

**MINUTES OF THE HARDEMAN COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE BODY MARCH TERM
REGULAR SESSION MAY 20, 2025**

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 20th day of May, 2025 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. Johnny Weems, Hon. Jackie Sain, Hon. John Vickers, and Hon. Bobby Wright were present. County Clerk, Tonet Griggs, and County Attorney, Dale Conder Jr., 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. Johnny Weems made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular session held April 15, 2025, with the correction of the beer board footage legal amount of 100 feet from a residential area and not a school. Hon. Bethany Miller seconded the motion.

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

APPROVAL OF NOTARIES

Hon. Mark Gilliam made a motion to approve the notaries for April 15, 2025. Hon. Johnny Lanier seconded the motion.

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

PUBLIC FORUM

NO PUBLIC FORUM

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – LEE MAREK

Lee Marek presented its quarterly report. Hon John Vickers made a motion to accept and Hon. Jackie Sain seconded the motion.

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

He also brought forth the work proposal.
Hon. John Vickers made the motion to accept the work proposal. Hon. Jackie Sain seconded the motion.

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

Discussed and approved a recommendation to change the name of Armour Lane to Massey Lane. Hon. John Vickers made a motion to change the name. Hon. Jackie Sain seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

16 AYE 0 NAY

The annual fiscal bid for highway department materials received a positive recommendation and was approved. The budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 was presented. Hon. Mark Gilliam made a motion to accept and Hon. Michion Gatlin seconded the motion.

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

BOARD OF EDUCATION – SUPER. CHRISTY SMITH

The school budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 was presented, covering teacher salaries, health insurance costs, and property tax discussions. The school budget was approved for first reading. A state law prevents schools from drawing interest on their fund balances, except for cafeteria funds.

ROLL CALL VOTE
16 AYE 0 NAY

SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT – SHERIFF DOOLEN

Provided an update on litter crews and the amount of trash collected. The litter crews have picked up a total of 120,680 pounds of trash in the county, with 7,720 pounds collected on the day of the meeting. (SEE ATTACHED)

ZONING – RON PIRTLE

Court Order to Clean Up Property

Motion to move forward with obtaining a court order to have the property cleaned up. Approved by voice vote. Hon. Bethany Miller made a motion to move forward with the court order. Hon. Jackie Sain seconded the motion.

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

Discussion on Campers as Residences

An issue was raised regarding people living full-time in campers, which is not currently allowed by county zoning resolutions. Neighboring county property assessors are charging property taxes on campers if they are aware someone is living in them full-time. The compliance officer mentioned receiving many calls from citizens about this.

LIBRARY FUNDING AND MANAGEMENT --- COM. JOHNNY WEEMS

The library's charitable organization raised \$9,700 for lighting. The city is asking the county to take over the library's management, including payroll.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS – COM. JOHNNY LANIER

Budget amendments 11 through 16 were approved by the Budget Committee with no need to bring them forth through the Commission. Budget Amendments 1 thru 10 and 17 was approved by the Commission. Hon. Johnny Lanier, and Hon. Bethany Miller seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE
16 AYE 0 NAY

1. Other Boards & Committees. (See Attached)
2. County Clerk’s Office. (See Attached)
3. Sheriff’s Office. (See Attached)
4. Other Public Safety. (See Attached)
5. Employee Benefits. (See Attached)
6. Miscellaneous. (See Attached)
7. Hardeman Co. Sheriff’s Office. (See Attached)

- 7. Hardeman Co. Sheriff's Office. (See Attached)
- 8. Hardeman Co. Sheriff's Office. (See Attached)
- 9. Hardeman Co. Sheriff's Office. (See Attached)
- 10. Hardeman Co. Sheriff's Office. (See Attached)
- 11. Hardeman Co. Sheriff's Office. (See Attached)
- 12. Veteran Services. (See Attached)
- 13. Election Commission. (See Attached)
- 14. Circuit Court. (See Attached)
- 15. Workhouse. (See Attached)
- 16. Dental Health Department. (See Attached)
- 17. Landfill. (See Attached)

APPROVAL OF LANDFILL, HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT, AND COUNTY GENERAL BUDGET (First Reading)

Motion to approve the landfill, highway department, and county general budgets for first reading. Approved by roll call vote. Hon. Bobby Wright made a motion to accept the first reading. Hon. Chandra Lake seconded the motion. (See Attached)

ROLL CALL VOTE
16 AYE 0 NAY

LAWSUIT UPDATE – ATTORNEY DALE CONDER

A lawsuit update mentioned a response deadline of July 31st for an amount around \$4 million. Discussed and approved a recommendation to change the name of Farmer Lane to Massey Lane. (See Attached)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS --

Commissioner Miller brought attention to mental health awareness.

EMS WEEK RECOGNITION --

The mayor acknowledged EMS workers for their hard work during EMS week.

COURTROOM RENOVATION --

Thanks were extended for the renovation of the courtroom, including new light fixtures

ADJOURN

Hon. Russell Deberry made a motion and Hon. Jackie Sain seconded to adjourn.

The next meeting will be June 17, 2025.

COUNTY MAYOR Todd Fulse

COUNTY CLERK Janet Hays