SPOTLIGHT

Texas is made up of 254 counties,
each with a team of locally elected and appointed county officials
serving their community. Polk County's elected offices include a County
Judge and four Road & Bridge Commissioners that make up the
Commissioners Court, the County Court at Law Judge, four Justices of the
Peace, four Constables, a County Clerk, District Clerk, District Attorney,
Treasurer, Tax Assessor-Collector and Sheriff.

There is no hierarchy in county government, so the only boss of these
elected officials is **You, the People**.

There are two District Court systems that serve Polk County, the 258th and
the 411th Courts, which are responsible for appointing our County Auditor.
The County Judge appoints the Emergency Management Coordinator, and
all other officials are appointed by the Commissioners Court to run various
county departments. These include Aging Services Director,
Environmental Enforcement Officer, Fire Marshal, Grant & Contract
Coordinator, Human Resources Manager, IT & Systems Administrator,
Maintenance Superintendent, Museum Curator, Permits/Inspections
Supervisor, Social Services Director and Veterans Services Officer.
Learn more about your local offices by reading this latest installment of

Spotlight on Polk County:

Information Technology

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Polk County

SPOTLIGHT

ON POLK COUNTY: *Information Technology*
Cassandra Lowrie

The Polk County Information Technology department is vital in every aspect throughout the county. The department's mission is to assist Polk County taxpayers by providing quality technology related services to County elected officials, departments, and the residents of Polk County in the execution of their responsibilities through dependable, innovative technology services. The Information Technology Department works closely with elected officials and departments as well as outside agencies and vendors to provide them with resources that solve technology needs, improve efficiency, and allow them to offer new or enhanced services. The IT department does this while ensuring the integrity, accessibility, and security of the information stored and processed on Polk County's computer systems. We are a service-based, support organization that strives to help our departments increase voters at the polls, efficiency and safety in our jails, the timeliness of cases handled in our courts, and much more. Some other services provided by the Polk County Information Technology Department are as follows:

· *Provide Help Desk Services for County's computers, networks, systems, and software*

· *Deploy new hardware and software and provide guidance for projects and purchases*

· *Consult and provide guidance to end users with regard to IT projects and purchases*

· *Maintain, configure, enhance, and protect systems and networks*

· *Research automation and new technologies to enhance productivity*

· *Develop, document, and implement policies and procedures that foster the efficient and secure utilization of Polk County's technology investment*

The Information Technology department is a four-person team comprised of one IT and Systems Administrator and three Computer Specialists. They collaborate with every department in the county. During the last fiscal year, this team was responsible for approximately 370 desktops and laptops, as well as 23 servers. These numbers are up from 295 desktops and laptops and 14 servers in the previous fiscal year. They accomplished 2035 work orders and various projects for this last fiscal year, including a large software conversion for the courts. During this conversion, COVID had a major impact on everyone, spanning over two years. Technology today is continuing to grow by leaps and bounds. IT is instrumental in helping to increase productivity within the county as well as making services better for the public.

The IT Department is located at 602 East Church, Suite 138, Livingston, Texas. (936) 327-6888. Work orders and other information can be found at ww.polkcountyit.net