
MINUTES OF COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING

I.

Attached hereto is/are public notice(s) posted for the meeting of **March 26, 2020**.

II.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of Fayette County, Texas, Commissioners Court held in the County Agricultural Building Training Room located at 255 Svoboda Lane, La Grange, Texas.

III.

Attendance: County Judge Joe Weber **Present**
County Commissioner – Precinct No. 1, Jason McBroom **Present**
County Commissioner – Precinct No. 2, Luke Sternadel **Present**
County Commissioner – Precinct No. 3, Harvey Berckenhoff **Present**
County Commissioner – Precinct No. 4, Tom Muras **Absent**

IV.

County Officials/County Personnel present during all or any part of the meeting:
Brenda Fietsam, County Clerk; Cassie Austin, Court Administrator; Kathy Kleiber, Auditor; Craig Moreau, Emergency Management; Blake Watson, Assistant County Attorney; Judy Blaha, EMS; Malissa Mieth, EMS Assistant Director; Randy Noviskie, Chief Deputy Sheriff; Clint Sternadel, County Inspector & Office Development & Permitting; Chris Story, Emergency Management Part Time Assistant; Brenden Gilbreath, Emergency Management Part Time Assistant

V.

Persons in attendance during all of any part of the meeting:

VI.

Meeting opened at **1:30 p.m.** on motion by Commissioner **Berckenhoff**, seconded by Commissioner **Sternadel**, votes for **4**, votes against **0**.

VII.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE TEXAS FLAG

“Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.”

INVOCATION

AGENDA ACTION:

1. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action regarding extending, modifying and revising, if necessary, the Declaration of Local Disaster for Fayette County, Texas that was signed into order on March 19, 2020.**

ACTION: Extended the Declaration of Local Disaster for Fayette County, Texas that was signed into order on March 19, 2020 for an additional 14 days.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: Blake Watson, Assistant County Attorney

MOVED BY COMMR. Berckenhoff, SECONDED BY COMMR. Sternadel.

Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Muras, vote for ____, vote against **Absent**

Judge Weber, vote for **X**, vote against _____

2. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action in approving the following minutes from previous meetings:**

- i. **March 12, 2020 – Regular Meeting**

- ii. **March 19, 2020 – Special Meeting**

ACTION: Approved minutes from previous meetings.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: Brenda Fietsam, County Clerk

MOVED BY COMMR. McBroom, SECONDED BY COMMR. Sternadel.

Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Muras, vote for ____, vote against **Absent**

Judge Weber, vote for **X**, vote against _____

- 3. SUBJECT: Open public comments – petitions, requests or statements by the public. Close.**

ACTION: Opened and Accepted all comments about COVID 19, the Census, Pine Ridge Road being opened, and Johnsons Control project being near completion from the court.

Closed public comments.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT:

MOVED BY COMMR. McBroom, SECONDED BY COMMR. Berckenhoff.

Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Muras, vote for _____, vote against **Absent**

Judge Weber, vote for **X**, vote against _____

- 4. SUBJECT: Acknowledge monthly calls, collection, and financial report from EMS Director Sharon Muzny.**

ACTION: Acknowledged monthly calls, collection, and financial report from EMS representative.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: Judy Blaha, EMS

MOVED BY COMMR. Berckenhoff, SECONDED BY COMMR. Sternadel.

Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Muras, vote for _____, vote against **Absent**

Judge Weber, vote for **X**, vote against _____

5. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action authorizing the termination of the following Agreements made by Fayette County, Texas: (1) "AMB Service Agreement" with Credit Bureau Systems, Inc. dba Ambulance Medical Billing; (2) "Business Associate Agreement" with Ambulance Medical Billing; authorizing the termination of the following Agreements made by Fayette County, Texas on behalf of Fayette County EMS: (3) "Collection Service Agreement" and (4) "Business Associate Agreement", each with Credit Bureau Systems, Inc.; authorizing the termination of (5) all other associated Agreements with Credit Bureau Systems, Inc., MARS, and/or with AMB; and authorizing the County Attorney's Office to prepare and send a letter of termination to the appropriate company(ies).**

ACTION: No action taken.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: Blake Watson, Assistant County Attorney

MOVED BY COMMR. McBroom, SECONDED BY COMMR. Berckenhoff.

Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Muras, vote for _____, vote against **Absent**

Judge Weber, vote for **X**, vote against _____

6. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action authorizing the County Auditor, assisted by the Fayette County EMS and by the County Attorney's Office, to advertise a Request for Proposals for billing services, bill collection services, and for medical records and subpoena services for the Fayette County Emergency Medical Services.**

ACTION: No action taken.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: Blake Watson, Assistant County Attorney

MOVED BY COMMR. Berckenhoff, SECONDED BY COMMR. Sternadel.

Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Muras, vote for _____, vote against **Absent**

Judge Weber, vote for **X**, vote against _____

7. **SUBJECT: Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action concerning the EMS Headquarters and Station One Construction Project.**

ACTION: Accepted all comments concerning EMS Headquarters and Station One Construction Project.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: Clint Sternadel, County Inspector & Office of Development & Permitting; Blake Watson, Assistant County Attorney

MOVED BY COMMR. McBroom, SECONDED BY COMMR. Berckenhoff.

Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Muras, vote for _____, vote against **Absent**

Judge Weber, vote for **X**, vote against _____

8. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action concerning the application from Larry Brown, requesting a variance to allow the division of their real property.**

ACTION: Approved the application from Larry Brown, requesting a variance to allow the division of their real property.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: Clint Sternadel, County Inspector & Office of Development & Permitting

MOVED BY COMMR. Berckenhoff, SECONDED BY COMMR. Sternadel.

Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Muras, vote for _____, vote against **Absent**

Judge Weber, vote for **X**, vote against _____

9. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action in approving and signing an agreement between Colorado Valley Telephone Company and Fayette County regarding the policy and procedure for accepting and approving future plans for Colorado Valley Telephone Company to lay telephone, copper, and fiber lines in the public County rights of way.**

ACTION: Approved and Signed an agreement between Colorado Valley Telephone Company and Fayette County regarding the policy and procedure for accepting and approving future plans for Colorado Valley Telephone Company to lay telephone, copper, and fiber lines in the public County rights of way.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: Blake Watson, Assistant County Attorney; Cassie Austin, Court Administrator

MOVED BY COMMR. Berckenhoff, SECONDED BY COMMR. Sternadel.

Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Muras, vote for _____, vote against **Absent**

Judge Weber, vote for **X**, vote against _____

10. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action regarding approving and signing an interlocal agreement between Fayette County, the City of Flatonia, and Flatonia ISD for the mutually beneficial exchange of materials and road and bridge equipment.**

ACTION: Deferred to next regular scheduled meeting.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: Blake Watson, Assistant County Attorney

MOVED BY COMMR. Berckenhoff, SECONDED BY COMMR. McBroom.

Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Muras, vote for _____, vote against **Absent**

Judge Weber, vote for **X**, vote against _____

11. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action in accepting bids and possibly awarding a Lease Purchase bid for the financing of a Road & Bridge Maintainer for Road and Bridge, Prect. No, 4.**

ACTION: Accepted all bids and Awarded bid to Carmine State Bank for a Lease Purchase for the financing of a Road and Bridge Maintainer for Road and Bridge, Prect, No. 4.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: Kathy Kleiber, Auditor

MOVED BY COMMR. McBroom, SECONDED BY COMMR. Sternadel.

Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Muras, vote for _____, vote against **Absent**

Judge Weber, vote for **X**, vote against _____

12. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action approving the Property and Liability Renewal with the Texas Association of Counties for year 2020-2021.**

ACTION: Approved the Property and Liability Renewal with the Texas Association of Counties for year 2020-2021.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: Kathy Kleiber, Auditor, was asked to remove item #374, a 2015 New Holland w/loader T490, since the county no longer owns this.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: Kathy Kleiber, Auditor

MOVED BY COMMR. Berckenhoff, SECONDED BY COMMR. Sternadel.

Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Muras, vote for _____, vote against **Absent**

Judge Weber, vote for **X**, vote against _____

13. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action approving the Affordable Care Act Reporting and Tracking Service (ARTS) Renewal Information.**

ACTION: Approved and Signed the Affordable Care Act Reporting and Tracking Service (ARTS) Renewal Information.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: Kathy Kleiber, Auditor

MOVED BY COMMR. McBroom, SECONDED BY COMMR. Berckenhoff.

Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Muras, vote for _____, vote against **Absent**

Judge Weber, vote for **X**, vote against _____

14. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action approving any Salary changes, if any for the period of February 22, 2020 to March 21, 2020.**

ACTION: Approved Salary changes for the period of February 22, 2020 to March 21, 2020.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: Kathy Kleiber, Auditor; Malissa Mieth, Assistant EMS Director

MOVED BY COMMR. Sternadel, SECONDED BY COMMR. Berckenhoff.

Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Muras, vote for _____, vote against **Absent**

Judge Weber, vote for **X**, vote against _____

15. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action concerning approving the payment of currently due Fayette County bills and expenses.**

ACTION: Approved the payment of currently due Fayette County bills and expenses.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: Judge Weber asked Kathy Kleiber, County Auditor, to watch spending; make sure it is for essentials.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: Kathy Kleiber, Auditor; Randy Noviskie, Chief Deputy Sheriff; Malissa Mieth, Assistant EMS Director

MOVED BY COMMR. Sternadel, SECONDED BY COMMR. Berckenhoff.

Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____

Commr. Muras, vote for _____, vote against **Absent**

Judge Weber, vote for **X**, vote against _____

VIII.

Meeting adjourned at **2:35 p.m., March 26, 2020**, on motion by Commissioner **McBroom**, seconded by Commissioner **Berckenhoff**, votes for **4**, votes against **0**.

APPROVED this 9th day of April, 2020.

Joseph Weber
Fayette County Judge

Jason McBroom
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Luke Sternadel
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Harvey Berckenhoff
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Tom Muras
Commissioner, Precinct 4

ATTEST:

Brenda Fietsam
County Clerk