant is approved for \$37,436.92 with a 50% local match. This will allow for a full time Emergency Management Director.
 - Jordon Graham asked when the Commission planned to address ARPA applications. Presiding Commissioner Mertz explained he will need to contact Paula to see when she can make it to a meeting.
 - The Dorman Bridge was approved for FY2022 funds last Friday, September 30th. The Project can begin anytime. Also discussed was shared passing lanes between Benton and Dallas counties on Highway 65.
 - With no other matters before the Commission, Commissioner Breshears made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m. and Commissioner Pearson seconded the motion. 2-0 vote

Jama Weidman
Scott Mertz

HICKORY COUNTY COMMISSION

MEETING OF OCTOBER 6, 2022

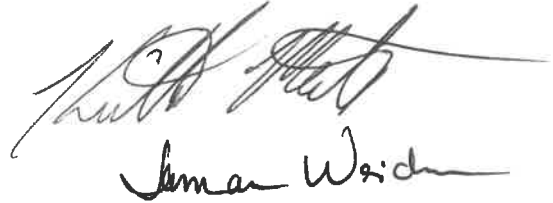
MINUTES

1. The meeting of October 6, 2022 was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Presiding Commissioner Mertz. Present were, Commissioner Pearson, Commissioner Breshears, Sue Dorman, Brian Bennett, Jordon Graham, Treasurer Kenny Ratliff, Randy and Jackie Johnson, Kyla Gall, Collector Karen Stokes, Maurice Pitts, Aaron Weaver, Aleia Ream with The Index, Robert Sawyer and County Clerk Tamara Weidman. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Commissioner Pearson the minutes of the Meeting of October 3, 2022 were approved as presented. 2-0 vote
2. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Pearson and a second by Commissioner Breshears the demand warrants and documents for payroll for the pay period ending October 1, 2022 was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
3. Mike Stephens, District 128 representative joined the meeting to introduce himself to the County Commission as he is the representative for Hermitage and around Pomme de Terre Lake. Commissioner Pearson takes issue with the MO Department of Conservation and the deer population. Mr. Stephens explained they have no accountability and they are like a sovereign state and have their own laws. Commissioner Pearson also mentioned the County was told by the Department of Natural Resources to pull gravel out of the Pomme de Terre river access yet they claim to be trying to combat erosion. He showed pictures of a large area that would benefit from the removal of gravel. Mr. Stephens explained they are almost as bad as the Department of Conservation.
4. The EMPG grant document will be moved to Thursday, October 13th.
5. The Commission discussed installing a drop box for the Prosecuting Attorney's office in the door to the office.
6. The Commission requested Brian Bennett present a list of names for the 911 advisory board. Presented were Chip Shaddox, Nancy Rose, Rebecca Richards, Mayci Harmon, Aaron Weaver with CMH and either Sue Dorman or Cleve Pendergrass. A motion was made by Commissioner Breshears to appoint Cleve Pendergrass and Commissioner Pearson seconded the motion. 2-0 vote
7. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file County Clerk Tamara Weidman's report of monthly fees collected for September 2022 in the amount of \$13,750.60.
8. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file Recorder Pam Hutton's report of monthly fees collected for September 2022 in the amount of \$7,258.
9. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file Circuit Clerk Cee Cee Smith's report of monthly fees collected for September 2022 in the amount of \$1,560.52.
10. Public Comments:
 - Brightspeed has taken over for Centurylink and Lumen as of October 3rd.
 - Randy Johnson spoke on behalf of Windmill point about some road maintenance issues. Commissioner Breshears took his phone number and will get with him to discuss.
 - Radios have been installed in patrol vehicles and they are working pretty well with the exception of parts of Weaubleau and Mule Shoe area. Since the Sheriff's office switched to digital radios, the Department of Conservation is unable to communicate by radio to the sheriff's office.
 - Shannon Stewart with Kaysinger Basin sent an email with the radar trailer grant for signatures. Once it is turned in and approved, the radar trailer can be ordered.
 - The Sheriff's office must go out to bid for vehicles if they are not using the state bid. They are placing an ad in the newspaper beginning next week.
 - Paula Shepard will be here on the 20th for ARPA applications.
11. Matters for discussion and/or consideration of the Commission:



Tamara Weidman

- Collector Karen Stokes explained there is a 25% increase in personal property taxes. Personal property numbers have balanced but still waiting on real estate to be transferred over from Clear Basin. Karen is hoping tax bills will be sent on time.
- Maurice Pitts reminded the Commission that at the townhall meeting earlier this year, they agreed not to move forward on the judicial project if it cost over 1.2 million dollars before taking it back to the public. Presiding Commissioner Mertz agreed.
- Brian Bennett explained more installation of radios will occur next week with some of the different fire departments.
- Andy Spear is going to look at more road and bridge projects.
- The trees and gutters were taken care of by Jarred Coffey. Soffit and fascia replacement are planned for next spring by Bolivar Insulation. The Christmas lights need to be replaced as well.
- With no other matters before the Commission, Commissioner Pearson made the motion to adjourn at 11:11 a.m. and Presiding Commissioner Mertz seconded the motion. 2-0 vote



James Weiden

HICKORY COUNTY COMMISSION
MEETING OF OCTOBER 13, 2022
MINUTES

1. The meeting of October 13, 2022 was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Presiding Commissioner Mertz. Present were, Commissioner Breshears, Sue Dorman, Brian Bennett, Jordon Graham, Andrea Graham, Treasurer Kenny Ratliff, Kyla Gall, Carolyn Ream, Circuit Clerk Cee Cee Smith, Marc Dye, Larry Senyard, Aleia Ream with The Index, Robert Sawyer and County Clerk Tamara Weidman. Commissioner Pearson was absent from this meeting. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Presiding Commissioner Mertz the minutes of the Meeting of October 6, 2022 were approved as presented. 2-0 vote
2. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Presiding Commissioner Mertz the demand warrants and documents for accounts payable for the beginning of October 2022 was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
3. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file the County financial statements for the month of September 2022.
4. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Presiding Commissioner Mertz the EMPG grant documents was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
5. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Presiding Commissioner Mertz the Commission Order no. 10-01-22 ordering the Treasurer to pay refund of \$2,644.15 to Stephen Kenig and \$940.08 to Karen Stokes, Hickory County Collector totaling \$3,584.23 was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
6. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file Sheriff Greg Burke's report of monthly fees collected for September 2022 for CCW fees in the amount of \$33, Civil Service in the amount of \$250, General Revenue in the amount of \$716.02.
7. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Presiding Commissioner Mertz the additions and abatements for September 2022 in the amounts of \$5,604.18 and \$2,444.73 respectively was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
8. Public Comments:
 - Jordon Graham and Brian Bennett have been trying to find ways to help HCFR and Central Fire to find a way to work together since they have one common goal, to take care of the people of Hickory County. An idea was presented to take the \$15,850 that is paid to HCFR each year and save it for communications since HCFR is unable to cover the entire County. Presiding Commissioner Mertz asked them to draw up something for the Commission and they will review. The next Chief's meeting is next Thursday.
 - Radio Communications just finished Cross Timbers radios and are headed to Urbana next.
 - There was some discussion on East side roads. The Commission wishes to include Fisher Concrete on the bid list for next years materials. Commissioner Breshears is to look at CR 351 per Larry Senyard's request.
 - Sales Tax is up 7 – 17% over all funds this year.
 - Yesterday's TAC meeting held in Clinton required bridge ranking again and Dorman is approved for 2022/2023 year.
 - With no other matters before the Commission, Commissioner Breshears made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 a.m. and Presiding Commissioner Mertz seconded the motion. 2-0 vote



Tamara Weidman

HICKORY COUNTY COMMISSION

MEETING OF OCTOBER 17, 2022

MINUTES

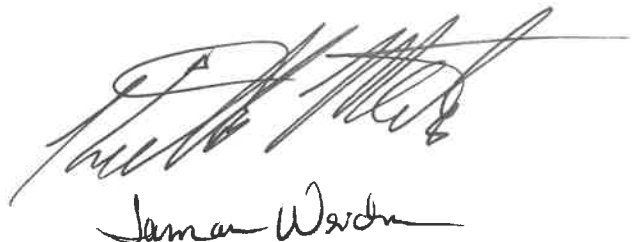
1. The meeting of October 17, 2022 was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Presiding Commissioner Mertz. Present were, Commissioner Pearson, Commissioner Breshears, Treasurer Kenny Ratliff, Circuit Clerk Cee Cee Smith, Robert Sawyer, Assessor Clint Baker, Kenneth Rife, Rebecca Richards, Mike Wood and County Clerk Tamara Weidman. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Presiding Commissioner Mertz the minutes of the Meeting of October 13, 2022 were approved as presented. 2-0 vote
2. The Commission has two in house ARPA applications to review. Assessor Clint Baker has requested a field review laptop with Clear Basin software loaded on it in the amount of \$2,700. Sheriff Greg Burke has requested 13 ballistic vests and carriers that include trauma plates with 2 quotes, one from Anchor Tactical Supply in the amount of \$22,035 and one from Galls in the amount of \$23,861.99. Presiding Commissioner Mertz explained Shannon with Kaysinger Basin said there were other grants available for the bullet proof vests and she would be happy to help with that. Paula Shepard, ARPA administrator is to be at Thursday's meeting to discuss open ARPA applications with the Commission.
3. Public Comments:
 - Southwest District Commission meeting is this Wednesday in Monett.
4. Matters for discussion and/or consideration of the Commission:
 - Assessor Clint Baker told the Commission they are now selling subscription-based GIS now for \$250. They have scheduled training to add new address points. They should be ready by the end of the month. The link to the map is now on the County's website.
 - The Commission plans to have a town hall meeting on November 15th at 6:00 p.m. in the Courtroom to discuss the Judicial Center plans.
 - Commissioner Breshears asked if it would be wise to get Great River Engineering to complete plans for the Rough Hollow bridge as they did on the Dorman bridge for replacement. That would put the County ahead in the process and maybe be in line with funding in a couple of years.
 - The Commission discussed road and bridge issues.
 - The headline in last week's newspaper was confusing to several citizens. It reads, "Commissioners receive prospective floor plans for Judicial Center, Personal Property Tax increases by 25 percent." The Commissioners have received several calls and have explained they are not tied together.
 - Radar trailer has been ordered and should be delivered to the East side barn within 45 days.
 - With no other matters before the Commission, Commissioner Pearson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:24 a.m. and Commissioner Breshears seconded the motion. 2-0 vote



Tamara Weidman


HICKORY COUNTY COMMISSION
MEETING OF OCTOBER 20, 2022
MINUTES

1. The meeting of October 20, 2022 was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Presiding Commissioner Mertz. Present were, Commissioner Pearson, Commissioner Breshears, Treasurer Kenny Ratliff, Circuit Clerk Cee Cee Smith, Robert Sawyer, Sue Dorman, Larry & Linda Senyard, Aaron Weaver, Pete and Robert with RCS Communications, Brian Bennett and County Clerk Tamara Weidman. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Commissioner Pearson the minutes of the Meeting of October 17, 2022 were approved as presented. 2-0 vote
2. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Pearson and a second by Commissioner Breshears the demand warrants and documents for payroll for the pay period ending October 15, 2022 was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
3. Paula Shepard was unable to attend the meeting.
4. Public Comments:
 - Presiding Commissioner Mertz attended the Southwest District Commissioner's meeting in Monett where 13 counties were represented. He learned that the United States Treasury is releasing local assistance and tribal consistency fund payments to eligible counties for federal ground located inside the County. For Hickory County this will amount to around \$160,000 over 2 years. This money can be put into General Revenue funds and treated like PILT (payment in lieu of taxes) funds.
5. Matters for discussion and/or consideration of the Commission:
 - Chief Bennett with Preston Fire wishes to adjust his ARPA funds application to get 2- 3.1 LUCAS 3 devices that come with a 7-year warranty, 2 – LUCAS 3 external power supply, 2- LUCAS 3 rechargeable batteries, 12 pack of LUCAS disposable suction cups, PROCARE LUCAS prevent service (includes annual onsite preventive maintenance inspection and unlimited repairs including parts, labor and travel for the system) totaling \$41,760.68. Chief Bennett explained he has a private donor who is willing to donate \$3,000 towards the purchase which will be used on the increase between the first quote and now and if there is extra, he will cover the rest. A motion was made by Commissioner Breshears to approve the purchase of the items listed above totaling \$41,760.68 and Commissioner Pearson seconded the motion. 2-0 vote
 - New radios have been placed by RCS Communications in both Preston and Cross Timbers and seem to be working. RCS worked in Urbana on replacing radios but there was some miscommunication on what had to be turned back in and where the new radios could be placed. Presiding Commissioner Mertz explained the radios were only to go in Hickory County vehicles. RCS worked some in Pittsburg and still need to work on Central Hickory and Weaubleau Fire Departments as well as there are a few Sheriff's office vehicles that need to be finished.
 - There is a Chiefs meeting tonight in Urbana at the Fire Station at 6:00 p.m. where they plan to vote on an HCFR agreement.
 - The stairs at the Annex going to the second floor are pulling away from the wall. The Commission will take a look after the meeting.
 - Road and bridge are planning on purchasing ice/snow product since last year it was difficult to get.
 - With no other matters before the Commission, Commissioner Pearson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:19 a.m. and Commissioner Breshears seconded the motion. 2-0 vote


James Warden

HICKORY COUNTY COMMISSION
MEETING OF OCTOBER 24, 2022
MINUTES

1. The meeting of October 24, 2022 was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Presiding Commissioner Mertz. Present were, Commissioner Pearson, Commissioner Breshears, Treasurer Kenny Ratliff, Robert Sawyer, and County Clerk Tamara Weidman. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Commissioner Pearson the minutes of the Meeting of October 20, 2022 were approved as presented. 2-0 vote
2. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file the employee leave summary for October 2022.
3. Public Comments:
 - Jimmy Wheeler will be the speaker for the Veteran's Day program in the Courtyard.
 - Commissioner Breshears discussed a road pipe issue on Canyon View Road in Pittsburg. Road and Bridge is planning to move the pipe.
4. Matters for discussion and/or consideration of the Commission:
 - George Gordon is going to look at the stairs at the Annex building. The stairs are pulling away from the wall.
 - CART money will go up next year from 0.0041 to 0.0043 according to the Missouri Association of Counties.
 - Commissioner Pearson mentioned installing a push open door at the back entrance of the Annex to make it easier to get out in case of an emergency.
 - With no other matters before the Commission, Commissioner Pearson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 a.m. and Commissioner Breshears seconded the motion. 2-0 vote

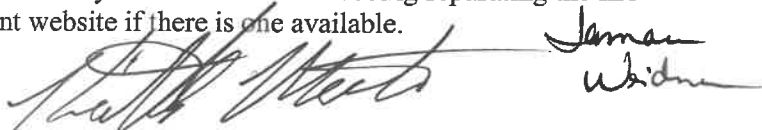

Tamara Weidman

HICKORY COUNTY COMMISSION


MEETING OF OCTOBER 27, 2022

MINUTES

1. The meeting of October 27, 2022 was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Presiding Commissioner Mertz. Present were, Commissioner Pearson, Commissioner Breshears, Treasurer Kenny Ratliff, Robert Sawyer, Collector Karen Stokes, Sheriff Greg Burke, Beverly Ryan, Paula Shepard, Larry & Linda Senyard, Sue Dorman, Jordon & Andrea Graham, Brian Bennett, Kyla Gall, Kim Bell, Larry Elam, Truman Miller, Kenneth Rife, Trevor Vernon and County Clerk Tamara Weidman. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Commissioner Pearson the minutes of the Meeting of October 24, 2022 were approved as presented. 2-0 vote
2. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Commissioner Pearson the demand warrants and documents for accounts payable for the end of October 2022 was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
3. Shannon Stewart with Kaysinger Basin gave updates on active grants. One is the ALCP grant for bike racks and benches. The products have been ordered, the bike racks have been delivered and are stored at the old Dollar General building until they can be installed. Shannon will submit final documents to the Department of Health and Senior Services for reimbursement to the County. Susan Jones-Hard introduced herself as the new Executive Director of Kaysinger Basin. Susan talked about some programs such as rural broadband expansion and the BRO program which she provided the Commission flyers with helpful information.
4. There are two open ARPA applications, one for Central Hickory Fire Rescue in the amount of \$39,429.37 and one for Weaubleau Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$114,946.80. There are also two in house applications for the Commission to address, one for the Assessor for a field laptop in the amount of \$2700 and one for the Sheriff's office for bullet proof vests in the amount of \$22,035. After much discussion, Commissioner Pearson made the motion to approve the purchase of another LUCAS device in addition to the one they were already been approved for. Commissioner Breshears seconded the motion. 2-0 vote
The Commission addressed the Weaubleau Fire application next and explained there were several items that did not qualify and requested an active roster. Weaubleau Fire Chief Kenneth Rife explained he will amend the application and submit to Paula Shepard along with an active roster of volunteer firefighters.
The Commission discussed the in-house ARPA applications and expressed that they believed there to be other grants available for bullet proof vests. Shannon Stewart explained the grant Presiding Commissioner Mertz mentioned is usually earlier in the year. A motion was made by Commissioner Pearson to approve the Assessor's ARPA application for the field laptop in the amount of \$2700 and Commissioner Breshears seconded the motion. 2-0 vote
Central Hickory Fire Rescue submitted a new ARPA application for \$34,500 to purchase 15 sets of turnout gear/personal protective equipment. Commissioner Pearson made the motion to purchase 10 of the turnout gear/personal protective equipment and Commissioner Breshears seconded the motion. 2-0 vote
5. Public Comments:
 - Commissioner Pearson wanted to note that other Commissioners in the Southwest district are not releasing ARPA funds to local fire departments.
 - Presiding Commissioner Mertz proposed that possibly Central Hickory Fire could discuss a match amount or cost share agreement for ARPA funds for the remaining equipment needed.
6. Matters for discussion and/or consideration of the Commission:
 - CART money is up 11-12% this year.
 - Central Hickory Fire Rescue will be sending fire due notices beginning next month and will be putting up signs informing citizens.
 - The County could possibly add a page to the County website with color coding separating the fire districts and could link to the fire department website if there is one available.



- Larry Senyard provided minutes to the Chiefs meeting held last week where they discussed options for the contract monies the County pays HCFR each year. They voted it would be best to leave it the way it is.
- Sue Dorman said Pittsburg Fire will have a board meeting next week to discuss radios. She explained that their radios were purchased through a grant and could not be traded in for the County's new radios per grant requirements. Pittsburg Fire's radios are Motorola and the County's new radios are Kenwood. The Commission suggested they reach out to the grant provider to see if they could trade them so the radios will work with the rest of the County.
- The Commission discussed road and bridge issues. The brush cutter has an oil leak and they are working on other equipment as well. Presiding Commissioner Mertz will contact Andy Spears on replacing more culverts.
- With no other matters before the Commission, Commissioner Pearson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 a.m. and Commissioner Breshears seconded the motion. 2-0 vote



Jamar Wischna

HICKORY COUNTY COMMISSION
MEETING OF OCTOBER 31, 2022
MINUTES

1. The meeting of October 31, 2022 was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Presiding Commissioner Mertz. Present were, Commissioner Pearson, Commissioner Breshears, Treasurer Kenny Ratliff, Robert Sawyer, Sheriff Greg Burke, Beverly Ryan, Sue Dorman, Brian Bennett, Kenneth Rife, Circuit Clerk Cee Cee Smith, Dillon Harness and County Clerk Tamara Weidman. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Breshears and a second by Commissioner Pearson the minutes of the Meeting of October 27, 2022 were approved as presented. 2-0 vote
2. Dillon Harness with Kaysinger Basin presented Memorandum of Agreement on the Hazard Mitigation plan for the Commission to approve. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Pearson and a second by Commissioner Breshears the Memorandum of Agreement for the Hazard Mitigation plan was approved and signed. 2-0 vote
3. The Commission opened three bids on the Sheriff's trucks. Corwin Ford of Springfield submitted 2 separate bids on the same trucks, VIN numbers matched. One bid listed each truck separately, one for \$49,099 and one for \$49,869. The second bid from Corwin Ford was for same 2 trucks but in one total \$100,356. The last bid received was from Corwin Dodge of Springfield for 2 trucks in the amount of \$97,536. Bids will be reviewed and on the agenda for approval on Thursday, November 3rd.
4. The Commission reviewed and forwarded for file the criminal bill of cost statement in the amount of \$13,423.38.
5. Public Comments:
 - Weaubleau Fire Chief Kenneth Rife submitted a roster of Weaubleau firefighters to put with the ARPA application.
 - Hickory County's unemployment rate is at 1.7%.
6. Matters for discussion and/or consideration of the Commission:
 - The Sheriff's office requested the use of the Old Dollar General building on December 15th and 16th for Shop with the Sheriff program.
 - A motion was made by Commissioner Pearson and a second by Commissioner Breshears to appoint past Sheriff Ray Tipton to the LERF board to replace Joseph Kern. 2-0 vote
 - Preston Fire will host a Christmas dinner on December 24th at Prairie Chapel.
 - Brian Bennett checked into small buildings to house the three new repeaters. The Commission suggested 4x6 buildings would be big enough with insulation to safely & securely protect the repeaters. Brian will get a few quotes and return to Thursday's meeting.
 - Assessor Baker will talk with Clear Basin to get the Fire Department layers added to the GIS map on our website.
 - A motion was made by Commissioner Pearson and a second by Commissioner Breshears to approve the in-house bullet proof vests for the Sheriff's office. 2-0 vote Sheriff Burke will submit 2 quotes to the Commission at Thursday's meeting.
 - The road and bridge department are working on clearing trees from roads and hauling rock.
 - With no other matters before the Commission, Commissioner Pearson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 a.m. and Commissioner Breshears seconded the motion. 2-0 vote


Tamara Weidman