

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF GAINES  
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THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF GAINES COUNTY MET IN A REGULAR MEETING ON JANUARY 14, 2026 AT 9:00 A.M. THE COUNTY JUDGE CINDY THERWHANGER PRESIDING AND THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE COURT IN ATTENDANCE.

BRIAN ROSSEN	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #1
JOSH ELDER	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #2
DAVID MURPHREE	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #3
BIZ HOUSTON	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #4

<u>TERRI BERRY</u>	<u>COUNTY CLERK</u>
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**Regular Meeting:**

**Call to Order** - Judge Cindy Therwhanger

**Invocation**

**Pledge** - United States and Texas

1. Public Comment: Anyone wishing to address the Court during Public Comments is required to register your name on the registry prior to the meeting. Speakers may only address items listed on the current agenda and are limited to three (3) minutes speaking time. The Court cannot deliberate or act on matters not listed on the agenda.

None

2. To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action on routine administrative items:

a. Payroll payables

b. Accounts payable, fund transfers and budget amendments

c. Minutes from last month's meetings:

i. December 3, 2025, December 17, 2025 and December 31, 2025

d. Transfer, sale or destruction of Gaines County Surplus property under Local Government Code §263.152:

i. Salvage

1. Judge's office - Assistant's desk

e. Contract Renewals:

i. Motorola Solutions - Sheriff's Department

1. \$1,793.90

f. Fire Department Update

i. December 2025

ii. 2025 End of Year

Commissioner Houston made a motion to approve the routine administrative items, declaring #1558 Judge's assistant's desk as salvage, renew Motorola Solutions contract for the sheriff's office (1,793.90 and review updates from the fire department for 2025 year end. Commissioner Murphree seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

3. Presentation from the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas on potential carbon capture projects.

Rob Castillo, SIP Manager presented a PowerPoint and handouts from the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commissioner of Texas regarding Class VI program on carbon capture program.

4. Discuss request from Seminole EMS for Rural Ambulance Service Grant.  
Carly French, EMS Director, presented financial and statistic recaps for the year 2025 and discussed HB 3000 Grant.
5. Discuss request from Northeast ESD for Rural Ambulance Service Grant.  
Jeff Coats with Seagraves EMS Director presented a letter stating he was electing to not apply for the Grant this year and allow the grant application to be completed by the Seminole EMS
6. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on a quote from Motorola to improve the 911 Dispatcher GIS maps. Total cost: \$866.25  
Commissioner Elder made a motion to approve a quote from Motorola Solution in the amount of \$866.25 to improve the 911 Dispatcher GIS maps. Commissioner Houston seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)
7. To consider, discuss and take any necessary on authorizing the issuance of a credit card to Liz Vasquez, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer.  
Commissioner Houston made a motion to approve issuing a county credit card to Liz Vasquez, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer. Commissioner Elder seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)
8. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on a resolution supporting legislation to exempt Texas counties from the state hotel occupancy tax.  
Commissioner Murphree made a motion to approve a Resolution supporting legislation to exempt Texas counties from the state hotel occupancy tax. Commissioner Elder seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)
9. Review Senior Citizens Donations as submitted by County Treasurer Michael Lord, Jr.  
Michael Lord, Jr, Treasurer presented financial statistics for the Senior Citizens Donations. No action taken.
10. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on a request to honor Meals on Wheels volunteers with an appreciation dinner on February 23,2026.  
Commissioner Murphree made a motion to approve the use of the Community Center to honor Meals on Wheels volunteers with an appreciation dinner on February 23, 2026. Commissioner Elder seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously
11. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on increasing mileage reimbursement rate to 72.5 cents per mile to meet IRS standard mileage rates.  
Commissioner Elder made a motion to approve an increase in the mileage reimbursement rate to 72.5 cents per mile to meet the IRS standard mileage rates. Commissioner Houston seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)
12. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on a request from the South Plains Public Health Department to use maintenance staff to replace flooring and paint at the Seagraves clinic site.  
Commissioner Elder made a motion to approve a request from the South Plains Public Health Department to use the maintenance staff to replace flooring and paint at the Seagraves clinic site at no cost to the county. Commissioner Houston seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
13. Review of the year-end auditor's report from the Northeast Gaines County Emergency Services District.  
With no one in attendance from the Northeast Gaines County ESD present Judge Therwhanger briefly reviewed the year-end auditor's report as presented. Commissioner Elder stated he requested an overall review of expenses at budget time.
14. Discuss requested updates to the Gaines County Subdivision Policy.  
Commissioner Murphree stated there is now an issue with receptacles approved by the postal service and the subdivision owners. This will be placed on the agenda to

add to the Subdivision policy the following: any person presenting a new subdivision application will be required to have a letter from the Post Master stating the issue with receptacles has been addressed and resolved.

15. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on subdivision application(s), take note of known subdivision exceptions, consider any requests for subdivision variances.

None

16. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on road crossing request(s).

None

17. Discuss any other items pertaining to County Business; for information purposes only, no action may be taken on these items except to schedule them for a future agenda.

Judge Therwhanger

Stock Show is the week of January 12<sup>th</sup>

Tom Sell, Candidate for US Congressional District 19 to be in Commissioner Courtroom Friday January 16, 1:30-2:30

The Courthouse is closed Monday January 19<sup>th</sup> for Martin Luther King Jr Day

Lion's Club Annual Pancake Supper-Tuesday January 20<sup>th</sup>

TxDot speed study-speed reduction signs will be put up in different areas slowing speed by 10 miles an hour, there is also a traffic light study being done

The interviews for a Service Officer are being conducted today.

The concrete by the outside boxes at the Post Office will be redone mid February.

Commissioner Elder

Preparing for the Stock Show this week and he thanked all precincts for allowing employees to assist with the stock show.

Commissioner Murphree

Grinding caliche

Commissioner Houston

Routine maintenance

Auditor

Esmeralda Felan stated she spoke with FundView yesterday and they stated they are mostly balanced and only have 4 left to balance.

18. Adjourn

Commissioner Elder made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. Commissioner Murphree seconded them motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50a.m.

I, Terri Berry, Gaines County Clerk, attest that the foregoing is a true and accurate accounting of the Commissioners Court's authorized proceedings for January 14, 2026.



*Terri Berry*  
Terri Berry, County Clerk  
Clerk of Commissioner's Court  
Gaines County, Texas



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THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF GAINES COUNTY MET IN A REGULAR MEETING ON JANUARY 28, 2026 AT 9:00 A.M. THE COUNTY JUDGE CINDY THERWHANGER PRESIDING AND THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE COURT IN ATTENDANCE.

BRIAN ROSSEN  
JOSH ELDER  
DAVID MURPHREE  
BIZ HOUSTON

COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #1  
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #2  
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #3  
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #4

TERRI BERRY

COUNTY CLERK

**Regular Meeting:**

**Call to Order** - Judge Cindy Therwhanger

**Invocation**

**Pledge** - United States and Texas

1. Public Comment: Anyone wishing to address the Court during Public Comments is required to register your name on the registry prior to the meeting. Speakers may only address items listed on the current agenda and are limited to three (3) minutes speaking time. The Court cannot deliberate or act on matters not listed on the agenda.

None

2. To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action on routine administrative items:

- a. Officer's report reporting all fines imposed and collected for the month of December 2025 pursuant to Local Government Code §114.004 and Texas Government Code §51.042.
- b. Payroll payables
- c. Accounts payable, fund transfers and budget amendments
- d. Transfer, sale or destruction of Gaines County Surplus property under Local Government Code §263.152:
  - i. Surplus:
    1. Pct 2
      - a. 2006 Volvo Dump Truck
      - b. 2006 Mack Dump Truck
      - c. 2009 Freightliner w/ Durapatcher
      - d. 2007 Chevy ¾ ton Pickup
      - e. Rotary Lift
    - ii. Salvage
      1. IT Dept. - Broken Computer Parts
      2. County Attorney - Acme Visible Strip Index
  - e. Contract Renewals:
    - i. Real Vision Software (RVI) - \$4,000

Commissioner Murphree made a motion to approve the routine administrative items, Precinct 2 surplus items for Gov Deals-2006 Volvo Dump Truck, 2006 Mack Dump Truck, 2009 Freightliner w/Durapatcher, 2007 Chevy ¾ ton pickup, Rotary lift, Salvage from IT-broken computer parts, County Attorney-acme visible strip index and IT Department- renewal contract with Real Vision Software in the amount of

\$4,000.00. Commissioner Rosson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

3. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action a request by Heritage Farmer's Market for use of the Courthouse parking lot.

Commissioner Houston made a motion to approve Heritage Farmer's Market to use the Courthouse parking lot on June 20<sup>th</sup>, July 28<sup>th</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup> and will be put on the agenda for discussion and to approve future dates. Commissioner Murphree seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

4. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on a request from the Chamber of Commerce Director Shawntay Pettyjohn for Freedom Fest plans.

Commissioner Elder made a motion to approve a \$20,000.00 donation to the Chamber of Commerce for the fireworks for the Freedom Fest which will be held June 27<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Murphree seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on a request for golf tournaments from Mitch Shain, Golf Pro.

Commissioner Houston made a motion to approve the golf tournament requests as presented by Mitch Shain, Golf Pro. Commissioner Elder seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

6. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on a request for changes to the cart rates at Gaines County Golf Course.

Commissioner Elder made a motion to increase cart rates at the Gaines County Golf Course to \$23.00 (18 holes) and \$11.50 (11 holes) as presented by Mitch Shain, Golf Pro. Commissioner Rosson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

7. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on announcement for the "I Voted" sticker contest winner.

Kayla Pipkin, Election Administrator presented the winners of the "I Voted" sticker contest as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> place-Mattie Hice, 2<sup>nd</sup> place-Kynze Leblanc, 3<sup>rd</sup> place-Khainesly Cottrell. No action taken

8. Discuss the donation of land to the Seminole Fire Department for the purpose of a historical museum for equipment.

Guy Guffey asked Commissioner's Court to donate the land behind the museum to build a structure that would house historical equipment or other historical items from the EMS, Fire department etc. from Seagraves, Loop and Seminole. They will be looking for donations and stated they would be requesting assistance from the county also. Commissioner Houston made a motion to approve donating the land behind the museum to the Seminole Fire Department. Commissioner Rosson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

9. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on entering into a contract with Everbridge to provide emergency notifications to Gaines County.

Commissioner Elder made a motion to authorize Robert Barrett, Emergency Management Director, to continue entering into a contract with Everbridge to provide emergency notifications to Gaines County. Commissioner Murphree seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

10. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on authorizing Gaines County Judge to apply for the Rural Ambulance Service Grant.

Commissioner Houston made a motion to authorize Judge Therwhanger to apply for the Rural Ambulance Service Grant. Commissioner Rosson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

11. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on a request from the Technology Department for a Change Order for Gaines County Firewall Migration. Total estimate \$12,105.00

Commissioner Murphree made a motion to approve a change order from IT Department for Gaines County Firewall Migration at an estimated cost of \$12,105.00.

Commissioner Rosson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

12. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on a request from Precinct 1 for a warranty deed for a 5 acre tract of land in Seagraves to Alan Freeman.

Commissioner Houston made a motion to approve a Warranty Deed for the sell of a 5 acre tract of land in Seagraves from Gaines County to Alan Freeman in the amount of \$9,123.60. Commissioner Elder seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

13. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on Resolution 26-002 in support of legislation to improve county road infrastructure and safety.

Commissioner Elder made a motion to approve a Resolution 26-002 in support of legislation to improve county road infrastructure and safety. Commissioner Rosson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

14. In accordance with Texas Property Code 6.231, Tax Assessor-Collector Tarran DeLeon has met all education requirements for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

Judge Therwhanger stated Tarran DeLeon, Tax Assessor Collector, has met all education requirements for the period of January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025. No action taken

15. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on approving subdivision application(s), take note of known subdivision exceptions, consider any requests for subdivision variances.

None

16. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on road crossing request(s).

None

17. Discuss any other items pertaining to County Business; for information purposes only, no action may be taken on these items except to schedule them for a future agenda.

Judge Therwhanger

Update on Seagraves Tower-still in the works and awaiting an FCC license

Eminent Domain report due February 1<sup>st</sup>-completed

Sandyland conference February 4<sup>th</sup>

Candidate meet & greet:

January 30<sup>th</sup>-Jason Corley US congressional district 19

February 4<sup>th</sup> -Hawk Dunlap Railroad Commission

Emergency Operations-weather

Next regular meeting is February 11<sup>th</sup> the deadline for agenda items is February 4th

Commissioner Rosson

Routine maintenance and clearing sidewalks

Commissioner Elder

Routine maintenance

Commissioner Murphree

Routine maintenance

He questioned if the county should be on schools schedule regarding closing or late starts in bad weather as there was confusion the past week regarding these issues.

He stated a car hit the light pole at the cemetery walking path/road and that the individual as insurance and this claim will be filed as soon as possible.

Commissioner Houston

Routine maintenance

He stated the rodeo association, Dennis Knelsen had discussed with him the need to improve the rodeo area with installing a cover over on side of the stands. They received an engineering quote from Fehr's at \$40,000.00 for materials. The rodeo association stated they would put the stand up and do the labor. This item will be placed on the agenda for further discussion.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to Texas Government Code, Chapter 551. May be acted upon, if appropriate, in open session:

- a. Texas Government Code § 551.129(2): Consultation with Attorney
- b. Texas Government Code 551.074: Personnel Matters
- c. Texas Government Code 551.072: Deliberations about Real Property

Executive session closed at 10:55a.m.

Executive session opened at 12:32p.m.

No action taken

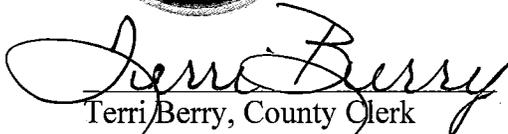
19. Adjourn

Commissioner Elder made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. Commissioner Rosson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:33a.m.

I, Terri Berry, Gaines County Clerk, attest that the foregoing is a true and accurate accounting of the Commissioners Court's authorized proceedings for January 28, 2026.



  
Terri Berry, County Clerk  
Clerk of Commissioner's Court  
Gaines County, Texas

