

### Irresponsible Money Management In Burnet County

- From 2017 till 2023 an average of **\$13,635** dollars a year was spent on "Employee Appreciation Parties". The grand total spent over those years was **\$99,400 dollars**.
- In 2023 **\$38,000** dollars was paid to Evergreen Consulting for a wage survey to justify large pay increases that Commissioners voted in for themselves in 2024.
- Disgraced former County Judge James Oakley was suspended in March 2023 for six months, but was paid his back wages of over **\$50,000** dollars when he returned. In addition the County Commissioners had an order ready to pay him **\$132,000** for his personal legal expenses.
- In September 2023 the court contracted with Baker Tilly for a "forensic audit" of the Sheriff's Department that cost **\$21,200** dollars. The audit became an investigation and then a report.

**A very expensive small stack of paper and a complete waste of almost a year of time and county resources.**

- The Burnet County Court paid over **\$48,000** dollars to Placer Labs – (**\$23,500** dollars in 2024 , **\$24,675** in 2025) under the guise of "Marketing" but in actuality it is **GEO FENCING or SPYING** on the unknowing public while they enjoyed four days of the Bluebonnet Festival.
- In early 2025 almost **\$900 thousand** dollars was spent on new electronic voting machines.

- Burnet County is over **\$30 Million** dollars in debt.
- In Fiscal year 2024 Burnet County spent **\$9.6 Million** dollars more than the county took in. **This is \$2.7 Million dollars higher than in Fiscal Year 2023.**
- In Sept. 2024 the court voted to borrow an additional **\$5 million** dollars on a short term bond.

*I object to the fact that this Court has so irresponsibly borrowed and frivolously spent the taxpayer's hard earned money over several years. **All of this documented information shows a clear lack of concern and lack of responsibility in how the Court handles money that is not their money.***

The Court is proposing hiring attorney's or other professional's to represent Burnet County before the P.U.C. concerning proposed electrical transmission lines. **Attorney's or other professional fees not to exceed \$100,000.** (Agenda Item 31)

At the same time considering spending taxpayer's money on retrofitting the Courthouse Annex at 127 E. Jackson Street for use as the permanent Commissioner's Court meeting place. (Agenda Item 29)

*The five individuals on the court have proven that they are incapable of behaving as fiscally responsible adults and cannot be trusted with the taxpayer's money.*

I have asked this question on the public record once before and I will ask members of court and the taxpayers of Burnet County the following question once again, **“Does anyone see any evidence of even the smallest attempt by the members of this court to pay off the debt or reduce the debt burden on the taxpayers of Burnet County ? ”**