MINUTES OF THE HARDEMAN COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE BODY OCTOBER TERM
OCTOBER 20, 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 20th day October 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. Ricky Griggs, Hon. Bobby Hensley, Hon. Terry Howell, Hon. Joe Jenkins, Hon. Jeff Kennamore, Hon. Chandra Y. Lake, Hon. Johnny Lanier, Hon. Jackie Sain, Hon. Dylan Stewart, Hon. Johnny Weems, Hon. Erica Woods and Hon. Bobby Wright, County Attorney Steve Hale and County Clerk Tonet Griggs were present, and the meeting was opened in due form of the law and had to wit:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Hon. Bobby Wright made a motion to accept the minutes for September 15, 2026, and Hon. Johnny Weems seconded the motion.

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

APPROVAL OF NOTARIES

Hon. Johnny Lanier made a motion to approve the notaries for September 15, 2026. Hon. Jackie Sain seconded the motion.

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comments had one speaker, Gary Barrowclough.

REPORTS FROM COUNTY OFFICIALS

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT (LISA HIGGS):

A representative presented three amendments to the General-Purpose School Budget:

1. **MAINTENANCE TRUCK:** $25,000 for a new truck to replace a 2008 Ford F250 with over 230,000 miles.
2. **STEM GRANT:** A $5,000 grant from Battel for Kids and TVA for robotics projects.
3. **STATE REQUIREMENT:** A transfer of $9,549 from federal funds to General Purpose funds for student disability services.

Hon. Jeff Kennamore made a motion to accept all three budget amendments, and Hon. Johnny Lanier seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE 16 AYE 0 NAY

COMMITTEE & DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- **ELECTION COMMISSION:** Reported on early voting numbers.
- **BUILDING COMMITTEE:** Provided an update on equipment, including camera and computer arrivals.
- **SHERIFF DEPARTMENT:** Reported on the litter pickup and arrest report.
- **INTRODUCTIONS:** The mayor introduced county department heads to the newly elected commissioners.

ZONING & RESOLUTIONS DIRECTOR RON PIRTLE:

Hon. Johnny Lanier made a motion to move into public hearing, and Hon. Jackie Sain seconded.

- **INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT (I2):** Clarification on public water requirements.
- **MOBILE HOME PARKS:** Discussion regarding new standards for mobile home parks. The commission voted to send this resolution back to the Planning Commission for further research into site plan requirements and acreage standards.
- **OTHER RESOLUTIONS:** Approved street access and other minor resolutions.

Hon. Michion Gatlin made a motion to move back into regular session, and Hon. Joe Jenkins seconded.

- **RESOLUTION FOR INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT (I2) AND RESOLUTION TO AMEND CHAPTER 3:** Hon. Johnny Weems made a motion to accept these resolutions, and Hon. Bobby Wright seconded.

  CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

- **RESOLUTION FOR MOBILE HOME PARK:** Hon. Jackie Sain made a motion to send the Resolution for mobile homes back to the zoning committee to look over some other details concerning the wells and septic tanks, as well as lot placement.

  CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

EMS DIRECTOR RUSTY THIGPEN:

- **FINANCIALS:** The EMS Director reported strong collection rates.

- **AMBULANCES:** The commission rejected the lowest bid for new ambulances that did not meet specifications but brought forth the higher bid for remounts. Hon. Bobby Wright made a motion to accept the bid, and Hon. Johnny Lanier seconded.

  ROLL CALL VOTE 16 AYE 0 NAY

- **POLICY MANUAL:** The commission voted to approve the updated EMS Policy and Procedure Manual. Hon. Johnny Lanier made a motion to accept the policy and procedure manual, and Hon. Dylan Stewart seconded.

  CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

- **AED DISTRIBUTION:** Report on the success of the ThreeStar grant, which provided 30 AEDs to the county. Hon. Jackie Sain made a motion to accept the ThreeStar Grant, and Hon. Jeff Kennamore seconded.

  ROLL CALL VOTE 16 AYE O NAY

- **SOUTH END EMS STATION:** The Mayor and commission discussed a new lease at Lone Oaks to improve ambulance response times following the closure of Sain Road. Contributions have been made to cover the cost.

CJC HVAC GRANT:

The commission approved a bid to replace 15 HVAC units at the CJC for $455,000 using a $425,000 grant, with the $30,000 shortfall covered by the building reserve fund. Hon. Jackie Sain made a motion to accept the bid for the HVAC, and Hon. Johnny Lanier seconded.

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

MAYOR'S REPORT & OTHER BUSINESS:

- **REVENUE STABILIZATION:** Approved a resolution to request a Distressed County Revenue Stabilization Program from the state. Hon. Jackie Sain made a motion to accept the resolution for the stabilization program, and Hon. Cory Bufford seconded.

  ROLL CALL VOTE 16 AYE 0NAY

- **TAX INFORMATION:** The financial director noted that tax bills contain charts explaining the allocation of funds to debt service, county general, and education.
- **PUBLIC RECOGNITION:** A commissioner requested recognition for a local young man who picks up litter on Sain Road and Tate Road.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Johnny Lanier made a motion to adjourn, and Hon. Bobby Wright seconded.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2026

COUNTY MAYOR Todd Tulse

COUNTY CLERK Janet Thyp