

PUBLIC COMMENTS
Burnet County Commissioners Court
March 17, 2025

Good morning, Claire Nybro, Burnet County taxpayer, voter, and interested person.

I'm wondering if Tuesday was a setup. Three commenters spoke about threats, intimidation, and backroom deals. Donna Wilcox said it's obvious the backroom deals are happening when the least qualified of the three applicants still has two commissioners holding out their votes for him. Another speaker was a local rancher who alleged acts of illegality by the Sheriff's Office. Gil Jones performed the wrap-up smear. Mr. Jones, who bills himself as a "peacemaker" and wanted to be county judge so badly so he could assist with judicial matters, posted on Facebook using the disgraced former county judge James Oakley to break the tie so he could be appointed. When that didn't work, Mr. Jones made unsubstantiated & unlitigated allegations with zero evidence during public comments against Chief Trevino. Public comments during commissioners' court is not the proper venue to accuse someone without giving that person an opportunity to defend himself. As a member of the State Bar, Mr. Jones should be ashamed of himself for behaving in such an unethical manner. All the while, the commissioners sat silent and allowed the slander to occur without saying a word. Is it okay to allow defamation during public comments? Is Mr. Jones so devious that he knows he can get away with his slanderous statements under the guise of public comments because he's a retired district court judge?

On Tuesday, two individuals, including Gil Jones, suggested Bryan Wilson's name to break the deadlock. Then, an hour later, there was a unanimous vote for Bryan Wilson, **with no deliberation**. Is that a TOMA violation? Did those who have been vocal about backroom deals orchestrate a well-planned, secretive maneuver?

Mr. Jones has a new Facebook page called "Highland Lakes Government," wherein he admits that "the main objective was achieved in that Alan Trevino will not now be running as an incumbent." Talk about dirty tricks. Donna Wilcox poisoned the well on January 3rd when she said that the appointed judge must not be anyone who wants to run in 2026. God forbid either one of these unscrupulous individuals ever holds public office again.

If elected officials are being threatened and intimidated, please call the Texas Rangers Public Corruption Unit at 512-424-2160 and ask for an investigation into Burnet County government administration.

At least I can breathe a sigh of relief that Mr. Jones did not become the county judge. I hope and pray for better days for Burnet County, days that are free from such unethical practices.

Thank you.



Gil Jones



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write something to Gil...



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Pinned post**Gil Jones**

12h · 🌐

A funny thing happened on the way to the courthouse ...

If you are in Burnet County and reading the news you already know this. But otherwise, you may be wondering about the vote on Tuesday 2/11 to appoint someone to fill the rest of the Burnet County Judge term. They didn't.

There were two (of four) votes for me and two for one of the other candidates. A tie, and no tie-breaker.

So what happens now? There is no provision in the law to break the tie by some artificial means such as flipping a coin, and there is no Governor's committee or anything like that. There is no mechanism at all in state law to cover a situation where, for example, the county judge dies in office.

But wait. There's more. Our county judge resigned, not died.

An elected official, including a county judge who resigns from office as ours did, is actually still in office. An elected official remains in office until the successor is sworn in. So actually -- and it's not just a technicality -- there is a tie-breaker. The term is a "holdover" office holder.

At the next meeting of the Commissioners Court (either a special meeting or the next regular meeting on 2/25) the resigned but still in office county judge is the only way to break the tie. Otherwise the Commissioners need to buckle up and "git er done." I am confident they will as they are all honorable and hard-working public servants who have taken this journey very seriously.

@highlight



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Kelly Davis

I was just looking online to see if I could find the outcome when your post came across my feed. I do hope there is a resolution to this soon, for all parties. Thank you for the update, disappointing but it will surely be resolved swiftly.

12h Like Reply



**Highland Lakes Government**

11h ·



This is Gil Jones posting.

Firstly, I want to thank everyone who supported my potential appointment as Burnet County Judge. I am grateful and the support was inspiring for a lot of good reasons far beyond me.

Secondly, please know that I am not personally disappointed in not being appointed. (new) Burnet County Judge Bryan Wilson is a good man and thoroughly qualified. The main objective was achieved in that Alan Trevino will not now be running as an incumbent.

Thirdly, there is an awakening. Burnet County Government can do better, and it must. The public has, during these couple of months, learned more about some of those IN the political arena and those attempting to influence that arena. I, like many others, had become lax in our attention about the who and what around the county.

No longer lax.

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@followers

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