

**STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF WILLIAMSON
AN ORDER ADOPTING THE 2014/2015 COUNTY BUDGET**

WHEREAS, the Williamson County Commissioner's Court is authorized and required to adopt an annual budget for all Williamson County officials and their departments after due consideration;

WHEREAS, the Williamson County Commissioner's Court did invite and encourage public participation from county officers, precinct officers, department heads, and the general public, as to the various needs of the citizens of Williamson County for the fiscal year 2014/2015;

WHEREAS, the Williamson County Commissioner's Court, after a full discussion of the needs, did make changes in the proposed budget filed by the County Judge in accordance with law; NOW

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE WILLIAMSON COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT that the proposed budget filed by the County Judge and amended by the Commissioner's Court be adopted with the following provisions:

POLICIES RELATED TO COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

I. SALARIES

1. Salaries for County and Precinct Officials are set as follows:

a)	Judge of the County Court	113,220.69 per year
b)	Judge of the County Court at Law #1	157,000.00per year
c)	Judge of the County Court at Law #2	157,000.00 per year
d)	Judge of the County Court at Law #3	157,000.00 per year
e)	Judge of the County Court at Law #4	157,000.00 per year
f)	County Attorney	148,142.00 per year
g)	County Sheriff	114,381.50 per year
h)	County Clerk	93,785.12 per year
i)	County Tax Assessor/Collector	97,527.04 per year
j)	District Clerk	93,785.12 per year
k)	County Treasurer	90,234.18 per year
l)	Each County Commissioner	92,193.24 per year
m)	Each Justice of the Peace	82,072.64 per year
n)	Each Constable	77,635.22 per year

2. The number of employee positions established and authorized for each official and/or department, and the maximum allowable salary for each position is reflected in the annual approved county budget filed with the County Clerk.

II. HOLIDAYS

The established holiday schedule for paid holidays for the 2014/2015 budget year is as follows:

Veterans Day	Tuesday	November 11, 2014
Thanksgiving Holiday	Thursday Friday	November 27, 2014 November 28, 2014
Christmas Holiday	Wednesday Thursday Friday	December 24, 2014 December 25, 2014 December 26, 2014
New Year's Holiday	Thursday	January 1, 2015
Martin Luther King Day	Monday	January 19, 2015
President's Day	Monday	February 16, 2015
Good Friday	Friday	April 3, 2015
Memorial Day	Monday	May 25, 2015
Independence Holiday	Friday	July 3, 2015
Labor Day	Monday	September 7, 2015

See Addendum: The Williamson County Employee Policy Manual (as updated September 14, 2010). Contains the policies for employee usage of paid holiday time as well as other policies affecting payroll related matters.

III. SUPPLEMENTAL PAY

1. A maximum of 18 approved positions within the Law Enforcement Bureau of the Williamson County Sheriff's office will be designated as Field Training Officers. To receive Field Training Officer incentive pay, a Deputy must be TCLEOSE certified as a Field Training Officer and be assigned by the Sheriff as one of the approved 18 officers. The Officers also must follow the Field Training Officer's Standard Operating Procedures in place with the Williamson County Sheriff's Office.

2. A maximum of 12 approved positions within the Corrections Bureau of the Williamson County Sheriff's Office will be designated as Corrections Training Officers. The officers must have appropriate certification and follow established operating procedures.

3. A maximum of ~~86~~ positions in the 911 Communications division may receive up to \$~~15000~~.00 per month incentive pay as a designated Field Training Officer. This will be paid for a maximum of 8 months. To receive FTO pay the employee must be TCLEOSE certified as a Telecommunications Training Officer or must be certified as a Communications Training Officer by the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials. The FTO may only receive incentive pay when assigned new personnel during a training period. The trainer will be selected based on the position and duties of the newly hired personnel according to the type of training required such as Law Enforcement, Fire, Call Taker and EMS. The selection of the FTO will be on a rotation basis according to the training criteria required.

4. A maximum of 20 positions within the Emergency Medical Services Division of may be designated as Field Training Officers. A maximum of \$~~150400~~.00 per month may be paid as FTO incentive pay per employee. The employee must be certified or licensed by the Texas Department of State Health Services as a Paramedic (with no state sanctions or disciplinary restrictions) in order to receive the incentive pay. Also required: a) a completed course of instruction at the Paramedic level (National Registry preferred) b) a Williamson County EMS FTO training course c) valid Texas Driver License d) thorough knowledge of current principles and practices of emergency care at the basic and advanced levels e) responsible for the training and development of new Williamson County Emergency Medical Services personnel, First Responder Advanced Providers, senior paramedic students and instructor duties as assigned at EMS educational shift tracks.

5. A maximum of 4 positions within the MOT may be designated as Field Training Officers during the period of time that the position is participating in training. A maximum of \$~~15000~~.00 per month may be paid as FTO incentive pay per position so long as the \$~~15000~~.00 is continuing to be reimbursed by The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center on behalf of the College of Medicine in accordance with their agreement with Williamson County.

6. An Assistant District Attorney may receive supplemental pay for on call duties. The duties require the employee to carry a cell phone for a week at a time on a rotating basis. The week runs from Friday at 5:00 PM through the weekend until the following Friday at 5:00 PM. The assigned on call prosecutor will receive calls for charging advice and warrant assistance and may need to contact the assigned judge for review and approval of any warrant. The amount of the supplement will be \$200.00 per week per employee. The funding for this supplemental pay will come from the District Attorney's Asset Forfeiture Fund

7. An employee in the Facilities Maintenance department may receive up to \$50.00 per week for On Call duty work. The employee must be able to respond to an event within 1 hour of being notified while on call. A total of two employees may be requested to be on call each week. The week for on call duty will be from Wednesday to Wednesday. Only non-exempt staff will be selected for additional on call duty pay on a rotating basis. If the employee does not follow the departmental procedures provided in the Maintenance SOP then the employee will not receive additional pay.

8. “An employee in the Technology Services department may receive a supplement of up to \$100 per week for On-Call duty work. The employee must be able to respond to an event within 30 minutes of being notified while on call. The duties require the employee to carry a cell phone while on call. The assigned on-call employee will receive calls from public safety personnel (i.e. Sheriff’s Office, 911 Communications, EMS, city police, etc.) when they have critical technology issues that cannot wait until the next business day. The week for on-call duty will be from 5:00 pm Thursday to 5:00 pm Thursday. The on-call employee must follow the departmental procedures for On-Call duty in order to receive the supplemental pay.”

IV. FINANCIAL POLICIES

1. **Fund Balance Policy:** Williamson County recognizes the financial importance of maintaining an appropriate level of Unassigned Fund Balance. A formalized Fund Balance Policy demonstrates to the taxpayer fiscal prudence and the ability to meet its obligations in a timely manner. Independent financial analysts rate the county’s financial stability. The county’s credit strength and strong management control reported by these analysts is, in part, a result of this Fund Balance Policy.

Williamson County will maintain reservations of Fund Balance, in accordance with Governmental Accounting and Financial Standards Board Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions. This Policy shall only apply to the County’s governmental funds. Fund Balance shall be composed of non-spendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned amounts.

2. **General Fund:** Unassigned Fund Balance represents the difference between assets and liabilities that is available for appropriation. Commissioners Court has assigned \$1.6 million dollars of fund balance for the purpose of funding Law Enforcement and Corrections salaries should the amount budgeted not be sufficient to fund the total amount of approved FTE’s in these departments. A budget amendment will be placed on the consent agenda during the fiscal year should the departments exceed the budgeted total which was calculated at 96% of total in Law Enforcement and 95% of total in Corrections.

Williamson County will maintain an appropriate level of Unassigned Fund Balance in the General Fund to protect against a reduction of services due to temporary revenue shortfalls or unexpected one-time expenditures. It also helps to ensure stable tax rates. The level of Unassigned Fund Balance for the General Fund shall not be less than

35% of total General Fund budgeted expenditures. The goal of each year's budget process will be to adopt a budget that maintains compliance with the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance Policy. If it is determined there is a surplus (an amount exceeding the target limit), the funds may be designated or appropriated for the following, including but not limited to:

- Tax rate stabilization.
- Only one-time, non-recurring expenditures, such as capital improvement needs.
- Address any shortfall in related funds, i.e. Road and Bridge Fund.
- Reduction of debt; to include capital leases.

If it is determined there is a deficit (an amount below the lower limit), the County must develop a plan to rebuild the Unassigned Fund Balance to 35%.

3. **Tobacco Fund:** The initial distribution of Williamson County's share of the settlement established the fund in 1999. Revenues to the fund consist of interest income and the annual distribution by the state of the state trust earnings. To ensure continuation of the fund, the Williamson County Commissioner's Court has designated the portion of fund balance representing the amount of the original settlement (\$2.5M). Designation means that this amount, or "principal" balance, cannot be expended. In addition to the original settlement amount, each year, 20% of the revenues from both interest income and the annual distribution from the state will be added to the designated fund balance in order to allow the fund to grow over time. Only 80% of revenues earned from interest and the earnings distributed annually by the state will be budgeted and expended. When determining the next year's budget, the amount available to expend will be calculated using actual revenue and interest revenue amounts from May 1st of the previous year to April 30th of the current year. Any unspent funds at the end of the fiscal year will be available to budget in the next year. If Tobacco Fund expenditures are budgeted to offset expenditures in other funds, the actual program cost to the other Funds will be determined prior to transferring in any dollars from the Tobacco Fund. This available balance will be tracked annually by the County Auditor's office.

Use and Distribution of Specific Special Revenue Funds

4. **Child Safety Fund:** Child Safety fees collected by justice, county and district courts in accordance with the Texas Education Code are accumulated in the Child Safety Fund. These funds are to be distributed to Williamson County school districts based on the number of students who reside in Williamson County for the purposes of providing school crossing guard services. This distribution will occur annually at the close of each fiscal year.

5. **School Fund:** Williamson County maintains a working interest ownership in two natural gas producing properties located on what was formerly county-owned property. The mineral rights that have been retained are designated to be distributed to school districts within the county based on the number of students who reside in the county. This distribution will occur annually at the close of each fiscal year and will coincide with the distribution of the Child Safety Fund proceeds.

6. **Uncompensated Care Fund:** The Uncompensated Care Fund was established as a result of the Williamson County Indigent Care Affiliation Agreements entered into between Williamson County, Seton Hospital-Williamson County and St. David's Round Rock

Medical Center. The County has now also entered Indigent Care Affiliation Agreements with Cedar Park Regional Medical Center and Scott & White Hospital – Round Rock. As part of the collaboration established between the hospitals and the County, the County has chosen to use a portion of its annual ad valorem tax revenues to fund Medicaid services provided to Williamson County residents by these hospitals. Revenues to this fund will be spent to pay for Medicaid services provided by St. David’s Round Rock Medical Center, Seton Hospital-Williamson County, Cedar Park Regional Medical Center and Scott & White Hospital – Round Rock, either through direct Medicaid payments to the hospitals or by funding Medicaid supplemental payments to the hospitals through intergovernmental transfers of funding to the State, for purposes of the private hospital Medicaid 1115 Waiver program authorized by Section 355.8201 of the Texas Administrative Code, Title 1.

7. **Employee Fund**

The Employee fund is proceeds collected from Williamson County’s vending machine contract. Use of these funds must be **pre-approved** by the County Judge.

These funds may be used for the following purposes:

- a) To offset the cost of the County Christmas Party
- b) Flowers for the death of an employee only
- c) An award or plaque upon retirement for employee recognition
- d) Employee recognition expenditures as approved by the County Judge.
(Purchasing guidelines must be adhered to)
 - i. The employee must be vested
 - ii. \$40.00 allowed for employees with up to 15 years of service
 - iii. \$80.00 allowed for employees with over 15 years of service
- e) Employee of the Year Awards

No reimbursement of sales tax will be allowed.

The amount allowed for use may never exceed the actual balance in the fund.

8. **Self-Insured Health Plan Fund Policy:** Unassigned Fund Balance represents the difference between assets and liabilities that is available for appropriation. Williamson County will maintain an appropriate level of Unassigned Fund Balance in the Benefits Fund to protect against an inability to pay for claims and administration associated with the self-insured health plan due to temporary revenue shortfalls. It also helps to ensure stable employer and employee contribution rates.

The Self-Funded Health Plan Fund currently has a “goal of reaching and maintaining 25% of projected claims”. The goal of each year’s budget process will be to endeavor to adopt a budget that maintains compliance with the Benefits Fund Unassigned Fund Balance Policy.

If it is determined there is a surplus (an amount exceeding the target limit), the funds may be designated or appropriated for contribution rate stabilization.

If it is determined there is a deficit (an amount below the lower limit), the County may develop a plan to rebuild the Unassigned Fund Balance to 25% of projected claims.

9. **Southwest Road District Fund:** This district was originally created to build roads in this area of the County. The district has paid off all debt and has been dissolved. The remaining funds including ongoing interest earnings are hereby committed for Road Construction, improvements and/or maintenance.

10. **WM-City of Hutto and Hutto ISD Fund**

The WM-City of Hutto and Hutto ISD Fund consists of proceeds paid by Waste Management annually. Per the agreement, these funds represent 2% of the Tip Fee and are to be expended for the benefit of the City of Hutto and Hutto ISD. The expenditures are at the County's sole option. The annual distribution will be allocated 50% to the City of Hutto and 50% to Hutto ISD. Each entity is required to request any disbursements from the fund.

V. PURCHASING – GENERAL PROCEDURES

1. Effective January 1, 2009, all P.O.'s must be submitted electronically. The following definitions apply to the Purchasing section of this order. The purpose of this section is to facilitate the judicious expenditure of county dollars. This policy will provide consistent procedures for the acquisition of materials, supplies, and services required by Williamson County. The responsibility to adhere to these guidelines rests with the employee, supervisor or department head who certifies conformance to them. Any questions related to conformance should be directed to the Purchasing Department prior to making a purchase.

2. The guidelines outlined in the Williamson County Purchasing Manual are expected to be followed for all purchases. The most current version of the purchasing manual is maintained on the county's website at www.wilco.org/procurement. Guidelines related to purchase orders can be found in the County's purchasing manual. All purchases for materials and supplies require a purchase order prior to placing the order. Approval for payment of invoices that do not have a purchase order must be obtained from the County Judge for his waiver of the requisition requirement. These requests for waiver must be accompanied by a written note from the Department Head, Appointed Official, or Elected Official stating the reason for the break in policy. Requests for a purchase order after the order is placed will not be processed. Guidelines for emergency purchases and purchases that do not require a purchase order prior to placing an order may be found in the purchasing manual or you can contact the purchasing department if you have any questions.

3. **PROCUREMENT CARDS:** Every procurement card issued is linked under one account by the P-Card vendor. A delay in getting the proper documentation from one cardholder could result in the suspension of card privileges for the entire County.

- a) The procurement card memo statement and all receipts must be submitted to Accounts Payable within ~~540~~ days of receipt of statement.
- b) All receipts must be detailed to show items purchased.
- c) Cardholders are responsible to resolve discrepancies with the P-Card vendor
- d) Cardholder is responsible for reimbursing the County for sales tax charged
- e) Cardholder is responsible to verify budget funds are available before purchase is made

- f) Backup documentation is required for travel/training charges. Only airfare charges for county employees may be charged to a procurement card. Charges for non-employees are strictly prohibited.
- g) If a receipt is lost then a signed affidavit attesting to the items purchased must be received in lieu of the receipt.
- ~~g)h)~~ Day meals for day travel may not be charged on the procurement card. These items are taxable and must be reimbursed through payroll.

Suspension of card privileges may be recommended for any cardholder who repeatedly does not follow proper procedures regarding documentation and timeliness for their P-card purchases.

VI. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE - GENERAL PROCEDURES

1. The following definitions apply to the Accounts Payable section of this order.
 - a) Authorized travel -any travel by a county official or employee for the purpose of official county business.
 - b) Day travel -travel **outside** the county that does not include an overnight stay.
 - c) Overnight travel -travel **outside** the county that **exceeds** a 50-mile radius and does include an overnight stay.
 - d) Emergency -the occurrence of an unforeseen circumstance, which may result in harm to the public good.
 - e) Official county business -business that relates directly to a person's work function and directly benefits the county.
 - f) Training reimbursement -shall include all expenses relating to training including travel to the destination, meals, lodging and training aids. (workshops, seminars, conferences)
 - g) Travel reimbursement -shall include all expenses relating to travel including travel to the destination, meals and lodging. (Delivering documents, transporting a prisoner, attending county business meetings.)

2. The purpose of the Accounts Payable procedures is to promote the prudent exercise of judgment when spending county dollars. This policy will provide accountability and consistent Accounts Payable procedures in the issuance of checks for Williamson County obligations. The responsibility to observe these guidelines rests with the employee, supervisor or department head who certifies conformance to these guidelines by approving the expenditure.
 - a) Any bill or invoice must be submitted to the County Auditor for payment within fourteen (14) days of receipt by the Department all expense

reimbursements must be submitted to the County Auditor for payment within sixty (60) days of the expenditure.

- b) Checks for payment of county obligations will be issued not later than 30 days after the date the invoice is received in the Accounts Payable department, pursuant to Texas Govt. Code Sec. 2251.021.
- c) Checks will be issued every Tuesday. When an issuance date falls on a holiday, checks will be issued on either the first working day before or after the holiday.
- d) The cutoff day for receiving invoices for each check run will be Wednesday. The Accounts Payable department will endeavor to process invoices that are received from Thursday to the following Wednesday approximately 13-20 days after the invoice is received in our department.
- e) Any invoice or expense reimbursement requiring additional review or signatures may cause delays in processing.
- f) Manual checks will be issued in emergency situations only.
- g) Purchase orders are required for ALL purchases of materials and supplies, pursuant with the Texas Local Government Code, Chapter 113, Section 901 and the County Purchasing Manual. The Auditor's office will not process payment for an invoice without the required purchase order. Any expense incurred without the required Purchase Order must be submitted to the County Judge for his waiver of the Requisition requirement prior to submitting the expense to Accounts Payable for payment.
- h) Discrepancies between invoices & purchase orders should be brought to the attention of the Purchasing department before submitting to Accounts Payable.
- i) A copy of the PO should be submitted with the invoice to properly release encumbered funds.
- j) Invoices shall be submitted as a signed original or electronically. Do not submit both ways to avoid duplication of payment. Please include all relevant back up documents and signatures with the electronic copy.
- k) All authorizations and account coding should be made on the invoice.
- l) Approval signatures and account coding should not be made on the remittance portion of the invoice. If necessary, attach an additional sheet with approval authorization.
- m) Some suppliers require payment at the time an order is placed. Please complete a purchase requisition and send the relevant backup documentation to the Purchasing department, who will then forward the request to Accounts Payable.
- n) If a PO is not required, (Consult Purchasing Guide) please submit a check requisition request with appropriate documentation directly to Accounts Payable. Please note, in either circumstance there is a 13-20 day processing time from the date Accounts Payable receives the request.
- o) Any questions or extenuating circumstances should be directed to the Accounts Payable department.
- p) A request for reimbursement for an on-line expense (e.g., e-tickets or hotel deposit) a printout of the on-line/e-mail receipt should be attached to your expense report.

- q) Cell phone use will be reimbursed/paid according to the county cell phone policy attached hereto as Addendum A.
- r) Any mailings sent by a county department or official using county funds must be in furtherance of legitimate county business and must comply with all state ethics rules and other laws and regulations.
- s) All county meetings should be held in county facilities whenever feasible and such facilities are available. If county meeting space is not available, other publicly owned facilities, such as those owned by cities and school districts, should be utilized as the rental of these facilities is often at little or no cost.
- t) Transfer of funds out of the following line items will not be allowed:
 - i) Salaries
 - ii) Fringe Benefits
 - iii) Training
 - v) Gasoline
 - vi) Cell Phones
- u) Transfer of funds into the above line items may be allowed, except that funds will not be transferred into a salary line item to cover an avoidable overtime obligation that was, in the judgment of the Commissioner's Court, unnecessary.
- v) The County Budget Officer has the authority to approve a Line Item Transfer from Merit Pay to Salaries in compliance with the Compensation Policy.

VII. COUNTY VEHICLES

1. The use of county equipment or vehicles for personal use is prohibited by law, but because of the need for specific officials and specific employees to respond to emergencies at night or on weekends, the following officials and employees (with the concurrence of their department head) are required to take a county vehicle to their home at night within Williamson County, even though this involves the use of a county vehicle for travel to and from their residence each day:
 - a) The Sheriff and paid law enforcement as follows: Sheriff's Patrol Deputies, Sheriff's Detectives, on call Crime Scene Technician, on call Animal Control Officers, Sergeants, Lieutenants, Captains and Chiefs.
 - b) One Chief and three Captains in the Corrections Division of the Sheriff's Office.
 - c) Each Constable and Deputy Constables
 - d) Investigators in the District Attorney and County Attorneys offices.
 - e) Two on call maintenance employees designated by the Maintenance Director and approved by the Commissioner's Court

- f) The EMS Director, EMS Deputy Director, Tenured Field Command, and Commander of Clinical Practices.
- g) The Hazardous Materials Chief and Assistant Haz-Mat Chief
- h) The Director of Road and Bridge, (7) Unified Road Foremen, Unified Road East & West Side Supervisor(s), (4) Unified Road County Inspectors
- i) The Director of 911 Communications and Deputy Director who may take home the vehicle when on duty in absence of the Director of 911 Communications.
- j) The MOT Director and all on call MOT counselors
- k) The Manager of Emergency Management and the Assistant Manager of Emergency Management

The following list has been grandfathered in by the previous court, will not be expanded and shall show significant decreases in each budget year until phased out.

Sheriff's Office

S. Zion
S. Shanks
D. Garrett
J. Hicks

Constable Office Pct. 2

S. Holt

County vehicles assigned to departments or individuals that are not take home vehicles, shall be returned and parked at the end of each work day at the facility where the primary office is located.

It is expressly forbidden under this order for any county vehicle to be used for personal use at any time.

2. A County Fleet Committee will review fleet policies and purchases and make recommendations for budgeting purposes. This committee will consist of one Commissioner's Court member, the Fleet Director, Sr. Director of Human Resources, Sr. Director of Infrastructure, Purchasing Agent, and the Budget Officer.
3. All accidents involving County vehicles and equipment will be reported to the Director of Analytics and Administration in the Human Resources Department on a timely basis, but never more than three days after an accident. The Director of Analytics and Administration will provide a report to Commissioner's Court on a quarterly basis of the status of the entire county fleet. This report will consist of, but not be limited to, a listing of vehicles involved in accidents and vehicles that need to be taken out of service for any reason. It will include information in regards to the disposal of any county vehicles.

VIII. COMMISSIONER'S COURT

This order designates the Commissioner's Court will meet on Tuesdays each month.

WHEREUPON MOTION MADE AND SECONDED, the ORDER ADOPTING THE 2014/2015 WILLIAMSON COUNTY BUDGET was passed on a vote of 5 for, and 0 against on the -day of September , 2014.

This ORDER being adopted, the County Judge is authorized to sign the ORDER and the County Clerk is instructed to record the ORDER and the Budget in the official minutes of the Commissioner's Court.

Attest:

Dan A. Gattis, County Judge

Nancy E. Rister, County Clerk

The Following Addendums are included fully in the Budget Order as approved by the court:

Cell Phone Policy

Williamson County Cell Phone Policy

Policy

Williamson County will no longer purchase cell phones or provide cell phone service for individual use except for those required for security reasons. For the majority of County employees, a stipend policy has been implemented and is laid out below.

Procedures for the Stipend Policy

I. Each department head or elected official will identify who they require to maintain a cell phone account in order to conduct official county business. Only regular full time employees and department heads will be allowed a stipend. The funds for cell phone stipends must be submitted and approved as part of each department's annual budget process.

II. Seven levels of cell phone stipends will be established:

- \$20.00 Per Month – (\$10.00 per pmt)
- \$30.00 Per Month - (\$15.00 per pmt)
- \$40.00 Per Month – (\$20.00 per pmt)
- \$50.00 Per Month – (\$25.00 per pmt)
- \$60.00 Per Month – (\$30.00 per pmt)
- \$70.00 Per Month – (\$35.00 per pmt)
- \$80.00 Per Month – (\$40.00 per pmt)

III. Stipends will be paid semi-monthly for each approved employee or department head (will not be included on the third paycheck that is received twice each year) The cell phone stipend shall be removed by the department whenever an employee is on Administrative Leave with pay.

IV. Employees who are currently assigned a County owned cell phone will be allowed to keep the phone if approved for a stipend and may use the phone to obtain individual phone service. Any current county owned cell phone must be returned to the Auditor's Office if the employee terminates, changes positions, elects to obtain a different phone or is denied a County stipend. Any employee allowed to keep a currently issued County owned cell phone will keep the phone in good working condition. Replacement cost and/or maintenance will be the employee's responsibility.

V. All current County maintained cell phone accounts will be terminated as soon as possible when the current contract ends. No additional termination fees will be approved for payment unless approved by the County Judge.

VI. The cell phone stipend is considered supplemental income subject to IRS taxes and reporting requirements and will be processed through Payroll and will be included in the employee's gross income. Retirement contributions will also be deducted and matched in accordance with TCDRS.

VII. Expenditures over the allowed stipend will not be reimbursed.

VIII. An approved cell phone stipend will not follow an employee if the employee changes positions.

IX. Each department head or elected official is responsible for verifying and monitoring their employees receiving a cell phone stipend has obtained the required service. Disciplinary action up to and including termination may result in an employee who receives a stipend and does not provide their department head or elected official with the proper documentation of cell phone service. Each department will maintain a list of cell phone numbers for those individuals with stipends for audit purposes.

X. To minimize the risk of incurring unpaid time worked, Offices and Departments should carefully monitor phone and e-mail access outside of scheduled time worked for non-exempt employees. Failure to comply with this policy may result in termination.