

Lies And Cover UpsOctober 18th , 2024

All of you seated at the table work for all of the citizens who live in Burnet County. You were elected to serve the people.

The County Commissioner's Court is an administrative court and Mr. Oakley is one of five elected members on the court. He does not write laws or regulations and has no authority to change State laws or codes. He is abusing his powers and has taken on authority not granted by the State of Texas or by his employers in Burnet County.

On multiple occasions, Mr. Oakley has repeatedly violated the Burnet County Rules Of Conduct and Decorum and the Texas Open Meetings Act.

The recent actions to remove the "Previous Meeting" and "Department Update" agenda items from the meeting agendas by Mr. Oakley and the Commissioners are blatant attempts to decrease transparency during the Court Meetings. These changes were made without any notice or discussion, a violation of the Texas Open Meetings act.

It is reprehensible that Mr. Oakley has made these changes in an effort to restrict the public's ability to participate in their government and the Commissioner's have remained silent and allowed it to happen. This is unacceptable.

This is a warning to all of you that you are steering this court in the wrong direction and your employers are not happy with you.

The taxpayers and voters of Burnet County deserve and demand an open book policy and honesty in all government affairs from their elected civil servants.

Mr. Oakley's "Rules Of Order" parliamentary trick during the Sept. 24th Court Meeting was shameful, childish, and very disrespectful to District Attorney Sonny McAfee, his wife and the citizens present in the court that day. The fact that two of the Commissioner's went along with this stunt made the entire Court look very foolish.

District Attorney McAfee presented the truth and revealed in open court the facts regarding the Sheriff's Office mislabeling issue that Mr. Oakley has turned into a dumpster fire of lies and cover ups.

The e-mail communications between Oakley and Baker Tilly revealed in the last Court Meeting prove that this entire fiasco was a twisted and determined effort to attack the Sheriff and the Burnet County Sheriffs Dept..

Mr. Oakley's ridiculous behavior to cover up this mess has been recorded on You Tube for everyone to see.

The Court's decision to frivolously waste over twenty one thousand dollars for the Baker Tilly "report" is a sad and expensive joke that has been played on Burnet County taxpayers.

My resolve to stand up in defiance against you Mr. Oakley has been hardened, and I consider my previous removal from this courtroom a badge of honor.

I will adamantly object to your shameful behavior each and every time that I see fit to do so.

Mr. Oakley, your personal behavior has proven that you are unfit for the job as Burnet County Judge. Your lies and corruption are documented on the public record.

You should immediately resign as Burnet County Judge.

Finally, I will say that my Lord and Savior Christ Jesus tells me in the Bible to pray for my enemies, so I will pray for you James Oakley.

I do not support any increases in salary for the County Judge, the County Commissioners or the County Attorney.
Under the current county leadership,
The County is over 30 million dollars in debt.

The debt service has increased by 136% from \$5.6 million in FY 2023 to \$7.6 million in FY 2024.

Deficit spending exceeded budgeted revenue by \$6.9 million in FY 2023.

Deficit spending exceeded budgeted revenue by \$9.6 million in FY 2024. This is an increase of \$2.7 million in deficit spending in one year.

Even though Mr. Oakley claims he is a fiscal conservative the record shows otherwise. In my opinion the County Judge and the County Commissioners have shown they have not been **responsible*** with how they handle the taxpayers money and should not be rewarded with higher salaries.

****Specifically** the continued proof of fiscal mismanagement, represented by the increase of \$2.7 million in deficit spending from FY 2023 to FY 2024, added to the fact that they voted to frivolously spend \$21,207 dollars on an unnecessary forensic audit in Sept. 2023, and the commissioners were on the record ready to pay for Mr. Oakley's \$132,000 dollars in legal expenses after he returned from his State Ethics Board suspension in Sept 2023.*

Proposed salary for 2024-2025 of **\$121,566.00** for County Attorney **Eddie Arredondo** (\$6,968 increase or 6.08%)

Proposed salary for 2024-2025 of **\$113,337.00** for County Judge **James Oakley** (\$6,496 increase or 6.08%)

Proposed salary for 2024-2025 of **\$98,984.00** for each of the **Four Commissioners** (\$8,729 increase or 9.67%)

United States Constitution

The U.S. Bill of Rights

These amendments were ratified December 15, 1791, and form what is known as the "Bill of Rights."

Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Texas Constitution

Article 1 - BILL OF RIGHTS

Section 2 - INHERENT POLITICAL POWER; REPUBLICAN FORM OF GOVERNMENT

All political power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their benefit. The faith of the people of Texas stands pledged to the preservation of a republican form of government, and, subject to this limitation only, they have at all times the inalienable right to alter, reform or abolish their government in such manner as they may think expedient.

Article 1 - BILL OF RIGHTS

Section 8 - FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND PRESS; LIBEL

Every person shall be at liberty to speak, write or publish his opinions on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of that privilege; and no law shall ever be passed curtailing the liberty of speech or of the press. In prosecutions for the publication of papers, investigating the conduct of officers, or men in public capacity, or when the matter published is proper for public information, the truth thereof may be given in evidence. And in all indictments for libels, the jury shall have the right to determine the law and the facts, under the direction of the court, as in other cases.

Article 1 - BILL OF RIGHTS

Section 27 - RIGHT OF ASSEMBLY; PETITION FOR REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES

The citizens shall have the right, in a peaceable manner, to assemble together for their common good; and apply to those invested with the powers of government for redress of grievances or other purposes, by petition, address or remonstrance.

Article 1 - BILL OF RIGHTS

Section 29 - PROVISIONS OF BILL OF RIGHTS EXCEPTED FROM POWERS OF GOVERNMENT; TO FOREVER REMAIN INVIOLETE

To guard against transgressions of the high powers herein delegated, we declare that everything in this "Bill of Rights" is excepted out of the general powers of government, and shall forever remain inviolate, and all laws contrary thereto, or to the following provisions, shall be void.

09/24/2024

Again Referencing

“Burnet County Rules Of Conduct and Decorum”

ADOPTED BY MAJORITY VOTE OF THE BURNET COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT the 28th day of November 2023.

The signatures of the Burnet County Judge and all four Burnet County Commissioners are on this document.

It is the intention of the Court to provide open access to the citizens of Burnet County to address the Commissioners Court and to express themselves on issues of County Government.

The public is also invited to participate in the discussions of agenda items. There is a 3 (three) minute time limit per speaker for public comment at the beginning of the meeting and before each agenda item.

What Mr. Oakley attempted to do during the Commissioners Court Meeting on July 23rd, 2024 was in violation of the very rules that were agreed to and voted on by the Court on November 28th, 2023.

This is also a direct violation of the Texas
"Open Meetings Act".

Sec. 551.007. PUBLIC TESTIMONY. (a) This section applies only to a governmental body described by Sections 551.001(3)(B)-(L).

(b) A governmental body shall allow each member of the public who desires to address the body regarding an item on an agenda for an open meeting of the body to address the body regarding the item at the meeting before or during the body's consideration of the item.

(c) A governmental body may adopt reasonable rules regarding the public's right to address the body under this section, including rules that limit the total amount of time that a member of the public may address the body on a given item.

(e) A governmental body may not prohibit public criticism of the governmental body, including criticism of any act, omission, policy, procedure, program, or service. This subsection does not apply to public criticism that is otherwise prohibited by law.