

COLORADO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING

DATE OF MEETING: January 23, 2025 – 9:00 A.M.
BUILDING: Colorado County Courthouse, County Courtroom
STREET LOCATION: 400 Spring Street
CITY OF LOCATION: Columbus, Texas 78934

Pursuant to the authority granted under Government Code, Chapter 551, the Commissioners Court may convene in a closed meeting to discuss and deliberate agenda item(s) subject to the closed meeting exceptions. A final action, decision, or vote on a matter deliberated in a closed meeting shall only be made in an open meeting. Commissioners Court may use a telephone conference call, video conference call, or communications over the Internet to conduct a public consultation with its attorney in an open meeting of the governmental body or a private consultation with its attorney in a closed meeting of the governmental body. Immediately before any closed meeting, the specific section or sections of Government Code, Chapter 551, which provides statutory authority for closed meetings, will be announced.

On this the 23rd day of January 2025, the Commissioners Court of Colorado County, Texas met in Special Session at 9:00 A.M., in their regular meeting place at the Colorado County Courthouse, County Courtroom, 400 Spring Street, in the City of Columbus, Texas.

The Following Members were present to wit:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Honorable Ty Prause | County Judge |
| Honorable Shannon Owers | Commissioner Precinct #1 |
| Honorable Ryan Brandt | Commissioner Precinct #2 |
| Honorable Keith Neuendorff | Commissioner Precinct #3 |
| Honorable Darrell Gertson | Commissioner Precinct #4 |
| By: Michelle Kollmann | Deputy Clerk |

The Honorable Kimberly Menke, County Clerk was unable to attend.

The County Judge Ty Prause called the meeting to order at 9:03 A.M.

**MINUTES OF THE COLORADO COUNTY
COMMISSIONER'S COURT SPECIAL MEETING**

January 23, 2025

DELIBERATE AND CONSIDER ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

__1. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and the Texas Flag.

Judge Prause led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and the Texas Flag.

__2. Agenda as posted.

**Motion by Commissioner Brandt to approve the agenda as posted; seconded by
Commissioner Neuendorff; 5 ayes 0 nays; motion carried; it was so ordered
(See Attachment)**

**MINUTES OF THE COLORADO COUNTY
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January 23, 2025

FILED FOR RECORD
COLORADO COUNTY CLERK

2025 JAN 17 AM 9:23

**COLORADO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING**

KIMBERLY MENDY
COUNTY CLERK MK

DATE OF MEETING: January 23, 2025 – 9:00 A.M.
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STREET LOCATION: 400 Spring Street
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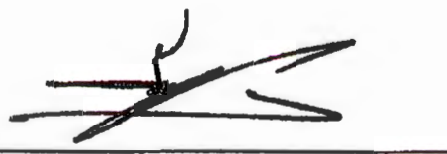
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DELIBERATE AND CONSIDER ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and the Texas Flag.
- 2. Agenda as posted.
- 3. Public comments.
- 4. Review, consider and order the amounts of volunteer fire department funding for each Colorado County Volunteer Fire Department and the prerequisites required to receive county funding. (Prause)
- 5. Announcements (without discussion and no action) by elected officials/department heads. (Types of Announcements: Events, Road Conditions, Weather Occurrences, Important Dates, Vacancies in Offices or Positions, Accomplishments of Individuals, and Notices)
- 6. Commissioners Court Members sign all documents and papers acted upon or approved.
- 7. Adjourn.

CERTIFICATION

NAME: Ty Prause
TITLE: Colorado County Judge
SIGNATURE OF CERTIFYING OFFICIAL:
DATE: January 17, 2025
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (979) 732-2604
FAX NUMBER: (979) 732-9389



The Colorado County Courthouse is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available.

**MINUTES OF THE COLORADO COUNTY
COMMISSIONER'S COURT SPECIAL MEETING**

January 23, 2025

__3. Public comments.

None at this time.

__4. Review, consider and order the amounts of volunteer fire department funding for each Colorado County Volunteer Fire Department and the prerequisites required to receive county funding. (Prause)

Commissioner Brandt questioned if Garwood's numbers included ambulance runs.

Judge Prause called Todd Krenek with Garwood Volunteer Fire Department for clarification.

Mr. Krenek explained any dispatched call, no matter the service provided, was included in the call number. There was discussion on requirement number five (list of equipment with age) and if it was necessary information to obtain from each department. Michelle Lowrance stated that information held no real value to the county.

Motion by Judge Prause to approve funding as presented omitting number five on the requirements; seconded by Commissioner Neuendorff; 5 ayes 0 nays; motion carried; it was so ordered.

(See Attachment)

**MINUTES OF THE COLORADO COUNTY
COMMISSIONER'S COURT SPECIAL MEETING**

January 23, 2025

Colorado County VFD Funding - 2025

Budget Amount: \$245,000
Garwood FD EMS Stipend: \$6,000
Total Budgetted Amount: \$250,000

| VFD | 2020 Census Population | | Calls for Service Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2024 | | Avg% (Avg of Population% and Call%) | Value of 50% Budget Amount multiplied by Avg% Avg % x 50% of Budget | Value of 50% Divided Equally Value of 50% of Budget / 10 VFDs | Total Distribution | 2024 Budget | Delta |
|--------------|------------------------|----------------|---|----------------|--|--|---|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Bernardo | 1141 | 5.55% | 97 | 10.73% | 8.14% | \$9,972.14 | \$12,250.00 | \$22,222.14 | \$10,000.00 | \$12,222.14 |
| Columbus | 7373 | 35.87% | 269 | 29.76% | 32.81% | \$40,196.08 | \$12,250.00 | \$52,446.08 | \$50,000.00 | \$2,446.08 |
| Eagle Lake | 4250 | 20.68% | 112 | 12.39% | 16.53% | \$20,252.69 | \$12,250.00 | \$32,502.69 | \$28,000.00 | \$4,502.69 |
| Frelsburg | 1281 | 6.23% | 60 | 6.64% | 6.43% | \$7,882.40 | \$12,250.00 | \$20,132.40 | \$10,000.00 | \$10,132.40 |
| Garwood | 1040 | 5.06% | 137 | 15.15% | 10.11% | \$12,381.36 | \$12,250.00 | \$29,631.36 | \$28,000.00 | \$1,631.36 |
| Oakland | 184 | 0.90% | 10 | 1.11% | 1.00% | \$1,225.83 | \$12,250.00 | \$13,475.83 | \$10,000.00 | \$3,475.83 |
| Oakridge | 166 | 0.81% | 29 | 3.21% | 2.01% | \$2,459.53 | \$12,250.00 | \$14,709.53 | \$10,000.00 | \$4,709.53 |
| Rock Island | 558 | 2.71% | 37 | 4.09% | 3.40% | \$4,169.65 | \$12,250.00 | \$16,419.65 | \$10,000.00 | \$6,419.65 |
| Sheridan | 697 | 3.39% | 36 | 3.95% | 3.69% | \$4,516.09 | \$12,250.00 | \$16,766.09 | \$10,000.00 | \$6,766.09 |
| Weimar | 3865 | 18.80% | 117 | 12.94% | 15.87% | \$19,444.23 | \$12,250.00 | \$31,694.23 | \$28,000.00 | \$3,694.23 |
| Total | 20,555 | 100.00% | 904 | 100.00% | 100.00% | \$122,500.00 | \$122,500.00 | \$250,000.00 | \$194,000.00 | \$56,000.00 |

Requirements for receiving county tax funds:

- 1.) End of year reports must be submitted to the County Auditor by Jan 31 of each year for the previous year information.
- 2.) Any Fire Department that opts out of funding or violates the agreement, tax funding will be reallocated to the remaining participating departments.
- 3.) In order for a Call for service to qualify, the call must be recorded by the Colorado County Dispatch with that departments number assigned with action.
- 4.) A current firefighters roster must be submitted. (Jan 31)
- 5.) A list of equipment with age must be submitted. (Jan 31)
- 6.) Manhour reports for workman's comp must be submitted. (Jan 31)

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COMMISSIONER'S COURT SPECIAL MEETING**

January 23, 2025

- ___5. Announcements (without discussion and no action) by elected officials/department heads. (Types of Announcements: Events, Road Conditions, Weather Occurrences, Important Dates, Vacancies in Offices or Positions, Accomplishments of Individuals, and Notices)

Michelle Lowrance announced that normal yearly reporting is going on.

Commissioner Neuendorff stated he was thankful there was no damage from the winter storm.

Commissioner Gertson thanked local businesses for being open during the storm to aid essential employees in getting to and from work.

- ___6. Commissioners Court Members sign all documents and papers acted upon or approved.

Judge Prause announced it is now time to sign all documents and papers.

- ___7. Adjourn.

Motion by Judge Prause to adjourn at 9:23 A.M.; seconded by Commissioner Neuendorff; 5 ayes 0 nays; motion carried; it was so ordered.

An audio recording of this meeting of January 23, 2025 is available in the County Clerk's Office.

**MINUTES OF THE COLORADO COUNTY
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January 23, 2025

**Minutes were taken and prepared by Kimberly Menke, County Clerk on the
23rd day of January 2025 with Judge Ty Prause presiding.**

**I, KIMBERLY MENKE, COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO OF THE
COMMISSIONERS COURT IN AND FOR COLORADO COUNTY, TEXAS do hereby
certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the
Commissioner Court in session on the 23rd day of January 2025.**

Given under my hand and official seal of office this date January 23, 2025.

