

Deadline to request absentee ballot approaches

Voters in Love County who want absentee ballots mailed to them for the February 10 Marietta School Special Election should apply now, according to County Election Board Secretary Carol Wolfe.

Absentee ballots are available to all registered voters, provided they are eligible to vote in the election requested. No excuse is needed to vote by absentee ballot.

The deadline for requesting an absentee ballot is 5 p.m. Monday, January 26. Voters can submit a request using the OK Voter Portal at oklahoma.gov/elections/ovp.

Request forms are also available at oklahoma.gov/elections and at the County Elec-

tion Board office located at 405 West Main Street, Suite 103.

Voters need to allow time for an absentee ballot to be received, completed, and returned by mail to the County Election Board.

“With some exceptions, all absentee ballot affidavits must be notarized before being returned,” said Wolfe.

“Voters should give themselves plenty of time to make sure all steps have been followed and that the ballot is returned on time in order to be counted.”

Voters exempt from having an absentee ballot affidavit notarized include those who are physically incapacitated and those who

care for physically incapacitated individuals that cannot be left alone.

Voters who request a “physically incapacitated” ballot must have the signature on their absentee ballot affidavit witnessed by two people.

Military personnel and residents living overseas, along with their spouses and dependents are also eligible for certain allowances.

Military personnel should contact the Voting Services Officer in their unit for an Absentee Ballot Application.

Residents living overseas may obtain Absentee Ballot Applications from any United

States military installation or United States Embassy or Consulate.

Military personnel and overseas citizens who are already registered voters in Oklahoma may apply for absentee ballots using the OK Voter Portal at oklahoma.gov/elections/ovp.

Those who need to complete a new Voter Registration Application should apply through the Federal Voting Assistance Program at FVAP.gov.

All completed absentee ballots must be in the hands of the County Election Board no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day.

’Tis the season for wildfires

Caution is a must to prevent wildfires

By Dianna F. Dandridge-Rystrom
Staff Writer

Leftover grass, weeds high and dry, wind gusts moving into the 30 mph realm in a blink of an eye. A simple spark can be carried for miles before landing on dry fuel, setting the stage for wildfire that quickly gets out of control.

Now is the time for caution and care while doing any task that might cause a spark, warns Trent Barrick, Love County Emergency Management Director.

Cotton, Jefferson, Bryan and Choctaw counties have called for county burn bans, but the Love County commissioners have yet to make that decision. According to Mesonet, Love County is in a moderate drought.

Barrick said the county does not meet the burn ban criteria, mainly the drought criteria issued by NOAA

“Over at least the next few days, it is pretty critical that people refrain from burning or other outdoor activities that could cause sparks or flames while fire conditions remain high,” Barrick said.

Barrick knows that some jobs just have to be done and sometimes jobs just create sparks.

“If that is the case, if someone is going to be working with things that could cause a spark, ideally they need to have a fire watcher and a water source close by and try to do the activity in an area away from grass or other fuels if at all possible,” Barrick said.

Barrick’s warnings include outdoor cooking, which can so easily cause a spark that will catch surrounding fuel

on fire.

Since January 7, Love County fire crews have responded to 10 fire calls, he said on Friday.

As badly as the area needs a substantial rain, Barrick said rain won’t help much until things start greening up in the spring.

“However, during this time of the year we just hope for better conditions, such as higher humidity and lower wind speeds,” he said.

A burn ban can only be issued when an area meets all three of the following conditions:

1. Severe, extreme or exceptional drought conditions exist as determined by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration pursuant to its criteria;
2. No more than one-half inch of precipitation is forecast for the next three days; and
3. Fire occurrence is significantly greater than normal for the season and/or initial attack on a significant number of wildland fires has been unsuccessful due to extreme fire behavior or where data is available, more than 20 percent of the wildfires in the county have been caused by escaped debris or controlled burning or temperatures for any day over the next three days are forecasted at or over 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

As a final warning, Barrick encourages homeowners to study their property and know the fire dangers that exist and safety measures to protect lives and property.



Photo provided

Dry weather has led to wildfire danger, according to Trent Barrick, Love County Emergency Management Director. Any task performed that can cause a spark could ignite a grass fire. Everyone is asked to use caution. In addition, everyone should check around their homes for tall, dead weeds and grass.

Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS CITY OF MARIETTA

Notice is given that the Planning Commission of the City of Marietta and the City Council of the City of Marietta will conduct public hearings on a proposed placement of a manufactured home located within the corporate limits of the City of Marietta, Oklahoma. Relevant information on the property is the following:

CASE NUMBER:	P26-01
ADDRESS:	206 Wood Street
PROPOSED ACTION	Placement of a Manufactured Home
APPLICANT:	Genises Faria
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:	Lot 2 Blk 6 J.C. Washington Addition Marietta, Love County, Oklahoma

The public hearings will be held at the Marietta Municipal Building, 700 S. Hwy 77, Marietta, Oklahoma, as follows:

PLANNING COMMISSION	February 5, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. 700 S. Hwy 77
CITY COUNCIL	February 10, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. 700 S. Hwy 77

At the public hearings, any interested citizen of the City of Marietta will have the opportunity to appear and be heard in regard to the placement of the manufactured home. The Planning Commission and the City Council reserves the right to limit discussion and debate on the placement of the manufactured home, in which event those persons appearing in support or opposition of the placement of the manufactured home will be allotted equal time.

Any formal protest shall be filed in writing with the City Clerk during normal business hours at least three (3) days prior to the date of the public hearing.

If you have any questions about the proposal, or need additional information prior to the public hearing, please contact City Hall at 580-276-5569.

Dated this 20th day of January, 2026.

/s/ Stephanie Cannon
Dottie Gwin, City Clerk
Stephanie Cannon, Deputy City Clerk (Seal)

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We would love to worship with you at

First United Methodist Church of Marietta

603 West Main Street, Marietta • 580-276-3210
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Worship at 11 a.m.

Chicken Foot: 3rd Thursday

Rev. Steve Davis

Making Disciples for the Transformation of the World

READ LOCAL.

SHOP LOCAL. EAT LOCAL.

SUPPORT LOCAL NEWS AND BUSINESS.

Public Notice

NOTICE TO SELL COUNTY PROPERTY (ACQUIRED AT RESALE)

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the receipt of bid, that I, Karla Smith, County Treasurer of Love County, Oklahoma, will on the 10th day of February, 2026, beginning at 9 a.m. at my office in the Courthouse at Marietta, Oklahoma, sell separately the hereinafter described tracts, parcels, or lots of land, all situated in Love County, Oklahoma and heretofore acquired by said county at the resale authorized by 68 O.S. § 3125. Following the description of each property separately offered for sale is the name of the bidder and the amount bid as follows:

Description	Bidder	Amount Bid
PH 2 UN 9 BLK 5 LOT 10 FALCONHEAD	CLIFFORD FRANKLIN HANSEN II	\$145.57
PH 2 UN 9 BLK 5 LOT 11 FALCONHEAD	CLIFFORD FRANKLIN HANSEN II	\$169.16

The said properties will be separately sold to the highest competitive bidder, for cash in hand, or to the original bidder at the amount bid if there be no higher bid offered, subject to the approval of the Board of County Commissioners. The apportioned cost of advertisement and other expense incident to the said sale shall be paid by the purchaser, in addition to the amount bid upon said properties.

Witness my hand this 20TH day of January, 2026

/s/ Karla Smith (seal)
County Treasurer

Published in the Marietta Monitor on January 23 and 30 and February 6, 2026.

Public Notice

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF LOVE COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

In the Matter of the Estates of)
ORAL GENE JACKSON and) PB-2026-5
VIRGINIA ELLEN JACKSON, Deceased.)

NOTICE OF HEARING PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL, APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND DETERMINATION OF HEIRS, DEVISEES AND LEGATEES

Notice is hereby given to all persons interested in the estates of ORAL GENE JACKSON and VIRGINIA ELLEN JACKSON, deceased, that PAUL GENE JACKSON has previously produced and filed in the District Court of Love County, Oklahoma, an instrument, in writing, purporting to be the joint Last Will and Testament of ORAL GENE JACKSON and VIRGINIA ELLEN JACKSON, deceased, and also filed in said Court his Petition, together with a copy of said Will praying for the probate of the Will and asking that Letters Testamentary issue to the said PAUL GENE JACKSON as Personal Representative and for a judicial determination of the heirs, devisees and legatees of said decedent.

Pursuant to an Order of this Court previously entered herein, notice is hereby given that on the 29th day of January 2026 at 9:00 o'clock a.m. the Petition will be heard at the District Courtroom, County Courthouse, Marietta, Oklahoma, when and where all persons interested may appear and contest the same.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of January 2026.

/s/ Todd Hicks
JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

Delashaw Law Office
Katlyn M. Lantrip OBA #36470
Attorney for Petitioner
204 W. Chickasaw
P.O. Box 328
Marietta, OK 73448
(580) 276-3136

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Public Notice

STATE OF OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION Advertisement to Contractors February 19, 2026 – 10:30 A.M. Bid Opening

Plans and proposals for this bid opening will be available on January 22, 2026. No bidding proposals will be issued to any Contractor after February 18, 2026 10:30 A.M. The cost for each bidding proposal is \$50.00 + tax. State Standard Specifications may be purchased by contacting ODOT Business Services Center Branch (405) 521-4509. No refunds will be made for bidding documents or specification books purchased.

Sample proposals, preliminary plans, long form and short form notices, order forms, bid tabs and awards, can be accessed on ODOT’s Website: <https://oklahoma.gov/odot/business-center/contracts-and-proposals.html>

Bids must be prepared in accordance with the State Standard Specifications. Unless otherwise specified, bids for all projects must be submitted over the internet to Bid Express (<https://www.bidx.com>) using AASHTOWare Project Bids. Instructions for using Bid Express, Project Bids, and the electronic bidding process are available from the Office Engineer Division. When written bids are allowed, sealed proposals may be delivered directly to the Office Engineer Division prior to the scheduled bid opening. For written bids, do not disassemble the bidding proposal in any way.

Any firm bidding a project as a joint venture, that has not been previously approved by the department, must complete the ‘Request for Joint Venture’ form, which is posted on the ODOT website, prior to bidding.

Unless otherwise specified in the proposal, all bids must be submitted with a proposal guaranty equal to 5% of the bid total.

Questions and comments regarding the February 19, 2026 bid opening will be accepted until January 30, 2026. Please submit your questions through the ODOT pre-bid email address: ODOT-Prebid.Question@odot.org. Responses will be posted to the “Pre-bid Questions and Answers” section of the ODOT Contracts & Proposals webpage as they are received. It is recommended that interested contractors visit the “Pre-Bid Questions and Answers” link regularly in order to stay informed of the latest information: <https://oklahoma.gov/odot/business-center/contracts-and-proposals.html>.

Unless otherwise noted in the proposal, upon award of the contract to the successful bidder, the contract will be completely and correctly executed by the contractor and returned to the Department within ten (10) working days from the date of award. The Department will have fourteen (14) working days from the date of award to complete its execution of the contract.

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority (OTA) ensures that no person or groups of persons shall, on the grounds of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, retaliation or genetic information, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any and all programs, services, or activities administered by ODOT or OTA, their recipients, sub-recipients, and contractors. To request an accommodation please contact the ADA Coordinator at (405) 521-4140 or the Oklahoma Relay Service at 1-800-722-0353. If you have any ADA or Title VI questions email ODOT-adatitlevi@odot.org.

Description of work and location of project:
SSR-243C(056)SR JP NO. 35185(04) Call Order: 220 LOVE US-77

RESURFACE (ASPHALT)
US-77: FROM 1.00 MILES SOUTH OF THE SH32 JCT, EXTEND NORTH NEAR MARIETTA.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA,
OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
- By: TIM J. GATZ, Director. LPXLP

Published in the Marietta Monitor on January 23 and 30, 2026.

Email public notices to:
legals@mariettamonitor.com

LPXLP