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Bush appointed as County Judge

In a special meeting on Wednesday, April 8, Ellis County Commissioners affirmed their selection of Waxahachie attorney Carol Bush to fulfill the unexpired term of former County Judge Chad Adams. Adams stepped down effective April 1.

“I think we have a good candidate here and she is going to do a good job,” said Commissioner Ron Brown, pct. 4. “I will be trying to help her in any way I can, and I think the other Commissioners will also.”

Commissioner Bill Dodson, pct. 2, agreed.

“I feel very confident in my decision to support Mrs. Bush,” he said.

Several citizens approached the court in opposition, not to the appointee but to the process that was used by the Court in making its decision. Others stepped forward to support both the individual and the method by which she was chosen.

“We’ve elected you gentlemen to do a job,” said John Tabor of Waxahachie. “It is your job to fill this position. You have made your choice. It is time to fill that position and let’s get on with it.”

Congressman Joe Barton also supported the Court’s action.

“I like the fact that she has a son that attends Texas A&M,” he quipped. “You’ve got a great candidate. I think she will do a great job – time will tell. I will work with the Court and with our new Judge to make this the best court in the State of Texas.”

Commissioner Heath Sims, pct. 3 cast the only dissenting vote.

A member of the State Bar of Texas since 1988, Bush holds a Juris Doctorate from St. Mary’s University School of Law in San Antonio, Texas. Her undergraduate degrees include a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a Bachelor of Arts in French with a minor in Spanish from San Antonio’s Trinity University. Bush has also completed advanced courses of study in Dispute Resolution and Family Law Mediation at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. She sat on the bench in the Ellis County Court at Law One in 1996 and 1997.

Bush has contributed to a number of community organizations over the years, including a term as President of the Board of Directors of the Waxahachie Community Theatre. She was a founding member of the Board of Directors of the Gingerbread House Children’s Advocacy Center and the Children’s Museum of Waxahachie. Bush also served on the Waxahachie Education Foundation Board of Directors, the Waxahachie Independent School District Long Range Planning Committee, and the Global High Administrative Planning Team, overseeing development of a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Academy for WISD.

She and her husband, Brad, have lived in Waxahachie for almost 21 years. Their son, Adam, is a sophomore at Texas A&M University, where he is a member of the Corps of Cadets, while their daughter, Hannah, is a junior at Waxahachie High School.

Following the vote of the Commissioners, 378th District Judge Al Scoggins stepped forward to administer the oath of office, while Bush's husband and daughter looked on.

Taking her seat behind the bench, Bush addressed those in attendance.

"Good morning to everyone and thank you for coming," she said. "Commissioners, it is truly an honor that you have given me and I do not take it lightly. I live in this county and raised my family here, so I have a vested interest."



Bush went on to say that her experience in working with people would serve her well in the position.

"If my interests are for the people, then that is going to be reflected in my actions for this court," she said. "I pledge to you today my commitment to work for the good of the county – that is the best I can offer you right now, and I think that is probably a good thing."

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commissioners' Court is set for Monday, April 13, at 10 a.m.