

**MINUTES OF THE HARDEMAN COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE BODY AUGUST TERM
AUGUST 18, 2026**

Be it remembered that a Regular Meeting of the Legislative Body for the County of Hardeman, State of Tennessee was conducted in the Hardeman County Courthouse in the City of Bolivar, on the 18th day August of 2026, at 7:00 p.m. Hon. Todd Pulse, County Mayor, was present and presiding, and a quorum of Commissioners, namely, Hon. David Bell, Hon. Cory Bufford, Hon. Russell Deberry, Hon. Michion Gatlin, Hon. Mark Gilliam, Hon. Brad Grantham, Hon. Bobby Hensley, Hon. Joe Jenkins, Hon. Jeff Kennamore, Hon. Chandra Y. Lake, Hon. Johnny Lanier, Hon. Bethany Miller, Hon. Jackie Sain, Hon. John Vickers, Hon. Johnny Weems, and Hon. Bobby Wright, County Attorney Dale Conder, and County Clerk Tonet Griggs were present, and the meeting was opened in due form of the law and had to wit:

16 PRESENT 0 ABSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Hon. Russell Deberry made a motion to accept the County Commission Minutes as presented for July 21, 2026. Hon. Johnny Weems seconded the motion.

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

APPROVAL OF NOTARIES

Hon. Mark Gilliam made a motion to accept the notaries presented for August 18, 2026. Hon. Jeff Kennamore seconded the motion.

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

PUBLIC FORUM

One person signed up for the public forum. See attached sign-in sheet.

REPORTS FROM COUNTY OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENTS

ZONING DIRECTOR - RON PIRTLE

- Resolution 08182026 - Rezoning: The Commission reviewed a request to rezone a 1.6-acre property located at the intersection of Highway 64 and 025 from F (Forestry/Agricultural) to C (Commercial).
 - Background: The request received a positive recommendation from the Regional Planning Commission.
 - Action: Following a brief discussion regarding the intended use of the property for storage buildings, the rezoning request was officially approved.

After further review, Resolution 08182026 could not officially be passed because no public hearing was held.

- Resolution 08182026-2: The commission reviewed the request to add to the definitions of recreational vehicle and recreational vehicle park.

Hon. Bobby Wright made a motion to accept Resolution 08182026-2, and Hon. Michion Gatlin seconded the motion.

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT - SUPERINTENDENT CASEY SWIFT

Mr. Swift brought forth the road list, work proposal & quarterly report, and a budget amendment for the purchase of a chip spreader for the commission

Hon. Jackie Sain made a motion to accept the road list, and Hon. Johnny Weems seconded the motion.

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

Hon. Mark Gilliam made a motion to accept the budget amendment for the new chip, and Hon. Cory Bufford seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 16 AYE 0 NAY

Hon. Jackie Sain made a motion to accept the work proposal & quarterly report, and Hon. Johnny Weems seconded the motion.

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

ELECTION COMMISSION DIRECTOR - AMBER MOORE

Director Amber informed the commission that all votes have been counted, and this was a perfect audit.

AMBULANCE DEPT. - DIRECTOR RUSTY THIGPEN

Director Rusty gave a briefing on the updated calls (see attached). There are five ambulance units in service currently. There are three frontline units and 2 backup units. There has been a bid for the specs, and he is currently waiting for approval. Approval should come by October 31st. There will be a GBDG grant, so there will not be an out-of-pocket cost. He is also working on a policy book that he would like to have approved. Hon. David Bell made a motion to table the approval until the committee looks over the policy book. Hon. Chandra Lake seconded the motion.

SHERIFF DEPT – CHIEF BILLY DAVIS

Chief Billy Davis presented the litter report as well as the arrest report. Chief Davis presented a proposal to award Sheriff Doolen his service weapon upon retirement. Hon. Jeff Kennamore made a motion for his service weapon to be given to him. Hon. Johnny Weems seconded the motion.

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Budget amendments were placed on hold.

COUNTY ATTORNEY’S REPORT

The Core Civic discussion was opened. The Commissioners had several questions concerning the Board. Hon. Johnny Lanier opened by giving background on when and how the board was created. Through Google, he found that the County Mayor nominates, and the Hardeman County Commission confirms. Hon. Lanier said that he served 16 years under three different mayors and never knew a corporation existed. There was a list of changes from one person to another (see attached giving sheets). Attorney Dale Conder took the floor and explained that the change he made was to put the Board under the original legal documentation. After a few words, Attorney Dale stated that he would be sending his resignation letter because he would not be accused of something illegal.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Pulse brought forth the ThreeStar Request to Purchase Approval. Hon. Mark Gilliam made a motion to approve the ThreeStar request, and Hon. Cory Bufford seconded the motion.

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

Mayor Pulse also gave recognition to the newly elected officials.

ADJOURNMENT

- Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 15, 2026.
- Swearing in of the newly elected officials on August 31, 2026

County Mayor Todel Pulse

County Clerk _____