

MINUTES
WALLER COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT
REGULAR SESSION
WEDNESDAY – SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Honorable Commissioner's Court of Waller County, Texas, met in **REGULAR SESSION** on Wednesday, the 30th day of September 2020 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 made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

PUBLIC COMMENT

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>.

Rosa Harris spoke to the court regarding voters voting in the University at Prairie View A&M. Mayor David Allen from the City of Prairie View introduced Mr. Luther Francis, a WWII Veteran.

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 – September 23, 2020 Regular Session**

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

4. **Request by County Auditor for approval and/or ratification of Accounts Payable.**

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

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

EXTENSION SERVICES

5. **Presentation** by the Waller County 4-H Ambassadors of the Texas A & M AgriLife Extension 4-H and Youth Development Program. *No action required.*

6. Discuss and take action to approve the proclamation presented by the Waller County 4-H Ambassadors declaring October 4-10, 2020 as “4-H Week in Waller County”.

Motion made by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

(4-H Ambassadors read Proclamation)

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

7. ~~Discuss and take action to assign Tax Abatement Agreement with Clay Partners.~~
Item WITHDRAWN.

COUNTY ENGINEER

8. Discuss and take action to post notice for Competitive Bids for “Type A, Grade 2, Flex Base”. Notice to be posted in the Katy Times, on the Waller County website and the designated areas in the Waller County Courthouse. Advertising to be funded from line item 125-401-544100 [Bid Notices and Printing].

Motion made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

9. Discuss and take action to approve advertising for the establishment of speed limits and the installation of speed limit signs on the following roads:

- Kerr Rd – Entire Length – 40 mph
- Holik Rd – Entire Length – 40 mph
- Stefka Rd – Entire Length – 40 mph
- Forest Hills Ln – Entire Length – 35 mph
- E. Hollyhill Dr – Entire Length – 35 mph
- West Loop Dr – Entire Length – 30 mph
- Double Culvert Rd – Entire Length – 45 40 mph
- Old Howth Rd – Entire Length – 45 mph
- **Texas Oak Dr – Entire Length – 30 mph**
- **Kyle Rd – Entire Length – 30 mph**
- **Royal Oak Dr – Entire Length – 30 mph**
- **Spanish Oak Dr – Entire Length – 30 mph**

- **Lake Rd** – Entire Length – 30 mph
- **Thompson Rd** – Entire Length – 35 mph
- **Clark Rd** – Entire Length – 35 mph
- **Lone Star Blvd** – Entire Length – 35 mph
- **Willow Bend Ln** – Entire Length – 30 mph
- **N Reids Prairie Rd** – Entire Length – 35 mph

Advertising to be posted in the newspaper of general circulation, **Waller County Express, The Katy Times, The Waller Times, and The Hotline Press**, payment for advertising to be funded from line item 125-401-544100 [Bid Notices and Printing], followed by a public hearing during the regular session of Commissioners’ Court on October 28, 2020.

Judge Duhon made motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

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

10. Discuss and take action to approve advertising for changes in locations of Stop Signs on the following roads:
- Kyle Rd. – Westbound at Bowler/Howell Rd. Intersection – Add one Stop Sign. This will become an All Way Stop.
 - Kyle Rd. – Westbound at Brooks Rd. – Remove Stop Sign.
 - Curtis Rd. – Westbound at Brooks Rd. – Remove Stop Sign.

Advertising to be posted in the newspaper of general circulation, **the Waller County Express**, payment for advertising to be funded form line item 125-401-544100 [Bid Notices and Printing], followed by a public hearing during the regular session of Commissioners’ Court on October 28, 2020.

Motion made by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

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

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

11. Discuss and take action to authorize the County Treasurer to continue to pay the salary and benefits for the Victims’ Assistant in the District Attorney’s Office at the current levels from October 01, 2020 until such time as the Victim Assistant grant is awarded by the Governor’s Office, funds to be transferred from line 125-416-510030 for the payment of said salary and benefits if necessary.

Motion made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

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

FIRE MARSHAL

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

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

MISCELLANEOUS

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

No action taken.

19. Discuss and take action to select an appraiser for various properties in Pct 4.

Motion made by Commissioner Smith, seconded Commissioner Beckendorff.

Commissioner Smith made motion to amend to select Steve Clegg, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Amendment carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

Amended Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

**** Commissioners' Court will move from the courtroom to the front lawn of the County Courthouse for raising of the flags at the Veterans Memorial.**

Court recessed from courtroom at 10:46 a.m.

FLAG RAISING AT VETERANS MEMORIAL

**** Commissioners' Court will move from the front lawn of the County Courthouse to 2nd Floor Courtroom after the conclusion of the Flag Raising at the Veterans Memorial.**

Court proceeded to Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Court reconvened from Executive Session at 11:44 a.m.

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

No action taken from Executive Session.

ADJOURN MEETING

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

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 11:44 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 7th day of October 2020.

Trey Duhon

Carbett "Trey" J. Duhon, III
County Judge