

The State of Texas

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County of Edwards

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BE IT REMEMBERED that on this 8th day of October, 2019, at 9:00 o'clock a.m. there came on and was held in the City of Rocksprings, Edwards County, Texas, at the Edwards County Courthouse therein, a Regular Open Meeting of the Commissioners' Court of Edwards County, Texas. The Agenda for this Regular Open Meeting of the Commissioners' Court of Edwards County, Texas was posted on October 2, 2019 at 3:43 o'clock p.m.

Present were:

Honorable William Epperson, Commissioner of Precinct One

Honorable Lee Sweeten, Commissioner of Precinct Two

Honorable Matt Fry, Commissioner of Precinct Three

Honorable Kenneth Reed, Commissioner of Precinct Four

Honorable Souli Asa Shanklin, County Judge

Honorable Olga Lydia Reyes, County and District Clerk

1. **Determination of quorum; Call to Order.** The Open Meeting was called to order at 9:00 o'clock a.m. by Judge Shanklin. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Court was led in prayer by Commissioner Fry. The roll was then called by Clerk Reyes. All Commissioners were present.

2. **Open Forum.** There were no participants in Open Forum.

3. **Staff Reports.** There were no questions on the staff reports.

4. **DELIBERATE, CONSIDER and/or TAKE ACTION ON ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:**

a. **Prior Minutes:** Commissioner Reed made the motion to approve the minutes from September 10, 2019; Commissioner Fry seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

b. **Burn Ban:** No action taken.

c. Presentation of Grant Proposal for 4H barn and show barn-Josilyn Peterson.

Mrs. Peterson, current Club Manager of our local 4-H Club, appeared to address the Court and inform them of the grant proposal that she is putting together for the purpose of securing funds to make major repairs and renovations to the Edwards County 4-H barn and show barn. She presented a lengthy list of repairs needed in these facilities. She is working on two grant proposals: one is intended to be made to the Peterson Foundation and would be asking for a \$200,000 grant and the other grant proposal is intended for the Stevens Foundation and would be asking for a \$50,000 grant. Commissioner Sweeten suggested that since these are county-owned facilities, he believes that a formal approval to the request to improve County property would need to be considered by the Court. Peterson was asked to continue working on her grant proposals and the Court will place an item for formal approval to the request to improve County property on next month's agenda.

d. Edwards Republican Party-Kathy Walker absent-Olga Lydia Reyes to present the change of Pct. 4 polling location to the Long Distant Learning Room at the Library. Clerk Reyes informed the Court that Kathy Walker, the Republican chairperson for Edwards County had a suggestion to move the polling place for Edwards County Precinct 4 from the School Auditorium foyer to the Long Distance Learning Room in the Gilmer Memorial Library, a building that is just adjacent to the library on the RISD campus. This move is made to a more appropriate location which would be more comfortable for the election workers and voters. Judge Shanklin made the motion approve the change from the Pct. 4 polling location to the Long Distance Learning Room at the Gilmer Memorial Library; Commissioner Matt Fry seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

e. Presentation on Edwards Plateau Interdiction Unit. Sheriff Pamela Elliott and her guest, Real Sheriff Nathan Johnson, appeared before the Court to give a presentation on the Edwards Plateau Interdiction Unit which would involve cooperation between Edwards County law enforcement and Real County law enforcement. No action taken as this was an information item only.

f. **Discuss and/or Take Action on Lease Agreement between Barksdale Baptist Church and Edwards County. – Sheriff Pamela Elliott.** Commissioner Sweeten addressed the Court. The County has taken an old FEMA trailer and made it livable; we are now looking for a place in Barksdale to park it. The preacher at the Barksdale Baptist Church in Barksdale, also the Chaplain, made it known that the BBC has a lot that they are not using that has water and access to electricity. This would be a good spot for the FEMA trailer; it would be used for a deputy to live in. Commissioner Sweeten put together a standard Texas lease agreement that he now puts before the Court for consideration. The lot needs a bit of cleaning up and it could be done by the road crew in about 2-3 hours. Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to approve the Texas Residential Lease Agreement between the Barksdale Baptist Church and Edwards County; Commissioner Reed seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

g. **Discuss and Act on Resolution to allow the Edwards County Sheriff to open an Impound Bank account.** Sheriff Elliott stated that this account has to do with vehicles that have been seized by law enforcement. She is wanting to construct an impound lot between the Sheriff's office and the Fire Department so as not to impede on the County yard. In the Transportation Code, this is not run through a line item; it is run through the bank account. Judge Shanklin asked who has oversight of this account. Nathan Johnson answered that his County's Treasurer audits their account every week. The Judge and the Sheriff would sign the checks according to Elliott, and then an audit would be performed. When she then wants to use that money, she would request a transfer from this impound account to the general fund. Shanklin stated that he doesn't sign checks. Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to approve the Resolution to allow the Edwards County Sheriff to establish an Impound Account at the Bank; Commissioner Fry seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

h. **Formula Grant Request for Applications for Texas Indigent Defense Commission.** Judge Shanklin stated that these applications run through Esser and Company. Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to approve the 2020 Edwards County Resolution – Indigent Defense Grant Program. Commissioner Fry

seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

i. Pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Commissioners' Court will meet in Executive Session

i. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Closed Meeting) pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074. Review job performance of Road Superintendent and discuss re-appointment of another two years.

The Court went into Executive Session at 9:45 a.m.

ii. RECONVENE in Open Session to consider and/or act on matters considered in Executive Session.

The Court came out of Executive Session at 10:02 a.m. and Judge Shanklin reconvened the Court at 10:03 a.m to consider and/or act on matters considered in Executive Session.

j. Discuss and/or take action from Executive Session for the Road Superintendent. Commissioner Sweeten made the motion for the reappointment of Jason Arp as Road Superintendent for another two year term; Commissioner Reed seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor/1 opposed, with Commissioner Epperson being in opposition.

5. New Business. Commissioner Epperson inquired about the County's nominees for the Appraisal District Board. He recalls that names are usually selected by the Court and then given to the Appraisal District. Judge Shanklin stated that this matter will be placed on the next agenda.

6. Set time and date for next meeting. The next Open Meeting of the Edwards County Commissioner's Court will be on the second Tuesday of November, 2019 (November 12, 2019) at 9:00 o'clock a.m.

7. Pay bills. Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to pay bills; Commissioner Reed seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

8. **Adjourn.** Commissioner Fry made the motion to adjourn; Commissioner Reed seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

APPROVED:



SOULI ASA SHANKLIN
Edwards County Judge

Attest:



OLGA LYDIA REYES
Edwards County and District Clerk

