

MINUTES
WALLER COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT
REGULAR SESSION
WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 2, 2022

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Honorable Commissioner's Court of Waller County, Texas, met in **REGULAR SESSION** on Wednesday, the 2nd day of February 2022 at its meeting place in the Commissioners Courtroom of the Waller County Courthouse, Hempstead, Texas. The meeting was called to order by Waller County Judge Trey Duhon at 9:02 a.m. with the following members of the Court present to-wit:

Carbett "Trey" J. Duhon III, County Judge
Walter Smith, Commissioner Precinct 2
Kendric D. Jones, Commissioner Precinct 3
Justin Beckendorff, Commissioner Precinct 4
Debbie Hollan, County Clerk

Absent: John A. Amsler, Commissioner Precinct 1

Delivery of Invocation by: Commissioner Smith

Pledge to the American Flag and Texas Flag led by: Commissioner Beckendorff

1. **Approval of Agenda.**

Motion made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Absent

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

PUBLIC COMMENT – *None*

To slow the spread of COVID-19, the public may make public comment at the beginning of the meeting by teleconference. **Local callers should call 979-921-6212.** Non-local callers should call 800-576-1131. The user code for both numbers is **14329937**. Callers will be asked if they would like to make public comment. After public comment, the teleconference line will be closed. The public may continue to watch the meeting streamed online at <http://wallercountytexas.com/live>.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items identified within the consent agenda are of a routine nature, and will be passed with one vote without being discussed separately. If a member of the court or public requests that a particular item be discussed, that agenda item will be pulled from the Consent Agenda and discussed as part of the regular agenda at the appropriate time. One vote will approve the remaining items on the Consent Agenda.

2. **Approval of the minutes** – January 26, 2022 Regular Session

3. **Request by County Tax Assessor Collector to approve refunds in excess of \$500.00 in accordance with section 31.11 of the Texas Tax Code.**

4. **Request by IT Department for approval of Fixed Asset Transfers.**

5. Request to approve payment on the following:
 - (a) \$920.00 for invoice from Lewis Funeral Home and Chapel from line item 125-423-540705 [Transport to Morgue].
 - (b) \$1,195.00 for invoice dated January 13, 2022, \$1,195.00 for invoice dated January 14, 2022, and \$1,195.00 for invoice dated January 19, 2022 for a total of \$3,585.00 to Magnolia Funeral Home, Inc. from line item 125-423-540705 [Transport to Morgue].
6. Request by County Auditor for approval and/or ratification of Accounts Payable.
 Motion made by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Jones.
Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

<i>Judge Trey Duhon</i> – Yes	<i>Commissioner Amsler</i> – Yes	<i>Commissioner Smith</i> – Yes
	<i>Commissioner Jones</i> – Yes	<i>Commissioner Beckendorff</i> – Yes

COUNTY JUDGE

7. Discuss and take action to approve S.B. 1990 Resolution for the Gulf Coast Rail District.
 Motion made by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Jones.
Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

<i>Judge Trey Duhon</i> – Yes	<i>Commissioner Amsler</i> – Absent	<i>Commissioner Smith</i> – Yes
	<i>Commissioner Jones</i> – Yes	<i>Commissioner Beckendorff</i> – Yes

COUNTY COURT AT LAW

8. Discuss the County Court at Law’s selection by the Texas Children’s Commission as one of five courts in Texas as a pilot project site for a trauma-informed court.
 (no backup submitted)
 No action required.
9. Discuss and take action to approve the payment for three laptops for the County Court at Law from line item 241-595-561209 [ARP Miscellaneous].
 Motion made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.
Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

<i>Judge Trey Duhon</i> – Yes	<i>Commissioner Amsler</i> – Absent	<i>Commissioner Smith</i> – Yes
	<i>Commissioner Jones</i> – Yes	<i>Commissioner Beckendorff</i> – Yes

TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR

10. Discuss and take action to authorize the County Judge to sign a resale deed for the private tax resale of property currently held in trust by Waller County pursuant to Section 34.05(h)(2) of the Texas Tax Code.
 Motion made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.
Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

<i>Judge Trey Duhon</i> – Yes	<i>Commissioner Amsler</i> – Absent	<i>Commissioner Smith</i> – Yes
	<i>Commissioner Jones</i> – Yes	<i>Commissioner Beckendorff</i> – Yes

SHERIFF

11. Discuss and take action to approve MOU's with federal and local task forces.

Motion made by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Jones.

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Absent

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

12. Discuss and take action to authorize the County Judge to sign resolution in support of the Waller County District Attorney's application for continued grant funding from the Governor's office for the victim's assistant position in the office.

Motion made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Absent

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

AUDITOR

13. Discuss and take action to approve Treasurer Department line item transfer, WC 2022-02.

Motion made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Absent

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

MISCELLANEOUS

14. Discuss and take action to amend County policies in relation to COVID-19.

No action taken.

15. Discuss and take action to deliberate business and financial issues in executive session based on determination and recommendation from the District Attorney's Office that deliberation in an open meeting regarding business and financial issues related to the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real properties in Precinct 1, Precinct 3, and Precinct 4 would have a detrimental effect on the position of the County in negotiations with third persons.

Motion made by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Jones.

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Absent

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

EXECUTIVE SESSION

16. Deliberate business and financial issues related to the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real properties in Precinct 1, Precinct 3, and Precinct 4 pursuant to Government Code Sections 551.072 and 551.0725.
17. Deliberate the appointment, employment, or duties of a Commissioners' Court Chief of Staff.

18. Consultation with District Attorney and outside counsel pursuant to Government Code Section 551.071.

Court convened to Executive Session at 9:48 a.m.

Court reconvened from Executive Session at 10:58 a.m.

19. Reconvene in Open Session to take any action necessary on matters discussed in Executive Session.

Commissioner Beckendorff moved to accept the offer to purchase property ID 241578 for \$600,000.00, seconded by Commissioner Jones.

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Absent

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

ADJOURN MEETING

Motion to **adjourn** meeting by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Jones.

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Absent

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 10:59 a.m.

I **ATTEST** that the above proceedings are the true and correct minutes taken in my capacity as Ex-Officio for the Commissioners' Court of Waller County.



Debbie Hollan

Debbie Hollan
Waller County Clerk

APPROVED this the 9th day of February 2022.

Trey Duhon

Carbett "Trey" J. Duhon, III
County Judge