

COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES
110 S. Main St. 2nd Floor, Lockhart, Texas
Regular Meeting July 20, 2015 9:00 a.m.



KEN SCHAWÉ	County Judge	ALFREDO MUÑOZ	Commissioner Pct. 1
CAROL HOLCOMB	County Clerk	EDDIE MOSES	Commissioner Pct. 2
		NETO MADRIGAL	Commissioner Pct. 3
		JOE IVAN ROLAND	Commissioner Pct. 4

Call Meeting to Order. Meeting called to order by Judge Schawe at 9:00 a.m. All members of the Court were present.

2015.07.20.01 Invocation. Lockhart Ministerial Alliance.

Pastor James C. Greene with the First Presbyterian Church opened the meeting with prayer.

2015.07.20.02 Pledge of Allegiance to the Flags. (Texas Pledge: Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible).

Judge Schawe led all present in the pledge to both flags.

2015.07.20.03 Announcements. Items or comments from Court Members or Staff.

Commissioner Muñoz explained that during Commissioners Court on June 22, 2015, the Court discussed the salaries of elected officials. He stated he had recently received a certified letter from Judge Schawe which showed a pay raise for the Caldwell County Sheriff despite the Courts previous discussion that no one would be getting a raise this year. He would like to know where the Court is headed with that matter. **Commissioner Moses** said he had forgotten to thank the Foundation Farm for the use of its trailers during the Watermelon Thump. **Commissioner Roland** expressed his concern for the county's roads. He explained the County is growing by leaps and bounds while its roads are not up to par. He mentioned Unit Road Administrator, Dwight Jeffrey is doing the best he can but we are still needing help.

2015.07.20.04 Citizens' Comments. At this time any person may speak to Commissioners Court if they have filled out a Caldwell County Commissioners Court Participation Form. Comments will be limited to four (4) minutes per person. No action will be taken on these items and no discussion will be had between the speaker(s) and members of the Court. The Court does retain the right to correct factual inaccuracies made by the speakers. (If longer than 30 minutes, then the balance of comments will continue as the last agenda item of the day).

No citizen's comments.

2015.07.20.05 Consent Agenda. (The following consent items may be acted upon in one motion. Any member of the Court may request that an item within the Consent Agenda be pulled for separate discussion and/or action).

A. To accept certificates of attendance for continuing education for Treasurer Lori Rangel for 2015.

Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Moses to approve Consent Agenda item A. All Voting "Aye"

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2015.07.20.06

Special Presentation. CASA – Norma C. Blackwell
Greater San Marcos Partnership – Adriana Cruz

Tricia Schneider, on behalf of CASA addressed the Court explaining that Norma Blackwell was unable to attend and that she would be speaking instead. Tricia Schneider announced that she has been the development director for CASA for twelve years, being an advocate for children within Caldwell County. She then told the Court about her personal experience as a child's advocate. Tricia Schneider thanked the Court for their attention and support of this matter and asked the Court to discuss having CASA added to the Jury donation list. She also mentioned the Texas Government Code 51.961 sections D and E that stated that a fee of up to \$15.00 could be applied to divorce cases in which the County can distribute to non-profit organizations that serve neglected children or victims of domestic violence within Caldwell County. She ended stating that the extra funding for CASA would help them recruit more volunteers who would become the voice of children in Court and find safe and permanent homes for them. Commissioner Madrigal asked to know the difference between children in State Care and children served by CASA. Tricia Schneider replied that if there are not enough CASA volunteers to take a case, a court appointed attorney will be taking the case instead. Commissioner Madrigal thanked the members of CASA for guiding children.

Representing the Greater San Marcos Partnership, Adriana Cruz as well as Vice President of Economic Development, Mike Kamerlander was in attendance. Referred to as the Regional Economic Development Organization, the Greater San Marcos Partnership of Hays and Caldwell County is an organization that strengthens the community by creating opportunities to elevate the standard of living and create personal wealth for all citizens. She added that the goal is to develop economic diversity that will sustain the local economy throughout business cycles. She stated effective economic developments as well as whom within the region uses economic development. She explained her background experience as well as announcing this year's budget of 1.1 million dollars with 104 investors. She expressed her concern about the increased poverty level and their solution of having workforce programs available for citizens to achieve better paying jobs. Adriana Cruz then went over a few new announcements with the Court as well as current events. She ended with announcing their goals and that they are currently strategizing for the upcoming 5 year plan which is set to begin in 2016. Commissioner Moses said to Adriana Cruz that he would like to show her buildings available in Luling. Commissioner Madrigal expressed his gratitude for this partnership. Commissioner Muñoz explained he attends many of the Greater San Marcos Partnership meetings and expressed how he is a big advocate for them. Commissioner Roland also commended the partnership.

(ALL OTHER AGENDA ITEMS)

2015.07.20.07

Discussion/Action regarding the burn ban for Caldwell County. **Cost: None.**
Speakers: Judge Schawe/Martin Ritchey. Backup 0.

Martin Richey explained to the Court that there was an increase in fire activity this past week. He recommended continuing to watch weather conditions instead of putting the burn ban in effect. He also reminded the public about burning safely.

Motion made by Commissioner Roland, second by Commissioner Madrigal to leave the burn ban off. All voting "Aye"

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- 2015.07.20.08** **Discussion/Action** to consider adding C.A.S.A. as a donation entity on the Voluntary Donation of Jury Reimbursement forms of the County and District Courts. **Cost: None. Speaker: Judge Schawe. Backup 1.**
- Motion made by Commissioner Madrigal, second by Commissioner Muñoz to add C.A.S.A. as a donation entity on the Voluntary Donation of Jury Reimbursement forms of the County and District Courts. All voting "Aye"
- 2015.07.20.09** **Discussion/Action** to approve Resolution No. 07-2015 in order to change the official authorized as the County's grantee for the Non-Residential Services Grant from the former County Judge to Judge Schawe, as per a request received by the Juvenile Probation Department. **Cost: None. Speaker: Judge Schawe. Backup: 1.**
- Motion made by Commissioner Madrigal, second by Commissioner Roland to approve Resolution No. 07-2015 in order to change the official authorized as the County's grantee for the Non-Residential Services Grant from the former County Judge to Judge Schawe, as per a request received by the Juvenile Probation Department. All voting "Aye"
- 2015.07.20.10** **Discussion/Action** to donate to the Children's Care-A-Van for the benefit of Caldwell County children. **Cost: \$1,500.00 Speaker: Judge Schawe. Backup 1.**
- Commissioner Moses expressed his support for the Children's Care-A-Van and stated there is enough in the budget to donate to Carts as well. Commissioner Roland agreed it was a good idea.
- Motion made by Commissioner Moses, second by Commissioner Muñoz to donate to the Children's Care-A-Van for the benefit of Caldwell County children. All voting "Aye"
- 2015.07.20.11** **Discussion/Action** to consider donating to the Friends of the Museum for the purchase of the Canterbury Street Clock. **Cost: \$1,000.00. Speaker: Judge Schawe/Gene Galbraith. Backup 1.**
- Judge Schawe told the Court that Gene Galbraith was unable to attend Court but did receive an email with questions that are still unanswered and a new twist that he would like to present to the Court. Judge Schawe recommended tabling the item until next meeting. Commissioner Muñoz agreed with tabling the item and mentioned that the Caldwell County Historic Commission has voted against the purchase of the Canterbury Street Clock. He stated he had more questions in regards to this matter.
- Motion made by Judge Schawe, second by Commissioner Muñoz to table this item until next meeting. All voting "Aye"

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2015.07.20.12

Discussion/Action to consider sending out a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for transportation planning and management services and to create an evaluation committee for the RFQ. **Cost: None. Speaker: Commissioner Munoz. Backup 0.**

Commissioner Muñoz stated this is the position that Michael Aulick has been helping with. He expressed how this position is very important especially now with the paving of roads and the two studies of 150 and Yarrington. This position is not currently filled but if hired, this position is completely reimbursable by the SH-130 Fund. He mentioned that Hays County currently has Michael Aulick as their part time consultant. Civil Attorney, Jordan Powell requested that the committee be formed right now. Commissioner Madrigal stated he would like to join the committee. Judge Schawe asked if the County needed to hire someone for this position. Commissioner Madrigal suggested the committee will discuss the matter and bring it back to Court. Commissioner Muñoz expressed how great it will be to have the County review plans as well as look over and review bills.

Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Madrigal to set up a committee to review RFQ consisting of Commissioner Madrigal, Commissioner Muñoz and Civil Attorney, Jordan Powell. All voting "Aye"

2015.07.20.13

Executive Session pursuant to Sections 551.071 and 551.087 of the Texas Government Code: Consultation with counsel and deliberation regarding economic development negotiations associated with Project Everest. Possible action may follow in open court. **Speaker: Commissioner Munoz.**

Executive Session beginning at 10:13 a.m.

Persons present in the executive session were: Commissioner Muñoz, Commissioner Moses, Commissioner Madrigal, Commissioner Roland, Judge Schawe, District Attorney Fred Weber and Civil Attorney, Jordan Powell.

Executive Session ended at 11:03 a.m.
Judge Schawe announces back in session at 11:05 a.m.
No action was taken in closed court.

Motion made by Commissioner Madrigal, second by Commissioner Muñoz to authorize the County Judge to offer an incentive to Project Everest as discussed in Executive Session. All voting "Aye"

2015.07.20.14

Adjournment. Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Moses to adjourn. All voting "Aye" Meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

I, CAROL HOLCOMB, COUNTY CLERK AND EXOFFICIO CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT, do hereby certify that the foregoing contains a true and accurate record of the proceedings had by the Caldwell County Commissioners' Court on July 20, 2015.



Carol Holcomb

CAROL HOLCOMB, COUNTY CLERK AND EXOFFICIO
CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF
CALDWELL COUNTY, TEXAS