

COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES  
110 S. Main St. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Lockhart, Texas  
Special Meeting September 6, 2016 9:00 a.m.



KEN SCHAWÉ  
CAROL HOLCOMB

County Judge  
County Clerk

ALFREDO MUÑOZ      Commissioner Pct. 1  
EDDIE MOSES        Commissioner Pct. 2  
NETO MADRIGAL     Commissioner Pct. 3  
JOE IVAN ROLAND   Commissioner Pct. 4

**Call Meeting to Order.** Meeting called to order by Judge Schawe at 9:02 a.m. All members of the court present.

**2016.09.06.01      Invocation.** Lockhart Ministerial Alliance.

Judge Schawe opened the meeting with prayer.

**2016.09.06.02      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 Schawe led all present in the Pledge of both flags.

**2016.09.06.03      Announcements.** Items or comments from Court Members or Staff.

Commissioner Muñoz congratulated the Seton Care-A-Van on a successful event. Commissioner Moses said he hopes everyone had a great holiday weekend. Judge Schawe gave a report on the river operations stating 247 citations were given in the past seven weeks.

**2016.09.06.04      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).

**Esmeralda Chan** from the county auditor's office shared concern for the amount of raise given to employees of the district attorney's office and asked the court to be fair to all employees regarding pay raises. She asked the court to approve the District Judges order of the increased salary for the county auditor.

**2016.09.06.06      Discussion/Action** to approve the request by Ragnar Relay of Texas to plan a section of its 40-mile relay course through Caldwell County during the Texas Relay scheduled for March 31 - April 1, 2017. Relay teams will run between 9:00am-10:00pm on March 31<sup>st</sup> with a total of approximately 200 runners spread out over 40 miles with four to five runners per mile. **Speaker:** Judge Schawe; **Cost:** None; **Backup:** None.

Judge Schawe explained a relay event taking place next year that will run through Caldwell County. He said they are requesting approval for the event. Martin Ritchey received clarification that a route has not been submitted. Judge Schawe stated they will travel on Highway 20, Highway 183 and Highway 80. Commissioner Muñoz and Commissioner Roland requested more details of the route. Judge Schawe said the organization wanted the courts approval before they continue planning.

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Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Moses to approve the request by Ragnar Relay of Texas to plan a section of its 40-mile relay course through Caldwell County during the Texas Relay scheduled for March 31 to April 1, 2017. All voting "Aye".

**2016.09.06.07**

**Discussion/Action** to receive the order relating to the official court reporter of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District Court. **Speaker:** Judge Schawe; **Cost:** None; **Backup:** 2.

No Discussion.

Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Roland to receive the order relating to the official court reporter of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District Court. All voting "Aye".

**2016.09.06.08**

**Discussion/Action** to receive an order relating to the auditor of Caldwell County. **Speaker:** Judge Schawe; **Cost:** None; **Backup:** 2.

No Discussion.

Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Moses to receive an order relating to the auditor of Caldwell County. All voting "Aye".

**2016.09.06.09**

**Discussion/Action** to enter into a contract with an outside firm to manage the FEMA reimbursement program. **Speaker:** Judge Schawe; **Cost:** TBD; **Backup:** None.

Judge Schawe explained that FEMA has waived the 60 day limitations and extended the amount of time to issue FEMA related documents in reference to the damages caused by flooding this past year. He said roads were being repaired for less than the estimated amount. He suggested hiring a person or firm to assist with the FEMA requirements. Commissioner Madrigal further explained the county is missing out on funding for road repairs and agreed to hire additional help. Judge Schawe stated that FEMA will reimburse the county for 75% of the cost for hiring an outside firm to assist with the program. Commissioner Muñoz expressed the need for written standards for road repairs. Commissioner Madrigal and Commissioner Muñoz shared concerns about the amount to be spent on this position and requested the Judge to receive the courts approval once an amount has been determined. Civil Attorney, Jordan Powell made the recommendation to make sure the person or firm that is hired is eligible under FEMA's regulations that allow the county to be reimbursed 75%. Commissioner Muñoz suggested placing a cap amount for the county to spend on this position.

Motion made by Commissioner Madrigal, second by Commissioner Muñoz to enter into a contract with an outside firm to manage the FEMA reimbursement program not to exceed \$25,000. All voting "Aye".

**2016.09.06.05**

**CALL FOR PUBLIC HEARING at 9:30am:** regarding the proposed tax rate pursuant to Section 111.007 of the Local Government Code. **Speaker:** Judge Schawe; **Cost:** None; **Backup:** None.

Public hearing opened at 9:30 a.m.

No comments

Public hearing closed at 9:31 a.m.

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**2016.09.06.10**

**Discussion/Action** to adopt the 2016-2017 budget. **Speaker:** Judge Schawe; **Cost:** None; **Backup:** None.

Commissioner Muñoz requested cutting the \$70,000 allotted amount for a planner to \$45,000. Judge Schawe explained the amount budgeted does not mean the county must use all those funds and suggested leaving the amount in order to obtain engineering help for Kasi Miles. Kasi Miles with the Sanitation Department explained the need for either an engineer or someone that knows her position that can offer assistance in the office. She said a part-time position has been budgeted for her department. Commissioner Muñoz said the current amount budgeted for supplies for the elections office is not sufficient. Elections administrator, Pam Ohlendorf requested increasing her supplies budget by \$15,000 for a total amount of \$34,000. Judge Schawe recommended leaving the budgeted amount as is, and increasing the amount later if needed. County Treasurer, Lori Rangel received clarification on the employee raises. Judge Schawe explained the longevity amount has doubled and that there is \$50,000 in disability insurance available to employees. Civil Attorney, Jordan Powell said she is unsure of the legality of approving the budget before approving the tax rate but stated that it could cause some issues.

Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Moses to table this item until next meeting. All voting "Aye".

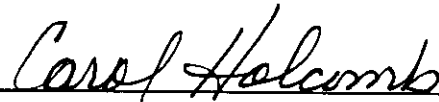
**2016.09.06.11**

**Adjournment.** Motion made by Commissioner Muñoz, second by Commissioner Moses to adjourn. All voting "Aye".

Meeting Adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

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I, CAROL HOLCOMB, COUNTY CLERK AND EXOFFICIO CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT, do hereby certify that the foregoing contains a true and accurate record of the proceedings had by the Caldwell County Commissioners' Court on September 6, 2016.



CAROL HOLCOMB, COUNTY CLERK AND EXOFFICIO  
CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF  
CALDWELL COUNTY, TEXAS

