

MINUTES
MATAGORDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT MEETING
MATAGORDA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM 300
1700 SEVENTH STREET, BAY CITY, TEXAS 77414
9:30 A.M., MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 2015

Call to Order

This **Special Session** of the Matagorda County Commissioners' Court was called to order at 9:30 A.M., Monday the 31st day of August 2015 in the Matagorda County Commissioner's Courtroom, located on the Third Floor, 1700 Seventh Street, Room 300, Bay City, Texas, with County Judge McDonald presiding.

Others present were as follows: Sheriff Osborne, Cathy Ezell, Ruben Gonzales, Doug Matthes, Chris Peikert, Cristyn Hallmark, Tammy McDonald, Jamie Bludau, Brandon Cox, Denise Fortenberry, Joe A. Lozano, John C. Dickerson, III, Diana Mathis, Joe M. Crane Haskel Simon, Allen Gragort, Thomas Swist, Jr., Loy Sneary, J. Scott Arbuckle, Brent Batchelor, Paul Sliva, Tony Pustejovsky, Marcus Michna, Jeannette Bell, Suzan Thompson, Mike Reddell, D C Dunham, Mitch Thames, Carol Wootton, Eva Peterson, Sheryl Vasek, Tami Savage, Ollie Matthews, Dennis Bergland, Billy Mann, Harriet Townsend and Janet Hickl

1. Certification of quorum

County Judge McDonald certified a quorum in attendance with Commissioner Pustka, Commissioner Pollard, Commissioner Gibson and Commissioner Frick.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Frick

3. Texas Pledge – Commissioner Frick

4. Prayer – Commissioner Pollard

5. Consideration and possible action regarding contracts for the use of the Matagorda County Fairground facilities

This being the next item for business, no action required

6. Consideration and possible action to approve an Application to Cross County Road by AT&T to lay a fiber optic cable under and/or along Wightman Road, boring additional streets of Catalpa, Caney, and Cypress, in Precinct #2, Matagorda County, Texas

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Pollard and seconded by Commissioner Gibson, with all others concurring, to approve an Application to Cross County Road by AT&T to lay a fiber optic cable under and/or along Wightman Road, boring additional streets of Catalpa, Caney, and Cypress, in Precinct #2, Matagorda County, Texas. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

8. Consideration and possible action to approve the 2016 Holidays for all Matagorda County Employees

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Pustka and seconded by Commissioner Frick, with all others concurring, to approve the 2016 Holidays for all Matagorda County Employees. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

9. Consideration and possible action to approve a refund payment to Matagorda County Drainage District #1 in the amount of \$12,530.00 for overpayment of health insurance premiums from the Matagorda County Group Health Insurance Fund

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Pustka and seconded by Commissioner Frick, with all others concurring, except County Judge McDonald, excusing himself from participating in any discussion and upholding the County's nepotism policy, being related to the office holder in the 1st degree of consanguinity, to approve a refund payment to Matagorda County Drainage District #1 in the amount of \$12,530.00 for overpayment of health insurance premiums from the Matagorda County Group Health Insurance Fund. Motion carried. Vote 4 ayes 0 nays 1 abstain

10. Consideration and possible action to approve a re-plat of a 0.6887 Acre Tract being all that certain Allen & Nancy Gragert called 0.55 & 0.14 Acre Tract as recorded in Clerk's File No. 2015-1438, Matagorda County Official Records in the William Baxter League, Abstract 4, Matagorda County, Texas

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Frick and seconded by Commissioner Pollard, with all others concurring, to approve a re-plat of a 0.6887 Acre Tract being all that certain Allen & Nancy Gragert called 0.55 & 0.14 Acre Tract as recorded in Clerk's File No. 2015-1438, Matagorda County Official Records in the William Baxter League, Abstract 4, Matagorda County, Texas. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

11. Consideration and possible action to approve the Quarterly Employee Certification Report from Tenaris SA, for the Texas Capital Fund Infrastructure Project Grant #713082

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by County Judge McDonald and seconded by Commissioner Frick, with all others concurring, to approve the Quarterly Employee Certification Report from Tenaris SA, for the Texas Capital Fund Infrastructure Project Grant #713082. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

12. Consideration and possible action to ratify an ASAP Officials Authorization Form for Matagorda County from the Department of the Treasury, changing the Point of Contact to Cathy Ezell

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Pollard, and seconded by Commissioner Gibson, with all others concurring, to ratify an ASAP Officials Authorization Form for Matagorda County from the Department of the Treasury, changing the Point of Contact to Cathy Ezell. Motion Carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

13. Consideration and possible action to approve a Proclamation declaring September 5, 2015 as a Day of Celebration for the Ellis and Swist Family

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by County Judge McDonald and seconded by Commissioner Pustka, with all others concurring, to approve a Proclamation declaring September 5, 2015 as a Day of Celebration for the Ellis and Swist Family. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

14. Consideration and possible action to approve the US Army Corps of Engineers Permit Application/paperwork and the Texas General Land Office Lease Application for the Sarent Beach Pier, Matagorda County Gulf Pier and Education Program, Contract F13AF00061, and authorize the County Judge to sign

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Pollard and seconded by Commissioner Pustka, with all others concurring, to approve the US Army Corps of Engineers Permit Application/paperwork and the Texas General Land Office Lease Application for the Sarent Beach Pier, Matagorda County Gulf Pier and Education Program, Contract F13AF00061, and authorize the County Judge to sign. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

15. Consideration and possible action to update Commissioners Court on the fact that the savings from bidding out the long-term disability was \$8,474.84

This being the next item for business, no action required.

16. Consideration and possible action to authorize Matagorda County employees to participate in a Walking Challenge beginning September 21, 2015 and ending October 23, 2015, which is a wellness event provided by the Matagorda Regional Medical Center's Wellness Works

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by County Judge McDonald, and seconded by Commissioner Gibson, with all others concurring, to authorize Matagorda County employees to participate in a Walking Challenge beginning September 21, 2015 and ending October 23, 2015, which is a wellness event provided by the Matagorda Regional Medical Center's Wellness Works. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

17. Consideration and possible action to adopt the 2015 Proposed Maintenance and Operation tax rate of .38888, for a total tax rate of .39568

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Pustka, and seconded by Commissioner Pollard, with all others concurring, to adopt the 2015 Proposed Maintenance and Operation tax rate of .38888, for a total tax rate of .39568. Motion carried.

Record vote:

County Judge	Aye
Commissioner Pct. 1	Aye
Commissioner Pct. 2	Aye
Commissioner Pct. 3	Aye
Commissioner Pct. 4	Aye

18. Consideration and possible action to adopt the 2015 Proposed Interest and Sinking tax rate of .00680, for a total tax rate of .39568

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Pustka, and seconded by Commissioner Frick, with all others concurring, to adopt the 2015 Proposed Interest and Sinking tax rate of .00680, for a total tax rate of .39568. Motion carried.

Record vote:

County Judge	Aye
Commissioner Pct. 1	Aye
Commissioner Pct. 2	Aye
Commissioner Pct. 3	Aye
Commissioner Pct. 4	Aye

19. Consideration and possible action to adopt the 2015 Property Tax Rate of .39568

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Frick, and seconded by Commissioner Gibson, with all others concurring, to adopt the 2015 Property Tax Rate of .39568 which is effectively an 8.41 percent increase in the tax rate. This tax rate will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's tax rate. The tax rate will effectively be raised by 8.41 percent and will raise taxes for maintenance and operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$35.04

Motion carried.

Record vote:

County Judge	Aye
Commissioner Pct. 1	Aye
Commissioner Pct. 2	Aye
Commissioner Pct. 3	Aye
Commissioner Pct. 4	Aye

20. Consideration and possible action to ratify the 2015 Property Tax increase reflected in the 2016 Matagorda County Budget, with the total tax rate being .39568

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Pustka, and seconded by Commissioner Frick, with all others concurring, to ratify the 2015 Property Tax increase reflected in the 2016 Matagorda County Budget, with the total tax rate being .39568. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

21. Consideration and possible action to approve the Matagorda County Treasurer's Monthly Report for July 2015

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Gibson, and seconded by Commissioner Pollard, with all others concurring, to table approving the Matagorda County Treasurer's Monthly Report for July 2015. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

22. Consideration and possible action to approve Payment of Bills

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Pustka, and seconded by Commissioner Gibson, with all others concurring, to approve Payment of Bills. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

23. Consideration and possible action to approve Line Item Transfers

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Pustka, and seconded by Commissioner Frick, with all others concurring, to approve Line Item Transfers. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

24. Public Comments

This being the next item for business, no action required.

25. Adjournment

Motion was duly made at approximately 10:21 a.m. by Commissioner Pustka and seconded by Commissioner Frick, with all others concurring, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

Approved in Open Court, this the 14th day of September, 2015.

absent
NATE McDONALD,
County Judge

Daniel Pustka
DANIEL PUSTKA,
Commissioner Precinct No. One

Kent Pollard
KENT POLLARD, Judge Pro Tem
Commissioner Precinct No. Two

James Gibson
JAMES GIBSON,
Commissioner Precinct No. Three

Charles R. Frick
CHARLES "BUBBA" FRICK
Commissioner Precinct No. Four



ATTEST: Janet Hickl
Janet Hickl, County Clerk