

MINUTES
WALLER COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT
REGULAR SESSION
WEDNESDAY – NOVEMBER 25, 2020

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Honorable Commissioner's Court of Waller County, Texas, met in **REGULAR SESSION** on Wednesday, the 25th day of November 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
Absent: Justin Beckendorff, Commissioner Precinct 4

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** by Commissioner Barnett, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Absent

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.swagit.com/live>.

1. Xante Wallace commended the court for the recent State of Waller County event and the ribbon cutting of the new Justice Center.

Additional Public Comments made later in the meeting (page 4 of 5)

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 – November 18, 2020 Regular Session**

3. **~~Request by County Treasurer for approval of Elections Payroll.~~ Item WITHDRAWN.**

4. Request to approve payment on the following:
 - (a) \$2,754.66 for Invoice # 900048378 to Mitel from line item 125-600-581610 [Prct. 4 Building].
 - (b) \$100,569.00 for Invoice # 250450 to ICS from line item 125-600-584610 [Prct. 4 Building].
 - (c) \$400.00 for Invoice to Post Oak RC&D Area, Inc. from line item 125-411-562300 [County Organizational Dues].
 - (d) \$136,928.25 for Invoice # 111320GWA to Waller County Appraisal District from line item 125-437-540500 [Tax Appraisal District] as allocated in the ~~2020~~ **2021** Budget.
 - (e) \$1,152.50 for Invoice dated November 11, 2020 to Schmidt Funeral Home from line item 125-423-540705 [Transport].
 - (f) \$5,774.00 for Invoice # 2756 and \$3,337.00 for invoice # 2916 for a total of \$9,111.00 to Harris County from line item 125-423-540702 [Autopsy].
5. Request by County Auditor for approval and/or ratification of Accounts Payable.
6. Request by County Engineer for the acceptance of existing right-of-way on Richard Frey Road dedicated by Mrs. Stasney.

Motion to **approve** consent agenda with item 3 withdrawn and item 4(d) corrected by Commissioner Barnett, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Absent

COUNTY ENGINEER

7. Discuss and take action to approve a variance request to the Waller County Subdivision and Development Regulations regarding an access easement right-of-way that does not meet minimum requirements from Gail Cook.

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

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Absent

TAX ASSESSOR COLLECTOR

8. Discuss and take action to authorize the County Judge to sign two resale deeds for the private tax resale of properties currently held in trust by Waller County pursuant to Section 34.05(h)(2) of the Texas Tax Code.

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

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Absent

SHERIFF

9. ~~Discuss and take action to approve a 2-year renewal to the Jail Physician Agreement for inmate care at the Waller County Sheriff's Office Jail. Item WITHDRAWN.~~

10. Discuss and take action to approve expenditures for registration, hotel, and other related expenses for Sheriff Elect Troy Guidry to attend the New Sheriff Conference from December 6-11, 2020. Funds to be paid from line item 125-516-563000 [Training & Conference Expense].

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

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Absent

TREASURER

11. Discuss and take action to approve continuation of policies and invoices with Texas Association of Counties for Auto Liability, Auto Physical Damage, General Liability, and Workers' Compensation coverages effective January 1, 2021.

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

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Absent

AUDITOR

12. Discuss and take action to approve Library Department line item budget transfer, WC 2020-52.

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

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Absent

13. Discuss and take action to approve Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3 line item budget transfer, WC 2020-53.

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

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Absent

14. Discuss and take action to approve official documents and all monthly reports.

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

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Absent

FIRE MARSHAL

15. Discuss and take action to approve Burn Ban.

Judge Duhon made motion to institute the Burn Ban with the caveat that if we do receive sufficient rain fall to take the index down to a level the Fire Marshal is comfortable then the Fire Marshal between now and our next meeting has the authority to remove the Burn Ban, seconded by Commissioner Amsler.

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Absent

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER

16. Discuss and take action to approve payment of \$1,169,194.29 for Application # 26 to Sedalco, Inc. from line item ~~601-601-581000~~ **602-602-581000**[Bldg. Purch. Const. or Improv.].

Motion to **approve** by Commissioner Smith as amended, seconded by Commissioner Barnett.

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Absent

MISCELLANEOUS

17. Discuss and take action to select a person to approve content for Veterans Memorial Website.

Judge Duhon made motion to have Stan Kitzman as the Primary Contact for approval of content of the Veterans Memorial website with Commissioner Barnett as the alternate, seconded by Commissioner Amsler.

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Absent

18. Discuss and take action to approve agreement with The Beckham Group regarding litigation concerning the high speed rail.

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

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Absent

19. Discuss and take action to amend County policies in relation to COVID-19.
No action taken.

20. Discuss and take action to approve interlocal agreements with school districts for the distribution of CARES Act funds.

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

Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Absent

Returned to Public Comment

Gloria Wilson addressed the Court via teleconference regarding property she wants to purchase in Hockley.

Commissioner Barnett announced today is Chief Zamora's last day with Waller County and thanked him for his years of service.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Court convened to Executive Session at 9:52 a.m.

Court reconvened from Executive Session at 10:35 a.m.

22. 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 Barnett, seconded by Commissioner Amsler.

Motion carried by 4 to 0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

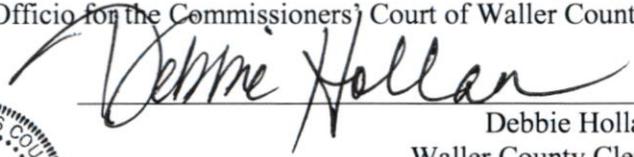
Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Barnett – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Absent

Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 10:36 a.m.

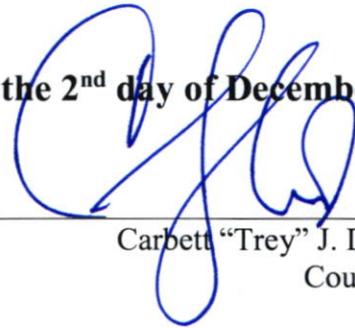
I **ATTEST** that the above proceedings are the true and correct minutes taken in my capacity as Ex-Officio for the Commissioners' Court of Waller County.



Debbie Hollan
Waller County Clerk



APPROVED this the 2nd day of December 2020.



Carbett "Trey" J. Duhon, III
County Judge