

CALDWELL COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES  
1403 Blackjack Street, Lockhart, Texas  
Regular Meeting August 11, 2014 9:00 a.m.



TOM D. BONN County Judge  
CAROL HOLCOMB County Clerk

ALFREDO MUÑOZ Commissioner Pct. 1  
FRED F. BUCHHOLTZ Commissioner Pct.2  
NETO MADRIGAL Commissioner Pct. 3  
JOE IVAN ROLAND Commissioner Pct.4

**8:30 A.M.**      **WORKSHOP (No Action):** Report from program manager on remodeling of the new Caldwell County Justice Center. No action will be taken at this time.  
Project Manager Les Reddin updated all present on the status of the Caldwell County Justice Center. The project is on track and is 73% complete at this time. The next update is scheduled for August 25, 2014.

**9:00 A.M.**      **REGULAR MEETING**

**Call Meeting to order.**

- 2014.08.11.01**      **Invocation.** Lockhart Ministry Alliance.  
Pastor James Greene with First Presbyterian Church opened the meeting with prayer.
- 2014.08.11.02**      **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 Bonn led all present in the Pledge to both Flags.
- 2014.08.11.03**      **Announcements:** Items or comments from Court Members or Staff.  
Commissioner Roland spoke about the success of the Democratic Woman's dinner this past week. Judge Bonn recognized that Captain Mike Lane has returned to work after medical leave.
- 2014.08.11.04**      **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).  
1. Rick Johnson explained his concerns about the strain on the budget that may be caused if a relocation center is placed in Caldwell County for the federal influx of illegal aliens that are coming across the border at this time. He spoke about the impact that it could have on the economic and safety factors of our County.  
2. John Williams spoke about the financial increase that is being discussed for the Volunteer Fire Departments. He is with McMahan Volunteer Fire Department and spoke about the need for additional funds.
- 2014.08.11.05**      **Consent Agenda.** (Any member of the Court may request that an item within the Consent Agenda to be moved to the Regular Agenda for further discussion and action).  
**A.** Pay Bills in the amount of \$1,157,726.33 for August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014.  
**B.** To approve Commissioners Court Minutes for July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014.  
**C.** To accept Judge Tom D. Bonn's, County Judge, Certificate of Participation from the V.G. Young Institute of County Government for completing 13.0 hours of educational training during the 80<sup>th</sup> Annual South Texas County Judges' and Commissioners' Association Conference.

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- D. To accept Alfredo R. Muñoz's, County Commissioner, Precinct No. 1, Certificate of Participation from the V.G. Young Institute of County Government for completing 13.0 hours of educational training during the 80<sup>th</sup> Annual South Texas County Judges' and Commissioners' Association Conference.
- E. To approve the Rider to changing principal's name from "Tina Morgan" to "Tina Morgan Freeman", District Clerk for Caldwell County.
- F. To approve renewal of Continuation Certificate Bond No. 15663555 for Arthur Villarreal, Constable Precinct #4 for Caldwell County in the amount of \$1,000 beginning September 28, 2014 and ending September 28, 2015. **Cost: \$50.**
- G. To approve Invoice #209 for July 2014 timesheet for Les Reddin, LongLife Projects in the amount of \$7,200 for the Judicial Service Center project management work.  
Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Madrigal to approve Consent Agenda.  
All Voting "Aye"

**2014.08.11.06 Reports.**

Elections Department Report – Pamela Ohlendorf  
Pamela Ohlendorf gave the Elections Department report for July 2014.

Septic and Subdivision Report – Kasi Miles  
Kasi Miles gave the Septic and Sanitation report for July 2014.

Treasurer's Report – Lori Rangel  
Lori Rangel gave the Treasurers report for the ending of June 2014.

**2014.08.11.07 Special Presentations. None.**

**(ALL OTHER AGENDA ITEMS)**

- 2014.08.11.08 Discussion/Action** regarding extending or removing the Burn Ban for Caldwell County.  
Motion made by Commissioner Roland, second by Commissioner Madrigal to keep the Burn Ban on. All Voting "Aye"
- 2014.08.11.09 Discussion/Action** to approve a resolution calling for redemption and/or defeasance of certain currently outstanding obligations; directing that the county clerk, or her designee, to effectuate the redemption of these obligations; and other matters in connection therewith. **Cost: \$10,250; Net Savings \$153,321.26; Speaker: Larry Roberson/Jeffrey Kuhn; Backup: 1.**  
Motion made by Commissioner Buchholtz, second by Commissioner Muñoz to approve a resolution calling for redemption and/or defeasance of certain currently outstanding obligations. All Voting "Aye"
- 2014.08.11.10 Discussion/Action** to approve moving the remaining funds of the site work line item in the contractors GMP to the Owners Contingency line item in the contractors GMP in the amount of \$17,467.  
Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Buchholtz to approve moving the remaining funds of the site work line item in the contractors GMP to the Owners Contingency line item in the contractors GMP in the amount of \$17,467. All Voting "Aye"
- 2014.08.11.11 Discussion/Action** to approve the design and proposal for scope of work from the engineer for the fire lane, road access, and parking lot of the new Caldwell County Justice Center.  
Motion made by Commissioner Madrigal, second by Commissioner Roland to approve the design and proposal for scope of work from the General Contractor for the fire lane, road access, and parking lot of the new Caldwell County Justice Center. All Voting "Aye"

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- 2014.08.11.12**     **Discussion/Action** to approve Application and Certificate for Payment #7 for Braun and Butler Construction in the amount of \$899,186.40 for the Caldwell County Judicial Center.  
Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Madrigal to approve Application and Certificate for Payment #7 for Braun and Butler Construction in the amount of \$899,186.40 for the Caldwell County Judicial Center. All Voting “Aye”
- 2014.08.11.13**     **Discussion/Action** to approve Arias & Associates Invoice #20141271 in the amount of \$1,464.70 and Invoice #20141445 in the amount of \$910 for pavement design, field investigation, and lab testing at the Caldwell County Justice Center. **Cost: \$2,374.70**  
Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Madrigal to approve payment to Arias & Associates in the amount of \$2,374.70 for pavement design, field investigation, and lab testing at the Caldwell County Justice Center. All Voting “Aye”
- 2014.08.11.14**     **Discussion/Action** to approve Invoice #6 from Aulick & Associates in the amount of \$5,000 (40 hours at \$125/hour) for consultant services for the period of July 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014, regarding transportation projects for Caldwell County.  
Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Madrigal to approve Invoice #6 from Aulick & Associates in the amount of \$5,000. All voting “Aye”
- 2014.08.11.15**     **PUBLIC HEARING AT 9:30 AM** regarding the Petition for Creation of Emergency Services District #3 for the City of Martindale. Any interested person may appear in person or by attorney to support or oppose the creation of the district and may offer pertinent testimony. No action to be taken.  
**Public Hearing Begins: 9:30 a.m.**
- Bill Hamilton- President of Volunteer Fire Department Board in Martindale spoke about the increase of calls but only having 5 active members. He says that the calls have increased significantly with the growth of the area and increase of tubing.
- John Demarzo Martindale Fire Chief explains the need for the ESD with the increase in accidents and tubing calls in their area.
- Dave Smith is a resident of Martindale. He gave a brief overview of the process of creating an ESD. He has been involved with the volunteer process and SE Hays Fire Department since 1998. He explains safety concerns that the volunteers have within the department.
- Martin Ritchey- Spoke about the benefits that would be achieved by forming the ESD.
- Public Hearing ends: 9:40 a.m.**
- 2014.08.11.16**     **Discussion/Action** to approve the service contract for maintenance of the Seth Thomas tower clock in the courthouse of Caldwell County for one year in the amount of \$1,750.  
Motion made by Commissioner Madrigal, second by Commissioner Buchholtz to renew the service contract for maintenance of the Seth Thomas tower clock in the courthouse of Caldwell County for one year in the amount of \$1,750. All Voting “Aye”
- 2014.08.11.17**     **Discussion/Action** to approve Caldwell County’s amended Subdivision and Development Fee Schedule effective August 11, 2014.  
Commissioner Roland gave the Court a copy of the proposed fee schedule. It was not the one that was submitted in the packet on Wednesday afternoon. Motion made by Commissioner Roland, second by Commissioner Madrigal to approve the Caldwell County’s amended Subdivision and Development Fee Schedule effective August 11, 2014. Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Judge Bonn to table this item until next week. All Voting “Aye”

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- 2014.08.11.18**     **Discussion/Action** to execute order relating to the official court reporters of the 421<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 207<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court and Auditor of the County of Caldwell salaries. **Cost:** None; **Speaker:** Judge Bonn; **Backup:** 1. Motion made by Commissioner Roland, second by Commissioner Muñoz to execute order relating to the official court reporters of the 421<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 207<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court and Auditor of the County of Caldwell salaries. All Voting “Aye”
- 2014.08.11.19**     **Discussion/Action** to approve the Order and voter workers for the Republican Party and Democratic Party for the November 4, 2014 general election in Caldwell County. Motion made by Commissioner Buchholtz, second by Commissioner Muñoz to approve the Order and voter workers for the Republican Party and Democratic Party for the November 4, 2014 general election in Caldwell County. All Voting “Aye”
- 2014.08.11.20**     **Discussion/Action** to increase monthly stipend to all volunteer fire departments in Caldwell County to \$800 and offer a monthly \$200 credit to be used for labor at the Fleet Maintenance Department for light vehicles. Unit Road Supervisor Dwight Jeffrey said that they have been providing this service since 2002. The parts are provided for by the Fire Department. Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Madrigal to increase monthly stipend to all volunteer fire departments in Caldwell County to \$800 and offer a monthly \$200 credit to be used for labor at the Fleet Maintenance Department for light vehicles. All Voting “Aye”
- 2014.08.11.21**     **Discussion/Action** to approve the transfer of funds from the Caldwell County Medical Assist Team (“CCMAT”) to the Emergency Management Department for swift water related equipment or support items. Motion made by Judge Bonn, second by Commissioner Roland have \$8000.00 moved from “CCMAT” to the Emergency Management Department for swift water related equipment or support items. All Voting “Aye”
- 2014.08.11.22**     **Discussion/Action** to place on the agenda in January 2015 a review of our current salary plan. **Cost:** None; **Speaker:** Commissioners Buchholtz and Muñoz; **Backup:** None. This item was changed to Discussion only. Motion made by Commissioner Buchholtz to place on the agenda in January 2015 a review of our current salary plan. Counsel reminds Court that the current Court cannot bind a future Court. Sheriff Law explained the amount that is brought in by housing the Federal inmates compared to the amount that would be necessary to enact the second year of the Salary Plan. He believes that there is enough difference and says that the money is there for the deputies to receive the raises. He would like to see the County retain their assets and quit sending them to other Counties. He said that having the inmates in Caldwell County the deputies assume all the risk and all the hazard, watching the inmates and what is going on. Or he said that he can send the inmates back and not assume the risk and not put the liability on the citizens anymore especially if the money is going to be squandered. That is totally his responsibility and his decision. Judge Bonn said that he hoped that it wasn’t a threat and Sheriff Law responded that it was not. It was a promise.
- 2014.08.11.23**     **Discussion/Action** concerning proposed tax rate of \$0.6906 per \$100 of assessed valuation for fiscal year 2014-2015. Following the discussion on a roll call vote must be taken on a proposed tax rate of \$0.6906 per \$100 of assessed valuation. **NOTE:** This vote is not actual adoption of the tax rate but merely an indication by the Court of the rate it supports.

Immediately following the roll call vote the Commissioners Court **should move** that two (2) public hearings will be held on the proposed tax rate.

**Recommended Motion:** Move that two (2) public hearings be held on the proposed tax rate and that the hearings are held as follows:

**First public hearing:** 9:45 a.m. on August 25, 2014 at the Scott Annex, 1403 Blackjack Street, Lockhart, Texas.

**Second public hearing:** 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 4, 2014 (Special Meeting) at the Scott Annex, 1403 Blackjack Street, Lockhart, Texas.

The Court should also announce that on September 8, 2014 a **regular meeting will be held** starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Scott Annex, 1403 Blackjack Street, Lockhart, Texas to consider adoption of an Order setting the tax rate for fiscal year 2014-2015.

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Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Buchholtz to approve proposed tax rate of \$0.6906 per \$100 of assessed valuation for fiscal year 2014-2015.

Roll Call Vote- Commissioner Muñoz-Yes, Commissioner Buchholtz-Yes, Commissioner Madrigal-Yes, Commissioner Roland-Yes, Judge Bonn-Yes. Motion Passed.

Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Buchholtz that two (2) public hearings be held on the proposed tax rate and that the hearings are held as follows: first public hearing: 9:45 a.m. on August 25, 2014 at the Scott Annex, 1403 Blackjack Street, Lockhart, Texas, and the second public hearing: 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 4, 2014 (Special Meeting) at the Scott Annex, 1403 Blackjack Street, Lockhart, Texas. All Voting "Aye"

Judge Bonn also announced that on September 8, 2014 a regular meeting will be held starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Scott Annex, 1403 Blackjack Street, Lockhart, Texas to consider adoption of an Order setting the tax rate for fiscal year 2014-2015.

**2014.08.11.24** **Discussion/Action** to approve the public hearing and adoption of the proposed Caldwell County Budget for fiscal year 2014-2015.

**Recommended Motion:** Move that a public hearing be held on the proposed Caldwell County Budget and that the hearing is held as follows:

**Public hearing:** 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 4, 2014 (Special Meeting) at the Scott Annex, 1403 Blackjack Street, Lockhart, Texas.

The Court should also announce that on September 4, 2014 at the Special Meeting held starting at 3:00 p.m. at the Scott Annex, 1403 Blackjack Street, Lockhart, Texas that it will consider the adoption of the Caldwell County Budget for fiscal year 2014-2015.

Motion made by Commissioner Roland, second by Commissioner Muñoz that a public hearing be held on the proposed Caldwell County Budget and that the hearing is held at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 4, 2014 (Special Meeting) at the Scott Annex, 1403 Blackjack Street, Lockhart, Texas. All Voting "Aye"

Judge Bonn announced that on September 4, 2014 at the Special Meeting held starting at 3:00 p.m. at the Scott Annex, 1403 Blackjack Street, Lockhart, Texas that it will consider the adoption of the Caldwell County Budget for fiscal year 2014-2015.

**2014.08.11.25** **Discussion/Action** to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Caldwell County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and FEMA regarding Interoperable System(s) and Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) Open Platform for Emergency Networks.

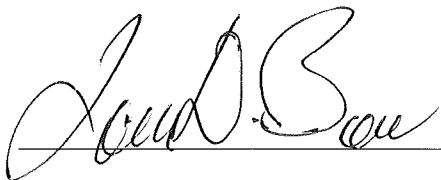
Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Roland to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Caldwell County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and FEMA regarding Interoperable System(s) and Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) Open Platform for Emergency Networks. All Voting "Aye"

**2014.08.11.26** **Discussion/Action** to approve changing the Health Insurance waiting period to 60 days – 1<sup>st</sup> of the month following date of hire.

Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Buchholtz to approve changing the Health Insurance waiting period to 60 days – 1<sup>st</sup> of the month following date of hire. All Voting "Aye"

**2014.08.11.27** **Adjournment**

Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Madrigal to Adjourn. All Voting "Aye"



TOM D. BONN, County Judge