

MINUTES
WALLER COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT
REGULAR SESSION
WEDNESDAY – AUGUST 21, 2019

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Honorable Commissioner's Court of Waller County, Texas, met in **REGULAR SESSION** on Wednesday, the 21st day of August 2019 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 9:00 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
Jeron Barnett, Commissioner Precinct 3
Justin Beckendorff, Commissioner Precinct 4
Debbie Hollan, County Clerk

Delivery of Invocation by: Commissioner Amsler
Pledge to the American Flag and Texas Flag led by: Commissioner Barnett

1. **Approval of Agenda.**

Motion to **approve** agenda by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

PUBLIC COMMENT

- (1.) Rhonda Steedman, representative of the Friends of the Library provided an update on recent Library events and the need for library renovations.
- (2.) Pat Bruegger commented on the budget and agenda item #16.
- (3.) Danny Roth made announcement concerning asphalt re-pavement of the parking lot(s) and streets around the courthouse.
- (4.) Commissioner Jeron Barnett commented on the growth of Waller County.
- (5.) Irene Mattox addressed concerns regarding the growth of Waller County.

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** – August 14, 2019 Regular Session
3. **Request to approve payment on the following:**
 - (a) \$ 2,932.00 for Invoice # AH019923 Harris County Treasurer from line item 125-423-540702 [Autopsy].
4. **Request by County Auditor for approval and/or ratification of Accounts Payable.**
5. **Request by Community Supervision and Corrections Department for transfer of fixed assets.**

Motion to **approve** consent agenda by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

WALLER COUNTY CHILD WELFARE BOARD

6. **Presentation** by ~~Katina Harris on the status of the Child Welfare Board.~~
Item **WITHDRAWN.**

COUNTY JUDGE

7. Discuss and take action to accept the Certification of the 2019 Waller County Appraisal Roll as required under Property Tax Code 26.04(b).

Motion to **approve** by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

8. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the 2019 tax rate.

Commissioner Beckendorff moved that the Waller County Commissioners Court propose to adopt a total tax rate of \$.662225 cents per \$100 valuation, the same rate being a combination of rates for the Waller County General Fund rate of \$.564298 per \$100 valuation and the Farm to Market Flood control rate of \$.032098 and to the Debt Service Fund rate of \$.065829 and to schedule the Public Hearings for the 2019 tax rate on September 4, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Waller County Courthouse in Hempstead, Texas and on September 11, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Waller County Courthouse in Hempstead, Texas, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Judge Duhon announced the meeting to adopt the tax rate will be held on September 18, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Waller County Courthouse in Hempstead, Texas.

Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

9. Discuss and take action to authorize the County Judge to publish the Notice of 2019 Tax Year Proposed Tax Rate for Waller County in the ~~Brenham Banner~~ **Katy Times**, Waller Times, Hot Line Press, The Waller County Express, and on the County website to be paid from line item 125-401-544100 [Bid Notices & Printing].

Motion to **approve** by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion made by Commissioners Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith to strike out Brenham Banner and add Katy Times to agenda items 9, 10, and 11.

Amendment carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

Amended Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

(Additional action taken by the court on agenda item #9 further in the meeting)

10. Discuss and take action to authorize the County Judge to publish the Notice of Budget Hearing in the ~~Brenham Banner~~ **Katy Times**, Waller Times, Hot Line Press, and The Waller County Express, and on the County website. Funds to be paid from line item 125-401-544100 [Bid Notices & Printing].

Motion to **approve** by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

(Additional action taken by the court on agenda item #10 further in the meeting)

11. Discuss and take action to authorize the County Judge to publish the Notice of Salary Increases for Elected Officials in the ~~Brenham Banner~~ **Katy Times**, Waller Times, Hot Line Press, and The Waller County Express, and on the County website. Funds to be paid from line item 125-401-544100 [Bid Notices & Printing].

Motion to **approve** by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

(Additional action taken by the court on agenda item #11 further in the meeting)

12. Discuss and take action to set salaries, expenses and other allowances of all elected county and precinct officers.

Motion to **approve** by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

13. **Spread** upon the minutes the Assignment and Assumption of the Tax Abatement Agreement with P150, LLC to Ross Dress for Less, Inc. *No action required.*

14. Discuss and take action to approve Tax Abatement Agreement with Clay Partners – Pederson Distribution #1, L.P.

Motion to **approve** by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

COUNTY ENGINEER

15. **Discuss** large scale developments and their impacts on County road construction, maintenance, and repair. *No action required.*

Advanced to Agenda items #24-26

TREASURER

24. Discuss and take action to approve Depository Pledge Contract with Prosperity Bank.

Motion to **approve** by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

25. Discuss and take action to approve Collateral Agreement with Prosperity Bank.

Motion to **approve** by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

26. Discuss and take action to approve the Resolution for the Designation of Officer.

Motion to **approve** by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

Court recessed at 10:30 a.m.

Court reconvened at 10:39 a.m.

Returned to Agenda Item #16

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER

16. **Update** on Jail Center Project. *No action required.*

17. Discuss and take action to approve the cost of \$5,930.00 for Paint Striping the new asphalt paving around the Courthouse. Funds to be paid from line item 125-600-581901 [Buildings].

Motion to **approve** by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

FIRE MARSHAL

18. ~~Discuss and take action on Burn Ban.~~ **Item WITHDRAWN.**

ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR

19. Discuss and take action to approve to consolidate voting precincts for the 2019 General Election.

Motion to **approve** by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 3

20. Discuss and take action to approve the renewal of lease agreement with Neopost for the Neopost IN-360 postage meter, maintenance and rate change protection. Monthly rate of \$74.99 for 63 months to be paid from line item 125-420-581817 [Technology Enhancements].

Motion to **approve** by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS

- 21. Discuss and take action to approve Resolution Authorizing County Grant Program for the Texas Department of Agriculture Home-Delivered Meal Grant Program.

Motion to **approve** by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

- 22. Discuss and take action to approve the appointment of a Director to the Bluebonnet Groundwater Conservation District.

Motion made by Judge Duhon to **appoint** Richard Stoker as our replacement for Tom Brown as our representative on the Bluebonnet Groundwater Conservation, seconded by Commissioner Amsler.

Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

- 23. Discuss and take action to approve Imposition of Optional Fees for Calendar Year 2020.

Motion made by Judge Duhon to keep the fees the same as 2019, seconded by Commissioner Amsler.

Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

Proceeded to agenda items #27 and 28

- 27. ~~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 depository contract would have a detrimental effect on the position of the County in negotiations with third persons. Item WITHDRAWN.~~

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 28. ~~Deliberate business and financial issues related to depository contract pursuant to Government Code Section 551.0725. Item WITHDRAWN.~~

Returned to agenda items #9, 10, and 11

Motion made by Judge Duhon that we include the **Brenham Banner** in number 9, 10, and 11 as they were approved, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff, and that will also be paid from the same line item.

Motion carried.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

- 9. Discuss and take action to authorize the County Judge to publish the Notice of 2019 Tax Year Proposed Tax Rate for Waller County in the ~~Brenham Banner~~ **Katy Times**, Waller Times, Hot Line Press, The Waller County Express, **Brenham Banner**, and on the County website to be paid from line item 125-401-544100 [Bid Notices & Printing].

- 10. Discuss and take action to authorize the County Judge to publish the Notice of Budget Hearing in the ~~Brenham Banner~~ **Katy Times**, Waller Times, Hot Line Press, and The

Waller County Express, **Brenham Banner**, and on the County website. Funds to be paid from line item 125-401-544100 [Bid Notices & Printing].

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Continued with Agenda Items 29 and 30

29. ~~Consultation with District Attorney and outside counsel pursuant to Government Code Section 551.071. Item WITHDRAWN.~~
30. ~~Reconvene in Open Session to take any action necessary on matters discussed in Executive Session. Item WITHDRAWN.~~

ADJOURN MEETING

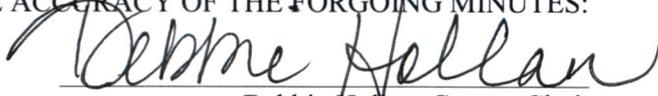
Motion to **adjourn** meeting by Judge Duhon, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Motion carried.

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

Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 10:49 a.m.

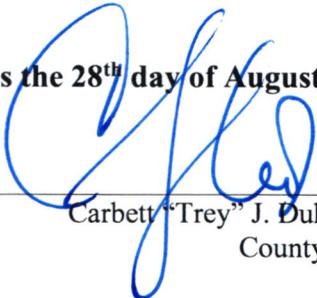
I ATTEST TO THE ACCURACY OF THE FORGOING MINUTES:



Debbie Hollan, County Clerk
And Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners’
Court of Waller County, Texas



APPROVED this the 28th day of August 2019.



Carbett "Trey" J. Duhon, III
County Judge