**The State of Texas §**

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**County of Edwards §**

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that on this 6th day of August, 2018, at 11:00 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 Special Open Meeting of the Commissioners’ Court of Edwards County, Texas. The Agenda for this Special Open Meeting of the Commissioners’ Court of Edwards County, Texas was posted on August 1, 2018 at 11:27 o’clock a.m.

Present were:

Honorable William Epperson, Commissioner of Precinct One

Honorable Lee Sweeten, Commissioner of Precinct Two

Honorable Matt Fry, Commissioner of Precinct Three, arrived late

Honorable Andrew Barnebey, 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 Special Open Meeting was called to order at 11:00 o’clock a.m. by Judge Shanklin. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Court was led in prayer by Commissioner Epperson. The roll was then called by Clerk Reyes. All Commissioners were present.

2. **Open Forum.** There were no participants in the 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. **Discuss and/or consider Road and Bridge Budget. – Jason Arp.** Judge Shanklin generally discussed that everybody’s budget, with the exception of the Tax Assessor/Collector, Detention Center, and Appraisal District stayed the same. There are two pipelines that are coming through our County. The last time that a pipeline came through, the County received an M & O revenue of about $253,000 and the R&B received about $63,000. The County earmarked that money to pay off our portion of this Courthouse. If we do this same thing again and earmark these new pipelines that come through to pay down our debt on the Annex, this will make our I & S lower and then we no longer have to collect the I & S money. This would raise our general M & O to bring in more revenue but our bottom line would not change.

The Court continued to discuss the proposed tax rate and possible increases needed. The Judge announced that the Sheriff would be the only elected official to receive a 5% salary increase and that this would be published.

The Road and Bridge Budget was also discussed. Epperson had concerns about the revenues being disproportionate to the expenditures. It was discussed that the grant money received had not been accounted for in these figures. Epperson still contended that the budget needed to show as being balanced. Epperson also inquired as to the parts and labor line item on the road and bridge budget; he asked why a proposed amount couldn’t be listed. Arp answered that the Road and Bridge Department repairs had been done this fiscal year; our equipment is in much better shape. Epperson responded that he still couldn’t see it. Barnebey inquired as to whether the public could be presented with a budget that had parentheses in it like in this instance. Shanklin stated that everything concerning the budget is on the website for the public’s review and comparison. Sweeten stated that if this is proposed budget is published, the expenditures should have a notation that part of this expense is reimbursable by grant. Fry interjected that the reason that we’re spending this kind of money is because we are receiving this kind of money. He is also of the opinion that this should be reflected in the budget.

Epperson also asked why there was not a medical line item on the Road and Bridge budget. Shanklin answered that it was found in line item 202. Epperson feels that his precinct has not been worked adequately in the rotation. Arp countered and listed some of the work that had been done in Pct. 1.

Sweeten stated that he had a question about the main budget for the Sheriff about the School Resource Officer. Elliott gave a brief rundown of this position and the necessity for it. The Rocksprings school will provide an office and equipment; the Barksdale school will provide office but not equipment. Barnebey asked what the training costs were; Elliott answered that the class was $450 and the hotel was about the same.

b. **Discuss and/or consider proposed tax rate for FY 19 for Edwards County, if proposed tax rate will exceed the rollback rate or the effective tax rate (whichever is lower), take record vote and schedule public hearings. – Judge Shanklin.**

**LRFM:** Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to set the proposed LRFM tax rate at 0.1285; Commissioner Fry seconded the motion. The Commissioners were polled and their votes were recorded as follows:

Barnebey: Aye

Fry: Aye

Shanklin: Aye

Sweeten: Aye

Epperson: Abstained

The motion carried 4/0, with 1 abstention.

**I & S:** Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to set the proposed I & S tax rate at .0194; Commissioner Fry seconded the motion. The Commissioners were polled and their votes were recorded as follows:

Barnebey: Aye

Fry: Aye

Shanklin: Aye

Sweeten: Aye

Epperson: Aye

The motion carried 5/0.

**M & O:** Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to set the proposed M & O tax rate at .5772; Commissioner Barnebey seconded the motion. The Commissioners were polled and their votes were recorded as follows:

Barnebey: Aye

Fry: Aye

Shanklin: Aye

Sweeten: Aye

Epperson: Against

The motion carried 4/1.

**Overall tax rate:** Commissioner Barnebey made the motion to set the proposed overall tax rate at .725100; Commissioner Sweeten seconded the motion. The Commissioners were polled and their votes were recorded as follows:

Barnebey: Aye

Fry: Aye

Shanklin: Aye

Sweeten: Aye

Epperson: Against

The motion carried 4/1.

**Public hearings:** Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to set the public hearings on the proposed tax rates on August 14, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m.; August 23, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m.; and the final meeting to approve the proposed budget and tax rates on August 30, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m. The Commissioners were polled and their votes were recorded as follows:

Barnebey: Aye

Fry: Aye

Shanklin: Aye

Sweeten: Aye

Epperson: Aye

The motion carried 5/0.

c. **Discuss and/or consider setting Elected Official Salaries (County Sheriff) for FY19 to be published in local paper. – Judge Shanklin.** Commissioner Epperson made the motion to set the Elected Official Salaries (County Sheriff) for FY19 to be published in the local paper; Commissioner Sweeten seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

**3. Set Time and Date.** The next meeting of the Edwards County Commissioners Court will be on August 14, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

**4. New Business.** No new business was discussed.

**5. Adjourn.** Commissioner Barnebey made the motion to adjourn; Commissioner Sweeten seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0. This meeting of the Edwards County Commissioners Court was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

APPROVED:

SOULI ASA SHANKLIN

Edwards County Judge

Attest:

OLGA LYDIA REYES

Edwards County and District Clerk