

***There was a Public Hearing beginning at 9:00 A.M. regarding the:***

- ***PROPOSED SALARY INCREASE OF ELECTED OFFICIALS***
- ***PROPOSED 2023-2024 BUDGET***
- ***PROPOSED 2023-2024 TAX RATE***

***Everyone in attendance was asked to sign a sign-in sheet and after questions and discussion, the hearing was closed at 9:10 A.M.***

**SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES**

**AUGUST 21, 2023**

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, that on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2023, the HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS COURT of Bowie County, Texas met in SPECIAL SESSION at the Courthouse in New Boston, Texas after due notice had been posted on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2023 with the HONORABLE JUDGE BOBBY L. HOWELL present and presiding with the following Commissioners being present.

<b>Sammy Stone</b>	<b>Commissioner Pct. #1</b>
<b>Tom Whitten</b>	<b>Commissioner Pct. #2</b>
<b>James Strain</b>	<b>Commissioner Pct. #3</b>
<b>Mike Carter</b>	<b>Commissioner Pct. #4</b>

**Also in attendance were the following County Officials:**

- **County Auditor Jennifer Beckett**
- **County Clerk Tina Petty**
- **County Legal Advisor Randle Smolarz**

**REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**

**Court convened at 9:12 A.M. when the following ORDERS, JUDGMENTS and DECREES were had and ORDERED spread upon the minutes of the Court to-wit.**

**Item 1: There was no Public Comments.**

**Item 2: There was no Commissioners Court response to Public Comments.**

**Item 3: On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Tom Whitten to approve the salary increases of the Elected Officials. Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.**

**Item 4: On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to accept the salaries for the Auditor, Auditor's Staff and the Court Reporters.**

**Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.  
Motion carried.**

**Item 5: On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner James Strain and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to approve the 2023-2024 Budget.**

- Commissioner Sammy Stone                      Yes
- Commissioner Tom Whitten                      No
- Commissioner James Strain                      Yes
- Commissioner Mike Carter                      Yes
- Judge Howell                                      Yes

**Motion was put to a vote and three (3) Commissioners voted yes and one (1) Commissioner Tom Whitten voted no. Judge Howell voted yes.  
Motion carried.**

**Item 6: On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to approve the 2023-2024 Tax Rate.**

- Commissioner Sammy Stone                      Yes
- Commissioner Tom Whitten                      No
- Commissioner James Strain                      Yes
- Commissioner Mike Carter                      Yes
- Judge Howell                                      Yes

**Motion was put to a vote and three (3) Commissioners voted yes and one (1) Commissioner Tom Whitten voted no. Judge Howell voted yes.  
Motion carried.**

**Item 7: On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to rescind previously approved contract between Kinetic Business and Bowie County for VOIP telephone system quote number 2672960.**

**Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.  
Motion carried.**

**Item 8: On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner Mike Carter and duly second by Commissioner James Strain to approve the contract between Kinetic Business and Bowie County for VOIP telephone system quote number 2675288.**

**Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.  
Motion carried.**

**Item 9: There was no Executive Closed Session to discuss security matters, personnel matters and litigation as allowed in the Government Code, Section 551.0725.**

**On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2023, a motion was made by Commissioner Sammy Stone and duly second by Commissioner Mike Carter to adjourn.**

**Motion was put to a vote and all Commissioners voted yes and none voted no.**

**Motion carried.**