

March 15, 2021

Dear County Jim Baker and Faulkner County JPs:

Justin Knight (Dist. 1)	Randy Higgins (Dist. 2)	John Allison (Dist. 3)
Sam Strain (Dist. 4)	Rose Roland (Dist. 5)	Tyler Lachowsky (Dist. 6)
Tyler Pearson (Dist. 7)	Matt Brown (Dist. 8)	Kris Kendrick (Dist. 9)
Andy Shock (Dist. 10)	John Pickett (Dist. 11)	Jerry Boyer (Dist. 12)
Jack Moss (Dist. 13)		

We write about the continuing problems with livestreaming, Zoom calls, and remote meetings. Viewing committee and QC meetings via livestreaming is painful, at best. We all know there have been numerous complaints about these issues.

During meetings the Youtube video feed frequently cuts out. We cannot clearly see the screen on the wall where remote participants, along with other important documents and information, are projected.

We are unable to clearly hear many participants, especially if the speaker is online or not present at the JP table in the front of the room.

We've also noticed that even JPs trying to participate remotely cannot clearly hear and understand one another.

We are concerned that the public has no ability to participate, as in-person seating is limited and there is no provision for input from remote viewers.

The resulting confusion is apparent at almost every meeting. These technology issues continue to hinder both efficient meetings and the ability of the public to hear and/or participate. This situation is not in the best interests of either the Quorum Court or the public.

Taxpayers deserve a better experience from Faulkner County government.

As the main stakeholders of Faulkner County government, citizens should be able to observe and listen to Quorum Court meetings as they occur, preferably in person in the same meeting room.

With the technology solutions available today, producing high-definition video livestreaming with appropriate audio for **all** participants should not be a barrier to transparency.

We support a project to upgrade the technology and make minimal changes to the Courtroom to ensure that Quorum Court and committee meetings can be attended in person, and can also be easily viewed and heard via livestream.

Citizen access and input is government's duty and responsibility, so we trust that you will resolve this problem quickly.

Sincerely,

FAULKNER COUNTY REPORTS on Behalf of Faulkner County Taxpayers