

MINUTES
WALLER COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT
REGULAR SESSION
WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 16, 2020

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Honorable Commissioner's Court of Waller County, Texas, met in **REGULAR SESSION** on Wednesday, the 16th day of December 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 9:03 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 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>

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>.

Ricardo Jones was a poll worker for the recent election and addressed his concerns to the court on the lack of training he received.

Jeffrey Scott, resident of Mellman Road commented about the need for road maintenance on Mellman.

Denice Mattox addressed the court with her concerns and issues regarding the recent election.

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 – December 9, 2020 Regular Session
3. Request by County Treasurer for approval of Payroll.
4. Request by County Auditor for approval and/or ratification of Accounts Payable.

5. Request by County Auditor for approval and/or ratification of Accounts Payable for Construction Projects.
 - (a) \$59,077.50 from line item 602-602-581610 [Precinct 4 building].
 - (b) \$7,930.80 from line item 602-602-581000 [Bldg Purch, Const. or Improv/Jail - Judicial].
 - (c) \$76,587.00 from line item 125-600-581610 [Precinct 4 Building].
6. Request by County Tax Assessor Collector to approve refunds in excess of \$500.00 in accordance with section 31.11 Texas Tax Code.
7. Request for approval of Treasurer's Monthly Report.
8. Request by County Engineer to approve a Utility Permit for Communications Construction Inc. (Comcast) to place a fiber cable in the right-of-way of Clapp Rd., Sterling Rd., Stenzel Rd., Wilpitz Rd., Apache Ln., Blackhawk Ln., Creek Rd., and Pontiac Dr.
9. Request by County Engineer to approve the acceptance of existing right-of-way on Peach Ridge and House Rd. dedicated by Arandu Farms, LLC.

Motion to approve consent agenda made 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

Advanced to Sheriff's Agenda Items #15-17

SHERIFF

15. Discuss and take action to approve a donation to the Sheriff's Office from Manuel Zamora in the amount of \$300.00 to be used for Deputy Vasquez's display case.

Motion made 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

16. ~~Discuss and take action to approve Memorandum of Understanding between Waller County Sheriff's Office and Aaron Buzzard, MD. Item WITHDRAWN.~~

17. ~~Discuss and take action to approve Memorandum of Understanding between Waller County Sheriff's Office and Waller County Volunteer EMS, Inc. Item WITHDRAWN.~~

Proceeded with Agenda Item #10

EXTENSION OFFICE

10. **Presentation** by AgriLife and Cooperative Extension Agents on the 2020 results and efforts of the Waller County Office of Texas A & M AgriLife Extension (TAMU) and Cooperative Extension Program (PVAMU).

No action required.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

11. **Presentation** by Vince Yokom on Waller County economic development.
No action required.
12. Discuss and take action to approve annual agreement with the Waller County Economic Development Partnership.
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
13. ~~Discuss and take action to approve letter to the Texas Department of Transportation regarding the Beacon Hill development. Item WITHDRAWN.~~

COUNTY JUDGE

14. Discuss and take action to approve Resolution of Support for the Gulf Coast Emergency Communications Network by Waller County.
Motion made 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

SHERIFF

15. *Court addressed agenda item #15 earlier in the meeting. (page 2)*
16. *Court addressed agenda item #16 earlier in the meeting. (page 2)*
17. *Court addressed agenda item #17 earlier in the meeting. (page 2)*

IT

18. Discuss and take action to approve proposal from Telomack Cabling Solutions for \$4,950.00 for final cabling needed at the Precinct 4 Building. Funds to be paid from line item 125-600-581610 [Precinct 4 Building].
Motion made by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Amsler.
Motion carried by 5-0 vote.
Judge Trey Duhon – Yes Commissioner Amsler – Yes Commissioner Smith – Yes
Commissioner Barnett – Yes Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes
19. Discuss and take action to approve proposal from Telomack Cabling Solutions for \$1,479.00 for final cabling needed for 911/Dispatch. Funds to be paid from line item 602-602-581005 [Misc. Const. Cost / Judicial Center].
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

AUDITOR

20. **Spread** upon the minutes the Certification of the Juvenile Probation Department, TJJD Grant R award of \$11,861.40 and amend the 2020 budget, WC 2020-56.
No action required.

21. **Spread** upon the minutes the Juvenile Probation Department budget line item transfer, WC 2020-57.
No action required.

22. Discuss and take action to approve Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2 budget line item transfer, WC 2020-58.

Motion made 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

23. Discuss and take action to approve County Court at Law Department budget line item transfer, WC 2020-59.

Motion made 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

24. Discuss and take action to approve Environmental Department budget line item transfer, WC 2020-60.

Motion made 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

MAINTENANCE

25. Discuss and take action to approve replacing the Courthouse boiler used for heating the building and discretionary exemption from competitive bidding.

Motion made by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Judge Duhon made motion to amend to accept the boiler replacement quote from Air-Tech Brazos Valley for \$55,945.00, seconded by Commissioner Amsler.

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

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER

26. Discuss and take action to approve payment of \$92,916.16 for Application # 27 to Sedalco, Inc. from line item 601-601-581000 [Bldg. Purch. Const. or Improv.].

Motion made 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

27. Discuss and take action to approve proposal from Crosspoint Communications to relocate Waller County 911/Dispatch Center antennas. Total cost of \$3,049.92 to be paid from line item 602-602-581005 [Misc. Const. Cost / Judicial Center].
 Motion made 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

28. Discuss and take action to select Design-Build firm for the Courthouse renovation and annex project.
 Motion made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.
 Commissioner Smith made motion to amend we are selecting the firm and authorizing to enter into negotiations for the final contract with Sedalco, seconded by Commissioner Barnett.
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

MISCELLANEOUS

29. Discuss and take action to approve setting the Waller County Commissioners Court 2021 Regular Sessions to be held at the Waller County Courthouse, in Hempstead, Texas.
 Motion made by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Barnett.
 Judge Duhon made motion to amend to keep our meetings at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesdays, seconded by Commissioner Amsler.
Motion carried by 5-0 vote.
Judge Trey Duhon – Yes Commissioner Amsler – Yes Commissioner Smith – Yes
Commissioner Barnett – Yes Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

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

31. Discuss and take action to amend agreement with AccessHealth for COVID-19 testing services.
 Commissioner Beckendorff made motion to approve the revised amendment that Liz has put together, 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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

33. Reconvene in Open Session to take any action necessary on matters discussed in Executive Session.
No Executive Session needed.

ADJOURN MEETING

Motion to **adjourn** meeting by Commissioner Amsler, 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 11:42 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 **23rd** day of **December 2020**.

Trey Duhon

Carbett "Trey" J. Duhon, III
County Judge