

COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES
110 S. Main St. 2nd Floor, Lockhart, Texas
Regular Meeting August 27, 2018 9:00 a.m.



KEN SCHAWÉ	County Judge	TERRY WRIGHT	Commissioner Pct. 1
CAROL HOLCOMB	County Clerk	EDDIE MOSES	Commissioner Pct. 2
		ED THERIOT	Commissioner Pct. 3
		JOE IVAN ROLAND	Commissioner Pct. 4

Call Meeting to Order.

Judge Schawe calls the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. All members are present.

Invocation. Lockhart Ministerial Alliance

Judge Schawe opens the meeting in prayer.

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 leads all present in the pledge to both flags.

Announcements. Items or comments from Court members or staff.

Commissioner Roland says he evaluated a road in his precinct that will be paved, stating that the county will install culverts if they are provided by the residents.

Commissioner Theriot says he attended meetings including Greater San Marcos Partnership and CAMPO.

Commissioner Moses says McMahan's Women's Club will have a vendors market September 8th and announces the upcoming VFD fundraisers in McMahan and Delhi. He advises drivers to watch for school busses now that school has resumed.

Commissioner Wright says applicants for the Purchasing Agent position are being sought and reviewed. He also says he fielded a lot of calls regarding the budget and appreciates the participation.

Judge Schawe says the County continues to work with FEMA.

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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).

Kenwood Maeker says he is concerned regarding Environmental Park's development and hopes the court will put regulations in place to protect the community.

Molly Cole discusses open enrollment, thanking Lori Rangel and stating that her office can be contacted for benefit updates and questions.

CONSENT AGENDA. (The following consent items may be acted upon in one motion).

1. **Approve payment of County invoices in the amount of \$ 594,850.30.**

2. **Ratify re-occurring County payments in the amount of:**
 - A. \$ 301,231.69 (Payroll for 08/01/2018 - 08/15/2018)
 - B. \$ 91,967.66 (Payroll for 08/01/2018 – 08/15/2018)
 - C. \$ 45,264.04 (Utilities)

3. **Accept the July 2018 Tax Collection Report submitted by the Caldwell County Appraisal District.**

4. **Accept the 2017 Certificate of Completion and Training Transcript for Commissioners Education pursuant to provisions of Article 81.0025 of the Texas Local Government Code for Commissioner Precinct Four, Joe Roland.**

Motion made by Commissioner Moses, second by Commissioner Theriot to accept Consent Agenda items 1-4. All voting "Aye".

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Commissioner Moses:

Introduction of the new Plum Creek Watershed Project Coordinator, Steve Risinger

Commissioner Moses introduces Steve Risinger who shares his background and thanks the court for the appointment.

AGENDA ACTION ITEMS

5. **Discussion/Action** to approve the appointments of the 2018-2020 Election Officers for a (2) two year period: Early Voting Presiding Judge/Alternate, Election Day Presiding Judge/Alternate, and Central Counting Station/Early Voting Ballot Board/Signature Verification. **Cost: None; Speaker: Judge Schawe / Pamela Ohlendorf; Backup: 4.**

Judge Schawe explains the need to approve the list submitted for Election Officers.

Recommendation made by Commissioner Theriot, second by Commissioner Moses for approval of the list for the voting areas. All voting "Aye".

6. **Discussion/Action** regarding the burn ban. **Cost: None; Speaker: Judge Schawe / Carine Chalfoun; Backup: None.**

Motion made by Commissioner Roland, second by Commissioner Moses to leave the burn ban on. All voting "Aye".

7. **Discussion/Action** to enter into a non-financial agreement between Caldwell County and the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services to establish and maintain a Child Welfare Board pursuant to Texas Family Code Section 264.005 et. seq. **Cost: None; Speaker: Commissioner Theriot / Sarah Wardlow (DFPS) / Renee Castillo-Delacruz; Backup: 6.**

Commissioner Theriot introduces Sarah Wardlow and Renee Castillo-Delacruz who explain Child Welfare Board details including the need and process for its establishment, what it will do and answer questions from the court.

Motion made by Commissioner Theriot, second by Commissioner Wright we table until next agenda. All voting "Aye".

8. **Discussion / Action** to approve decreased budget line item 001-4310-2010 / Social Security & Medicare in the amount of \$12,000, 001-4310-2020 / Group Medical Insurance in the amount of \$19,000, 001- 4310-3130 / Operating Supplies in the amount of \$10,000, and 001-4310-4410 / Utilities in the amount of \$25,000; and increasing budget line item 001-4310-3100 / Food Supplies in the amount of \$66,000 netting a \$0 cost to County Jail. **Cost: None; Speaker: Judge Schawe; Backup: 1.**

Judge Schawe explains the agenda item and says he is looking for a motion to approve. So moved by Commissioner Moses, second by Commissioner Roland. All voting "Aye"

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9. **Discussion/Action** regarding the selection members to the Bond Committee. **Cost: None; Speaker: Judge Schawe; Backup: None.**

Judge Schawe says he still recommends Chris Powell from Luling and Vance Rodgers from Lockhart.

Commissioner Theriot says he recommends the County Judge, Commissioner Wright, and the Auditor.

Judge Schawe asks if that is a motion and Commissioner Theriot says he will make that motion, second by Commissioner Moses. All voting "Aye".

10. **Discussion/Action** regarding the 2019 Sheriffs' and Constables' fees. **Cost: TBD; Speaker: Judge Schawe; Backup: 3.**

Mike Lane explains the fees and the coordination with Michele Howard in the District Attorney's Office to ensure fees are up to date and correctly distributed.

Motion made by Commissioner Moses, second by Commissioner Roland that we accept it. All voting "Aye".

11. **Discussion/Action** regarding the selection of the Caldwell County Salary Grievance Committee. **Cost: None; Speaker: Judge Schawe; Backup: None.**

Judge Schawe asks for a motion to table, stating there was no grievance filed so it is not required.

So moved by Commissioner Moses, second by Commissioner Roland. All voting "Aye".

12. **Discussion/Action** regarding Elected Officials Salaries for the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Budget. **Cost: TBD; Speaker: Judge Schawe; Backup: 1.**

Judge Schawe says that unless court members want to reduce he is looking for a motion to approve.

Commissioner Theriot and Commissioner Wright confirm the rate is 3.8 percent across the board.

Judge Schawe tables the item until after the Public Hearing.

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13. **PUBLIC HEARING at 9:30AM:** regarding the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Budget. **Cost: None; Speaker: Judge Schawe; Backup: None.**

Public Hearing opens at 9:29 a.m. and closes at 9:46 a.m.

District Clerk Tina Morgan Freeman says the 3.8 percent raise is appreciated and explains her frustrations regarding salaries and budget changes. She also reviews a handout with court members pertaining to requests for her office. The County Clerk did not receive the handout for the minutes.

Judge Ben Brady, Precinct 4 Justice of the Peace says he is lobbying for a part time clerk and is updated by Judge Schawe and Commissioner Theriot that the position is in the budget.

14. **PUBLIC HEARING at 9:30AM:** regarding the 2018 Tax Year Proposed Property Tax for Caldwell County. **Cost: None; Speaker: Judge Schawe; Backup: None.**

Public Hearing opens at 9:46 a.m. and closes at 9:50 a.m.

Linda Hinkle is a Lockhart resident who is asking that the court not increase the tax rate.

12. **Discussion/Action** regarding Elected Officials Salaries for the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Budget. **Cost: TBD; Speaker: Judge Schawe; Backup: 1.**

Judge Schawe reopens item 12 and says he is looking for a motion to approve. Judge Schawe confirms for Commissioner Wright that the salary being approved is in line with what everyone else is getting.

Motion made by Commissioner Wright, second by Commissioner Roland. All voting "Aye".

15. **Discussion/Action** to approve the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Budget. **Cost: TBD; Speaker: Judge Schawe; Backup: 1.**

Judge Schawe requests tabling the item because the budget is not finalized and he reviews items he will update.

Commissioner Moses, Judge Schawe, Barbara Gonzales, Tina Morgan Freeman, Commissioner Theriot, Molly Cole, Nova Vela, Mike Lane, and Lori Rangel discuss topics including the 3.8 percent raise to compensate for the new pay periods and how it is not flush across the County the way some people understood it would be along with what merits the higher percentages and discussing them in a future court meeting. Checks being short until May due to the new 26 week pay period and an option for a \$300.00 per employee stipend being provided across the board at an \$81K deficit are also discussed.

Judge Schawe asks for a motion to table. So moved by Commissioner Theriot, second by Commissioner Moses. All voting "Aye".

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16. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** pursuant to Sections 551.071 and 551.074 of the Texas Government Code: consultation with counsel and deliberation regarding the performance and duties of the Caldwell County Engineer. Possible action may follow in open court. **Cost: None; Speaker: Commissioner Theriot; Backup: None.**

Executive Session begins at 10:27 a.m. and closes at 10:43 a.m.

Commissioner Wright, Commissioner Moses, Judge Schawe, Commissioner Theriot, Commissioner Roland, and Amanda Montgomery are all present. No action is taken.

17. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** pursuant to Sections 551.071 and 551.087 of the Texas Government Code: consultation with counsel and deliberation regarding economic development negotiations associated with Project Oklahoma. Possible action may follow in open court. **Cost: TBD; Speaker: Commissioner Theriot / Mike Kamerlander; Backup: None.**

Executive Session begins at 10:44 a.m. and closes at 11:11 a.m.

Commissioner Wright, Commissioner Moses, Judge Schawe, Commissioner Theriot, Commissioner Roland, Amanda Montgomery, Mike Kamerlander, and Christian Duran are all present.

Recommendation made by Commissioner Theriot, second by Commissioner Moses to authorize the County Judge to extend an incentive offer to project Oklahoma. All voting "Aye".

18. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** pursuant to Sections 551.071 and 551.087 of the Texas Government Code: consultation with counsel and deliberation regarding economic development negotiations associated with Project Duplo. Possible action may follow in open court. **Cost: TBD; Speaker: Commissioner Theriot / Mike Kamerlander; Backup: None.**

Executive Session begins at 11:12 a.m. and closes at 11:29 a.m.

Commissioner Wright, Commissioner Moses, Judge Schawe, Commissioner Theriot, Commissioner Roland, Amanda Montgomery, Mike Kamerlander, and Christian Duran are all present.

Recommendation made by Commissioner Theriot, second by Commissioner Moses that we authorize the County Judge to forward an incentive offer to project Duplo. All voting "Aye".

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19. Adjournment.

Judge Schawe asks for a motion to adjourn. So moved by Commissioner Moses, second by Judge Schawe. All voting "Aye".

Court adjourns at 11:30 a.m.

I, CAROL HOLCOMB, COUNTY CLERK AND EX OFFICIO 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 August 27, 2018.

Carol Holcomb

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

