

**Procedures and References Utilized by
Llano County Judge Mary Cunningham
In Multi-county Budget and Department Survey for
2016 AND 2017 LLANO COUNTY BUDGETS**

Initially, I reviewed the following publications to determine the county populations and numbers of elected officials in each capacity to identify the survey counties. These included up to 61 of the 254 Texas counties which I further refined to 43 counties. These lie within the population range of 13,000 – 25,000 which is +/- 6000 of the Llano County population, 19,444. Besides population, I also included information from geographic and demographic analyses to identify counties most similar to Llano County so that comparisons are more meaningful. Finally, more detailed analysis was conducted on the counties immediately neighboring Llano County.

Texas State Directory, 2015, <https://www.txdirectory.com/>

Texas State Directory, 2016, <https://www.txdirectory.com/>

Once I identified those counties for the survey, I looked at the following references for salary, taxes, staffing numbers, and other financial and/or statistical data.

Texas County Progress, 2016, <http://countyprogress.zacpubs.com/>

Texas Association of Counties, Salary Survey, 2015, <https://www.county.org/about-texas-counties/county-data/Pages/Financial-Data.aspx>

Texas Association of Counties, Salary Survey, 2016, <https://www.county.org/about-texas-counties/county-data/Pages/Financial-Data.aspx>

Texas County Progress, Property Tax Article, and Tax Report, J. Anderson, February, 2016, <http://countyprogress.zacpubs.com/what-you-wish-your-constituents-knew-about-the-property-tax/>

Sheriffs' Association of Texas, <http://www.sheriffstx.org/>

Texas Water Development Board State Water Plan, 2017, <http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/swp/2017/index.asp>

Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Crime Report, 2015, http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/administration/crime_records/pages/crimestatistics.htm

After reviewing the above data and determining what additional data was needed but not available through these resources, I personally reviewed files recorded by the Llano County Clerk's Office, the Llano News, and additional county offices including the following.

Llano County Sheriffs' Office Monthly Activity Reports, 2007-2016 (to present); available through Llano County Clerk or Sheriff's Office

Additionally, to answer questions that I encountered in my reviews of the survey, I had personal conversations and interviews with 44 County Judges and District and County Clerks in like-counties, as well as interviews with active Sheriffs and retired Sheriffs in like-counties.

To further strengthen my findings, I finally reviewed the approved 2015 and 2016 budgets for counties in my survey. Listed below are the approved budgets (primarily 2016) taken from forty-nine (49) county websites which were reviewed and additional information on their expenditures, department personnel costs, staffing, and other county budget issues was gathered. This thorough compilation of well-researched and validated information has shaped the recommendations that I have made in my budget proposals for Llano County.

Andrews County FY 2016 budget,

http://www.co.andrews.tx.us/departments/financial_transparency.php

Aransas County FY 2016 budget, <https://www.aransascountytx.gov/auditor/transfin.php>

Bandera County FY 2016 budget,

<http://www.banderacounty.org/documents/BanderaCountyBudgets.htm>

*Blanco County FY 2016 budget,

http://www.co.blanco.tx.us/default.aspx?Blanco_County/Proposed.Budgets

Bosque County FY 2016 budget, <http://www.bosquecounty.us/financial-transparency/>

Burleson County FY 2016 budget

<http://co.burleson.tx.us/financials/approved-budgets/>

*Burnet County FY 2016 budget,

<http://www.burnetcountytexas.org/default.aspx?name=treas.transparency>

Calhoun County FY 2016 budget, <http://www.calhouncotx.org/budgets.html>

Colorado County FY 2016 budget,

http://www.co.colorado.tx.us/default.aspx?Colorado_County/Budgets

Deaf Smith County FY 2016 budget, http://www.co.deaf-smith.tx.us/default.aspx?Deaf-Smith_County/Budgets

Dewitt County FY 2016 budget,

http://www.co.dewitt.tx.us/default.aspx?Dewitt_County/Budgets

Eastland County FY 2016 budget,

http://www.eastlandcountytexas.com/default.aspx?Eastland_County/Financial.Reports

Falls County FY 2016 budget, http://www.co.falls.tx.us/default.aspx?Falls_County/Budgets

Fayette County FY 2016 budget,

http://www.co.fayette.tx.us/default.aspx?Fayette_County/Budgets

Freestone County FY 2016 budget,

http://www.co.freestone.tx.us/default.aspx?Freestone_County/Budgets

Frio County FY 2016 budget, http://www.co.frio.tx.us/default.aspx?Frio_County/Budgets

Gaines County FY 2016 budget,

http://www.co.gaines.tx.us/default.aspx?Gaines_County/Budgets

Gillespie County FY 2016 budget,

http://www.gillespiecounty.org/default.aspx?name=financial_information

Gonzales County FY 2016 budget,

http://www.co.gonzales.tx.us/default.aspx?Gonzales_County/Budgets

Gray County FY 2012 budget (2016 budget not posted),

http://www.co.gray.tx.us/default.aspx?Gray_County/Financial.Budget

Hockley County FY 2016 budget,

http://www.co.hockley.tx.us/default.aspx?Hockley_County/Budgets

Houston County FY 2016 budget,

http://www.co.houston.tx.us/default.aspx?Houston_County/Budgets

Hutchinson County FY 2016 budget,

http://www.co.hutchinson.tx.us/default.aspx?Hutchinson_County/Budgets

Jackson County FY 2016 budget,

http://www.co.jackson.tx.us/default.aspx?Jackson_County/Budgets

Jones County FY 2016 budget, http://www.co.jones.tx.us/default.aspx?Jones_County/Budgets

Karnes County FY 2016 budget,

http://www.co.karnes.tx.us/default.aspx?Karnes_County/Budgets

Lamb County FY 2016 budget, http://www.co.lamb.tx.us/default.aspx?Lamb_County/Budgets

Lampasas County FY 2016 budget,

http://www.co.lampasas.tx.us/default.aspx?Lampasas_County/Budgets

Lavaca County FY 2016 budget,

http://www.co.lavaca.tx.us/default.aspx?Lavaca_County/Budgets

Lee County FY 2016 budget, http://www.co.lee.tx.us/default.aspx?Lee_County/Budgets

Leon County FY 2016 budget, http://www.co.leon.tx.us/default.aspx?Leon_County/Budgets

Limestone County FY 2016 budget, <http://www.co.limestone.tx.us/>

Llano County FY 2016 budget, http://www.co.llano.tx.us/default.aspx?Llano_County/Budgets

Madison County FY 2016 budget,
http://www.co.madison.tx.us/default.aspx?Madison_County/Budgets

*Mason County FY 2016 budget,
http://www.co.mason.tx.us/default.aspx?Mason_County/Budgets

*McCulloch County FY 2016 budget,
http://www.co.mcculloch.tx.us/default.aspx?McCulloch_County/Budgets

Milam County FY 2016 budget, <http://www.milamcounty.net/budgets.html>

Montague County FY 2016 budget,
http://www.co.montague.tx.us/default.aspx?Montague_County/Budgets

Moore County FY 2016 budget,
https://www.moorecountync.gov/images/departments/administration/budget/2015-2016/FY15_16_Adopted_Budget_Ordinance.pdf

Nolan County FY 2016 budget, http://www.co.nolan.tx.us/default.aspx?Nolan_County/Budgets

Panola County FY 2016 budget,
http://www.co.panola.tx.us/default.aspx?Panola_County/Budgets

Pecos County FY 2016 budget, <http://www.co.pecos.tx.us/category/notices-announcements/county-budgets/>

Reeves County FY 2016 budget, (none posted)

*San Saba County FY 2016 budget, http://www.co.san-saba.tx.us/default.aspx?San-Saba_County/Budgets

Scurry County FY 2016 budget, http://www.co.scurry.tx.us/default.aspx?Scurry_County/Budgets

Tyler County FY 2016 budget, http://www.co.tyler.tx.us/default.aspx?Tyler_County/Budgets

*Uvalde County FY 2016 budget,
http://www.uvaldecounty.com/images/county/commisionerscourt/taxation15_16/2015-2016_budget.pdf

Willacy County FY 2012 budget (2016 budget not posted),
http://www.co.willacy.tx.us/default.aspx?Willacy_County/Public.Notices

Young County FY 2016 budget, http://www.co.young.tx.us/default.aspx?Young_County/Budgets

* Indicates counties not within +/- 6,000 of the population of Llano County