

STATE OF TEXAS

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COUNTY OF COLORADO

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ORDER CALLING AN ELECTION TO CONFIRM THE CREATION OF COLORADO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1, AND AUTHORIZE THE IMPOSITION OF A TAX NOT TO EXCEED THE RATE ALLOWED BY SECTION 48-E, ARTICLE III. TEXAS CONSTITUTION

In Colorado County Commissioners Court:

WHEREAS, the Colorado County Commissioners Court received a Petition for a county-wide Emergency Services District Requesting to Create Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1 (the "Petition"); and

WHEREAS, the Colorado County Commissioners Court accepted the Petition at its meeting on November 12, 2024 and set a public hearing and executed a Resolution regarding same; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado County Commissioners Court conducted a public hearing on January 13, 2025, which hearing was adjourned and continued on January 27, 2025 to consider approving of the Petition for Creation of an Emergency Services District to be designated as Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1 and calling an election on the proposition of the creation of Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado County Commissioners Court has made the requisite findings to approve the Petition as authorized by Texas Health and Safety Code Sec. 775.017, including finding that creation of the district is feasible and will promote the public safety, welfare, health, and convenience of persons residing in the proposed district, entered a Resolution to approve the Petition and to fix the proposed district's boundaries as a county-wide emergency services district, and made a determination that the district would still meet the requirements prescribed by Sec. 775.017(a) if either separately or collectively - the municipal limits and/or extraterritorial jurisdictions of the City of Columbus, TX, the City of Weimar, TX, and the City of Eagle Lake, TX were excluded from the district,

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

An election shall be held to confirm the creation of Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1 as a county-wide district (See Exhibit "A"), and to authorize the imposition of a tax not to exceed \$.10/\$100, as authorized by Section 48-e, Article III, Texas Constitution, and Texas Health and Safety Code Sec. 775.018;

The election shall be on the 3rd day of May, 2025, which date is the next available uniform election date under Chapter 41, Texas Election Code;

The creation of the district at the election shall be by majority vote of all the voters casting ballots; provided, however:

- (a) the district shall not include territory in the City of Columbus corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction unless a majority of the voters residing in the City of Columbus corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction who vote at the election vote in favor of creating the district;
- (b) the district shall not include territory in the City of Weimar corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction unless a majority of the voters residing in the City of Weimar corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction who vote at the election vote in favor of creating the district;
- (c) the district shall not include territory in the City of Eagle Lake corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction unless a majority of the voters residing in the City of Eagle Lake corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction who vote at the election vote in favor of creating the district.
- B. <u>Election Proposition</u>: At the election, the below proposition shall be submitted to the qualified voters who reside in the proposed District:

PROPOSITION

PROPOSICIÓN

CONFIRMATION OF THE CREATION OF COLORADO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1 AND THE LEVY BY SAID DISTRICT OF A TAX NOT TO EXCEED TEN CENTS (\$.10) ON THE ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR (\$100.00) VALUATION.

CONFIRMACIÓN DE LA CREACIÓN DEL DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA NUM. 1 DE CONDADO DE COLORADO Y LA IMPOSICIÓN POR EL DISTRITO DE UN IMPUESTO QUE NO EXCEDERD DIEZ CENTAVOS (\$.10) POR CADA VALUACIÓN DE CIEN DOLARES (\$100.00).

The ballot of the election shall conform to the requirements of the Texas Election Code, as amended, and shall have printed thereon the following:

OFFICIAL BALLOT BALOTA OFICIAL

FOR

Confirmation of the creation of Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1 and the levy by said district of a tax not to exceed ten cents (S.10) on the one hundred dollar (\$100.00) valuation.

AGAINST

A FAVOR

Confirmación de la creación del Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Num. 1 de Condado de Colorado y la imposición por el distrito de un impuesto que no excederd diez centavos (\$.10) por cada valuación de cien dolares (\$100.00).

EN CONTRA

- 1. The ballots for the election shall provide for voting "for" or "against" the proposition. A vote "for" shall mean a vote in favor of the proposition, and a vote "against" shall mean a vote opposing the proposition.
- 2. A majority of the total votes cast "for" or "against" the proposition creating Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1 shall determine if Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1 is approved.
- (i) Provided, however, if so approved, the proposed Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1 shall not include the territory in the City of Columbus corporate and municipal limits and City of Columbus extraterritorial jurisdiction unless a majority of the voters residing in the City of Columbus corporate and municipal limits and the City of Columbus extraterritorial jurisdiction who vote at the election vote in favor of creating Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1.
- (ii) Provided, however, if so approved, the proposed Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1 shall not include the territory in the City of Weimar corporate and municipal limits and City of Weimar extraterritorial jurisdiction unless a majority of the voters residing in the City of Weimar corporate and municipal limits and the City of Weimar extraterritorial jurisdiction who vote at the election vote in favor of creating Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1.
- (iii) Provided, however, if so approved, the proposed Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1 shall not include the territory in the City of Eagle Lake corporate and municipal limits and City of Eagle Lake extraterritorial jurisdiction unless a majority of the voters residing in the City of Eagle Lake corporate and municipal limits and the City

of Eagle Lake extraterritorial jurisdiction who vote at the election vote in favor of creating Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1.

B. Election Procedures:

- 1. The election on the proposition to create Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1 shall be held in the area of the boundaries of the proposed Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1 on the 3rd day of May, 2025, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., as part of a joint election with Colorado County and other entities.
- The election shall be conducted such that the voters in the area of the boundaries of the proposed Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1 shall vote on the proposition as a whole to determine the passage of the proposition, provided, however, that (i) the ballots voted by the voters in the City of Columbus corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction shall be counted, tabulated and reported separately; (ii) the ballots voted by the voters in the City of Weimar corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction shall be counted, tabulated and reported separately; and (iii) the ballots voted by the voters in the City of Eagle Lake corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction shall be counted, tabulated and reported separately:
- 3. The creation of the proposed Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1 shall be determined as follows:
- (a) the creation of Colorado County Emergency Services District No. 1 shall require a majority vote at the election in favor of the proposition, counted, tabulated and reported as a whole:
- (b) if a majority of the votes cast at the election as a whole are in favor of the proposition, then inclusion of the City of Columbus corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction shall require approval of the proposition by the voters of the City of Columbus corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction, which votes shall be counted, tabulated and reported separately;
- (c) if a majority of the votes cast at the election as a whole vote are in favor of the proposition, then inclusion of the City of Weimar corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction shall require approval of the proposition by the voters of the City of Weimar corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction, which votes shall be counted, tabulated and reported separately;
- (d) if a majority of the votes cast at the election as a whole vote are in favor of the proposition, then inclusion of the City of Eagle Lake corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction shall require approval of the proposition by the voters of the City of Eagle Lake corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction, which votes shall be counted, tabulated and reported separately.

- 4. The Notice of the Election shall be given and the election shall be held in compliance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code in all respects, and, as applicable, Texas Health and Safety Code, including Section 775.018. The ballots for the election shall comply with this Order, the Texas Election Code and, as applicable, Texas Health and Safety Code, and shall be in the form as determined by the Colorado County Election Administrator for use on the voting devises and ballots used by Colorado County.
- (a) The Notice of the Election shall be given in the same manner as the notice of the petition hearing,
- (b) The County Elections Administrator shall give notice of the election in the manner prescribed in Texas Health and Safety Code Sec. 775.015(c), and not later than the 21st day before the date on which the election will be held, the Notice of Election shall be posted at the courthouse door and shall be published in the Colorado County Citizen, the Weimar Mercury, and The Banner Press once a week for two consecutive weeks. The first publication shall occur not later than the 21st day before the election date.
- 5. **Rebecka LaCourse**, the Colorado County Election Administrator is hereby confirmed and appointed to serve as the Election Officer and Early Voting Clerk. The Colorado County Election Administrator's employees and appointees, along with the election judges, alternate election judges and election clerks appointed by the Colorado County Election Officer are likewise designated and shall hold and conduct this election in the manner provided under the Texas Election Code and, as applicable, the Texas Health and Safety Code, including Sections 775.018 and 775.019.
- (a) The Main Early Voting polling place for this election shall be at 1117 Travis Street, Columbus, TX 78934.
- (b) Branch early voting polling places for this election shall be at:
- (i) Weimar City Hall, 106 E. Main Street, Weimar, TX 78962;
- (ii) EL Community Center, 100 N. Walnut , Eagle Lake, TX 77434
- (b) Early voting by personal appearance at the Main Early Voting polling place and Branch Early Voting polling places shall be conducted on the following days and hours:

Tuesday, April 22, 2025 – Friday, April 25, 2025, 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Monday, April 28, 2025 – Tuesday, April 29, 2025, 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

- (c) All ballots, voting instructions, signs, and posters and other election materials required by Texas Election Code, shall be prepared in English and Spanish, and shall contain such provisions, instructions, markings and verbiage as required by law.
- 6. The election precincts for the election shall be those precincts established by Colorado County, and administered by the Colorado County Election Administrator; provided, however, that (i) the ballots voted by the voters in City of Columbus corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction shall be counted, tabulated and reported separately; (ii) the ballots voted by the voters in City of Weimar corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction shall be counted, tabulated and reported separately; (iii) the ballots voted by the voters in City of Eagle Lake corporate and municipal limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction shall be counted, tabulated and reported separately.
- 7. Election Day precinct designations and Polling Places shall be those county precincts and voting locations approved as provided this and any other election orders made by Colorado County Commissioner's Court and/or the County Election Administrator. (See Exhibit "B", attached to this Order.)
- 8. Early Voting by personal appearance and by mail will be conducted and coordinated by the Colorado County Election Administrator, who is also hereby designated as the Early Voting Clerk for this election. Early Voting by personal appearance shall be held at those places so selected and designated by the County Election Administrator.
- 9. **Rebecka LaCourse**, County Election Administrator, is hereby appointed to serve as the custodian of election records, and recorder for this election. The County Election Administrator will also serve as the Regular Early Voting Clerk to receive requests for applications for early voting ballots.
- 10. Applications for voting by mail and Federal Postcard Application in the election must be submitted by personal/commercial delivery no later than April 22, 2025, and ballots voted by mail must be received by Saturday, May 3, 2025, if the carrier envelope is not postmarked, or by Monday, May 5, 2025, if the carrier envelope is postmarked by 7:00 p.m. on May 3, 2025, 1117 Travis Street, Columbus, TX 78934 (unless overseas or military voter deadlines apply).
- (a) Applications for voting by mail shall be sent by US Postal Mail or personal/commercial delivery, or, as permitted by law, telefax, or email.

The address for <u>US Postal Mail</u> is: Colorado County Election Center C/O Rebecka LaCourse, Election Administrator 1117 Travis Street Columbus. TX 78934 The address for personal/commercial delivery is:

Colorado County Election Center C/O Rebecka LaCourse, Election Administrator 1117 Travis Street Columbus, TX 78934

Email: elections@co.colorado.tx.us Tel: 979-732-6860; Fax: 979-732-2952

- 11. As soon as practicable, after the election the election officials holding same shall make and deliver the returns and the results thereof to the Colorado County Commissioner's Court for the Commissioner's Court to canvass the returns and declare the results of the election.
- 12. At such meeting of the properly called by Colorado County Commissioner's Court following its receipt of the election returns and the results thereof, Colorado County Commissioner's Court shall consider and enter an order pursuant to the applicable provisions of Texas Health and Safety Code, Section 775.019 regarding this election.

PASSED, APPROVED and ORDERED this 27th day of January, 2025.

Ty Prause, Colorado County Judge

Attest:

AN AN

Kimberly Menke, County Clerk

(COMMISSIONERS COURT SEAL)

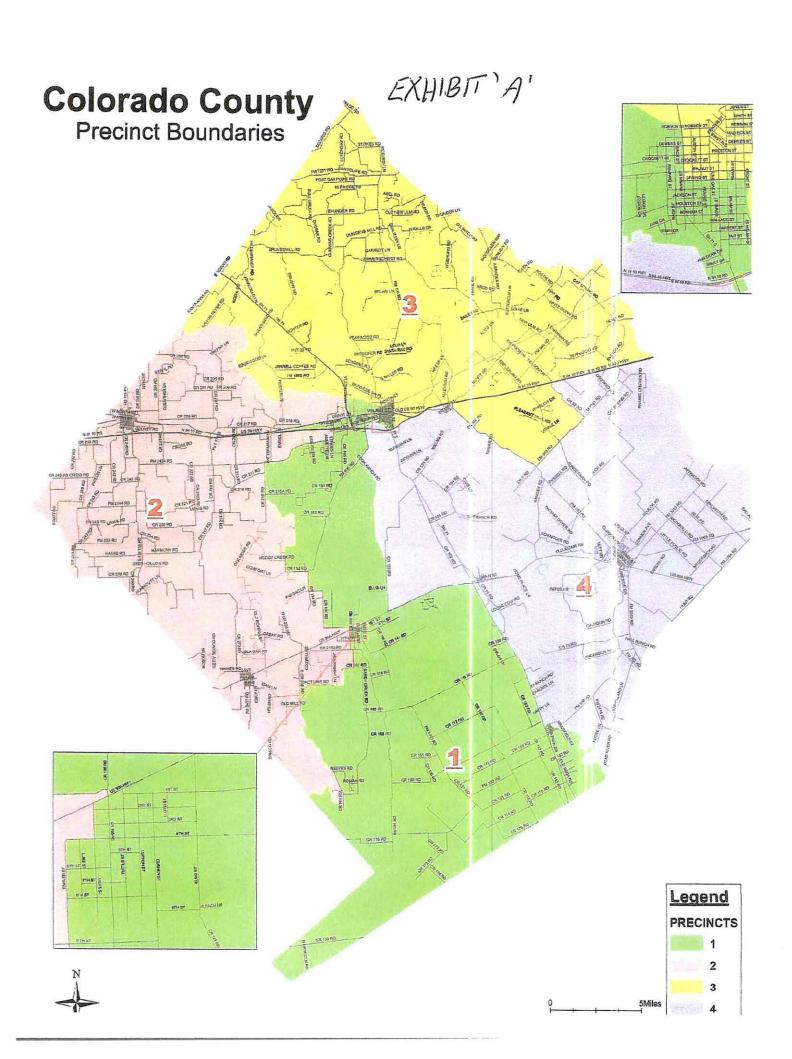


EXHIBIT "B"

May 03, 2025 General Election

Local Cities & Schools + Emergency Services District

Early Voting:

Election Center (Main)

1117 Travis St.

Columbus, TX 78934

Weimar City Hall (Branch)

106 E. Main St.

Weimar, TX 78962

EL Community Center (Branch)

100 N. Walnut

Eagle Lake, TX 77434

Days: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 - Tuesday, April 29, 2025

Weekdays Only

Hours: 7:30 a.m. till 5:30 p.m.

To request ballot by mail application call Colorado County Election Office, 979-732-6860, or mail to 1117 Travis Street, Columbus, TX 78934, or email elections@co.colorado.tx.us

Election Day:

Saturday, May 03, 2025

Hours: 7:00 a.m. till 7:00 p.m.

Voting Locations

Voting Locations		
(You must go to your assigned polling location identified on your Voter Registration Card)		
Precinct 101	Colorado County Services	305 Radio Lane, Columbus
Columbus/Glidden	Facility	
Precinct 102 Rock Island	Full Gospel Church -	2304 Cushen, Rock Island
	Fellowship Hall	
Precinct 103	Nada Community Center -	7825 Hwy 71, Nada
Garwood-Nada	St. Mary's	
Precinct 201	Weimar City Hall	106 E. Main, Weimar
Weimar/Oakland		
Precinct 202 Sheridan	Sheridan Community	5803 S. Logan Park Dr.,
	Center	Sheridan
Precinct 302	St. Peter & Paul Church	1031 Church Lane,
Frelsburg/Brushy	Dining Hall	Frelsburg
Precinct 303 Mentz	St. Roch's Parish Hall	1600 Frelsburg Rd., Mentz
Precinct 304 Bernardo	Bernardo Fire Station	2845 FM 949, Bernardo
Precinct 305 N	Colorado County Election	1117 Travis, Columbus
Columbus/Shaws Bend	Center	
Precinct 401	Robert, R. Wells Airport	1084 CR 102, Altair
Altair/Alleyton		
Precinct 402 Eagle Lake	Eagle Lake Community Center	100 N. Walnut, Eagle Lake

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Sample Ballots available on website or at Colorado County Election Office