

# **TRAVEL**

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# NAVARRO COUNTY, TEXAS

## POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

### I. TRAVEL POLICIES

County employees, officials or department heads, traveling out-of-county on official county business, will be reimbursed for such travel upon submitting the appropriate travel expense report to the County Auditor. This Travel Policy applies to travel that includes an overnight stay out of county.

The County will reimburse the state per diem rate for meals. The state reimbursement rate is currently \$59 per day. For travel outside of the state of Texas, The County will reimburse the IRS M&IE Rate found on the GSA website, <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/104711>. On the first and last day of travel, the reimbursement will be 75% of the per diem rate, or \$44.25.

The County will reimburse actual expenses incurred for lodging. Original itemized receipts to document lodging expenses must be attached to the appropriate travel expense report in order to receive reimbursement. *Lodging expenses will not be paid without an original itemized receipt.*

The County will reimburse actual other travel expenses only if receipts are submitted with the travel expense report. *Other travel expenses will not be paid without an original itemized receipt.*

The County will reimburse actual expenses on travel by air, bus or train at the lowest possible refundable rates. **All travel by air must be made utilizing the State Travel Management Program (STMP) contract.** The passenger's copy of the original ticket for travel by bus or train must be submitted with the travel expense report.

The county will reimburse for use of a personal auto on the basis of the rate used by the State of Texas, currently \$0.067 per mile, on the shortest route to and from each destination. *Point-to-point mileage must be documented either by an employee's beginning and ending vehicle odometer readings or by googlemaps.com online mapping service using the Navarro County Courthouse as the point of origin and the exact address of the destination as the ending point.* The use of the automobile for which reimbursement is sought must be for the benefit of the citizens of Navarro County and within the assigned duties of the person requesting reimbursement.

The following expenses will not be reimbursed:

- Personal telephone calls;
- Personal internet service;
- Spouse's lodging, meals or conference registration;
- Movies, video games or other similar entertainment;
- Cleaning or laundry;
- Other personal items, i.e. books, magazines, toiletries, etc.

It will be the responsibility of each Department to utilize budgeted travel funds for official County business only. These funds are budgeted for the purpose of allowing officials and employees to attend various association meetings, training seminars, educational seminars and required law enforcement travel relating to prisoners and probationers.

It will be the responsibility of each Official or Department Head to see to the strict enforcement of this policy. By signing the travel expense report, the Official or Department Head is certifying that

## **NAVARRO COUNTY, TEXAS POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL**

the travel for which reimbursement is being sought was properly authorized and the report and accompanying receipts have been examined and are reasonable.

### **I. TRAVEL POLICIES (Cont'd)**

Out-of-county travel expense reimbursement may be requested in two (2) ways:

- In advance – advance registration, hotel reservations or cash travel advance; or
- After travel has occurred.

The guidelines for completing the appropriate report for each type of reimbursement are outlined on the following pages.

