

MINUTES
WALLER COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT
REGULAR SESSION
WEDNESDAY – MARCH 30, 2022

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Honorable Commissioner's Court of Waller County, Texas, met in **REGULAR SESSION** on Wednesday, the 30th day of March 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 9:05 a.m. with the following members of the Court present to-wit:

Carbett "Trey" J. Duhon III, County Judge
John A. Amsler, Commissioner Precinct 1
Walter Smith, Commissioner Precinct 2
Kendric D. Jones, Commissioner Precinct 3
Justin Beckendorff, Commissioner Precinct 4
Stephanie Tompkins, Chief Deputy Clerk

Delivery of Invocation by: Commissioner Amsler
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 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

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 – March 23, 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 to approve payment on the following:**
 - (a) \$1,295.00 for invoice dated March 14, 2022 to Magnolia Funeral Home from line item 125-423-540705 [Transport to Morgue].
5. **Request by County Auditor for approval and/or ratification of Accounts Payable.**

6. Request to approve Order Authorizing San Jacinto Day Fireworks Sales. *No backup submitted.*
 Motion to approve Consent Agenda made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.
Motion carried by 5-0 vote.
Judge Trey Duhon – Yes Commissioner Amsler – Yes Commissioner Smith – Yes
Commissioner Jones – Yes Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

COUNTY JUDGE

7. Presentation and discussion by MaryAnne Piacentini, President & CEO, Katy Prairie Conservancy, and Amanda Fuller, Director of Texas Coast and Water Program, National Fish and Wildlife Federation, on the use of nature-based projects and natural infrastructure.
No action required.

SHERIFF

8. **Spread** upon the minutes the Waller County Sheriff’s Office Federal Forfeiture (Equitable Sharing) Fund 2022 Budget.
No action required.

FIRE MARSHAL

9. Discuss and take action to approve purchase of Southern Software for the Waller County Fire Marshal’s Office. Funds to be paid from line item 241-595-561209 [ARP Miscellaneous].
 Motion made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.
Motion carried by 5-0 vote.
Judge Trey Duhon – Yes Commissioner Amsler – Yes Commissioner Smith – Yes
Commissioner Jones – Yes Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER

10. Discuss and take action to approve payment of Invoice # 6 for \$83,616.85 and Invoice # 7 for \$28,365.92 for a total of \$111,982.77 from line item 125-600-581618 [Courthouse Renovation and Annex].
 Motion made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.
Motion carried by 5-0 vote.
Judge Trey Duhon – Yes Commissioner Amsler – Yes Commissioner Smith – Yes
Commissioner Jones – Yes Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

AUDITOR

11. Request by County Auditor for approval of official documents and all monthly reports.
 Motion made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.
Motion carried by 5-0 vote.
Judge Trey Duhon – Yes Commissioner Amsler – Yes Commissioner Smith – Yes
Commissioner Jones – Yes Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

MISCELLANEOUS

12. Discuss and take action to approve order for Online Education for County Commissioners.

Motion made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

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

No action taken.

14. Discussion of the court's ruling in the federal voting lawsuit about the 2018 general election.

No action required.

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 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

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

Court convened to Executive Session at 10:17 a.m.

Court reconvened from Executive Session at 10:33 a.m.

18. ~~Reconvene in Open Session to take any action necessary on matters discussed in Executive Session.~~ **Item WITHDRAWN.**

ADJOURN MEETING

Motion to **adjourn** meeting by Commissioner Amsler, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 10:34 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, Waller County Clerk



By: *Stephanie Tompkins*
Stephanie Tompkins, Chief Deputy Clerk

APPROVED this the 6th day of April 2022.

[Signature]
Carbett "Trey" J. Duhon, III
County Judge