



ORDER 24-0____
FOR EMERGENCY AMENDMENT
TO THE BRAZOS COUNTY ADOPTED BUDGET
FISCAL YEAR 2024
APRIL 30, 2024

This Order for Emergency Amendment to the Brazos County Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2024 ("Amendment") is entered by the County of Brazos, ("County") a political subdivision of the State of Texas, acting by and through its County Commissioners Court ("Court").

WHEREAS, Texas Local Government Code §111.010(c) provides that: "The commissioners court may authorize an emergency expenditure as an amendment to the original budget only in a case of grave public necessity to meet an unusual and unforeseen condition that could not have been included in the original budget through the use of reasonably diligent thought and attention. If the court amends the original budget to meet an emergency, the court shall file a copy of its order amending the budget with the county clerk, and the clerk shall attach the copy to the original budget."

WHEREAS, following the adoption of the Brazos County Budget for Fiscal Year 2024 ("Budget"), the Brazos County District, County Court-at-Law, and Associate Judges expressed the necessity for an additional bailiff to ensure court safety.

WHEREAS, the County has experienced healthy population growth for over a decade which, in turn, has created busier courts, including a new district court. During the 88th Legislative Regular Session, Texas lawmakers passed HB3474, which established new judicial districts and courts in various counties, including Brazos County. This bill created the 472nd Judicial District Court at the request of Brazos County to accommodate county growth and help ease the caseload in other district courts.

WHEREAS, for several months, the Brazos County District Courts have been short staffed bailiffs. There have not been enough bailiffs to cover security every day for all judges, court staff, and court attendees due to vacation, illness, and the continuing effects of COVID. In the past, retired bailiffs helped when necessary, but this has not been the case recently. Instead, when available, other county law enforcement has assisted the courts only to leave their normal duties unattended.

WHEREAS, the County considers the safety and security of its courts to be of high importance and priority; therefore, this emergency action is necessary to ensure such safety and security now and in the future as the County continues to grow.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Court finds it is necessary to amend its Budget with an emergency expenditure to create the new position of Roving Court Bailiff. The Roving Court Bailiff position is effective April 30, 2024, and will be under the supervision of the Administrative Judge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Court finds the emergency expenditure is authorized because it is a case of grave public necessity to adequately provide safety and security to the Brazos County Courts and to continue the operations of the County efficiently now and in the future.

Adopted this _____ day of April, 2024.

Duane Peters

County Judge

Chuck Konderla

Commissioner, Precinct 2

Wanda Watson

Commissioner, Precinct 4

Attest:

County Clerk

Steve Aldrich

Commissioner, Precinct 1

Nancy Berry

Commissioner, Precinct 3