

Commissioners' Court Minutes, Bastrop County, Texas

March 8, 2021

Pursuant to law, the Commissioners' Court of Bastrop County, Texas, convened in a Regular Session on the 8th day of March, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the Commissioners Courtroom, Second Floor, 804 Pecan Street, Bastrop, Texas, with the following members present:

Paul Pape	County Judge
Mel Hamner	Commissioner Precinct # 1
Clara Beckett	Commissioner Precinct # 2
Mark Meuth	Commissioner Precinct # 3
Donna Snowden	Commissioner Precinct # 4

being five members present in the Courtroom and a quorum and Rose Pietsch, County Clerk, ex-officio.

Social distancing was being practiced in the Courtroom. A teleconference was set up so that folks could listen and participate in the meeting.

A. The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Judge Pape who also opened with prayer. Allegiance was made to the Flags.

E. ACTION AGENDA: The following items are for discussion and possible action:

1. Meuth made a motion to approve the payment of the bills. Beckett seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.

2. Meuth made a motion to approve the Minutes from February 22, 2021 regular meeting and the February 26, 2021 Special meeting. Beckett seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.

B. Citizen's Comments: Jim Rose addressed the Court with pictures stating that his wildlife has left the area due to the work done in Rosanky on the Big Star solar project. He asked where the environmental study is for the project. He recommended the abatement document be started over so the citizens of Rosanky can have their concerns addressed. He also requested that a timetable is set for bulldozers to run so they aren't disturbing the citizens extremely early or late.

C. Certificates of Service were given to Krystal Burton in IT for 15 years, Rachel Frost as Commissioner Precinct 2 Assistant for 15 years, Maridel Borrego in the Collections and Compliance Office for 10 years, Suzy Stoppelberg-McGee in the DA's Office for 5 years and to Horace Black Jr for 5 years as a visiting Judge.

D. Department Reports:

1. Adena Lewis thanked the Court for the efforts given, sometimes at the last minute, to bring production to the County, which in turn brings economic development. She introduced Kim LeBlanc from the Texas Film Commission, who stated they are celebrating 50 years as a State Agency. Kim stated that Bastrop County is a Film Friendly County due to the efforts of Adena Lewis and presented a Film Friendly Certification to the County. The Judge thanked Adena for her excellent work. She stated that it remains to be about the "team". Adena further reported that due to COVID, business is down but they are starting to see increase in visitations to local hotels. She hopes to see an increase in HOT tax this year.

Adena stated that we will see growth in all parts of the County and that Broadband has been focused on a lot due to COVID especially how it has become essential for education, Telehealth and work. Adena stated that Bastrop County Cares has partnered with the Economic Development team to do a Broadband Study and it was a \$40,000 project. She thanked Bastrop County Cares, St. David's Foundation, The Hogg Foundation, Bastrop Economic Development Corporation, Elgin Economic Development Corporation, First National Bank of Bastrop, Frontier Bank of Texas and Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce for their generous donations toward this project. The full report and interactive map is located on the County website thanks to Lyndsey Schroeder. Adena stated that 3624 responses to a survey were completed by Bastrop County citizens and businesses. There are some large areas of the County with very little coverage. Broadband has never been addressed in Bastrop County like it is now and Adena is excited about this. There will be a follow up meeting on March 25, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. in the Annex conference room with all providers being present. Grants can be applied for because of this study.

2. Abram Barker gave an update on Floodplain Management. He stated that February was a very busy month with new floodplain maps being released. This affects how the community builds and grows. He stated the most impacted areas are the cities and the Cedar Creek watershed because of Cedar Creek and its' tributaries. The Colorado River did not have any major changes. Beckett thanked Abram for the report and thanked the Court for these studies dating back to 2005. She is happy to see updated maps due to these investments that were made.

3. Christine Files gave a report on DR-4586 (February Weather Event). The EOC has returned to normal operations. The Commissioners distributed 24 truckloads of water across their precincts over a four-day period. The Long Term Recover Team has partnered again with Mennonite Disaster Services to do plumbing repairs. So far 23 have been done and a new group arrived on Saturday and should get 15 more homes done this week. Crisis Cleanup has received 49 requests for Bastrop, Hays, Travis & Williamson Counties.

We are on Day 353 of our Response to COVID-19. The EOC remains a Level 3 Response to this. They continue to support St. David's Test site and vaccine pods at various places. The contract with St. David's expires at the end of March. There were 79 tests done last week. Christine asked for direction from the Court on this issue. Dr. Walkes' contract also expires at the end of March. The EOC recommends extending her contract. These items will be put on the next agenda.

Judge Pape stated how efficiently every vaccine clinic is run. The comments received reflect that they are very well organized like a well-oiled machine and they all run so smoothly. Judge Pape thanked Debbie Bresette from Bastrop County Cares for the beautiful organization of the volunteers and Dr. Walkes for the organization of the various clinics—over 5000 vaccines were given out in Bastrop County last week with another 1000 assigned to us at Circuit of the Americas. Christine announced a celebration was held in Bastrop County last week as we exceeded 10,000 vaccinations done in our County so far. The vaccine business is not slowing down here. Judge Pape thanked Bastrop Independent School District for the use of the PAC Center and announced that they offered the use of Memorial Stadium on Hwy 21 for a larger clinic if we can get the vaccines. He also thanked Bastrop Christian Outreach Center (BCOC) for opening their doors to whatever is needed. He stated their support has been heartwarming.

Christine reported that the National Guard sent the Air Guard to Bastrop County for the first pilot program across Texas on Saturday, March 6th to vaccinate homebound and elderly citizens. 103 vaccinations done between the hours of 9:30 am and 3:00 p.m. The oldest person was a 94-year-old woman who was vaccinated in her home. There are hundreds more that need to be vaccinated. Dr. Walkes had been compiling a list of names of homebound folks.

E. ACTION AGENDA: The following items are for discussion and possible action:

3. (Item # 4) Beckett made a motion to approve Bastrop County Constables Exempt Racial Profiling Report(s) for 2019-2020. Snowden seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.

4. (Item # 5) Sheriff Cook reported there were no written reports filed. Hamner made a motion to approve 2020 Racial Profiling Statistics. Snowden seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.
5. (Item # 6) Snowden made a motion to approve Tyler Technologies Agreement for a wireless barcode scanner located in property room at Sheriff's Office. Beckett seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.
6. (Item # 20) Sheriff Cook thanked the Auditor's Office for getting all this together. Hamner made a motion to approve Intergovernmental Agreement with the US Marshals Service for increase in per diem for housing inmates. Beckett seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.
7. (Item # 21) Beckett made a motion to pay overtime instead of required Comp time when all time has been appropriately accounted for and agreed upon by Auditor and Human Resources. Hamner seconded, a friendly amendment was made by Beckett to say this is applicable to all departments who were called in to response to DR – 4586 Storm Uri, Hamner seconded the amendment, motion carried with 5 ayes.
8. (Item # 22) Discussion was held on the Environmental Enforcement Officer. It was agreed that this person would be housed at the Sheriff's Office as a Deputy. Pape made a motion to approve Memorandum of Understanding between Bastrop County Development Services and Bastrop County Sheriff's Office regarding Environmental Enforcement Officer subject to Carolyn Dill, Judge Pape and Sheriff Cook working out the minor details and coming up with a final agreement. Snowden seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.

The Court took a 5-minute recess at 10:30 a.m. and was called back into session at 10:35 a.m.

9. (Item # 3) Kristin Miles briefed the Court on the required report in odd numbered years. They will pay close attention to City populations during redistricting. Snowden made a motion to accept the review of the County Election Precincts with no changes at this time. Beckett seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.
10. (Item # 7) Beckett made a motion to approve Ad Valorem Tax Collection Contract with Altessa Municipal Utility District. Snowden seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.
11. (Item # 8) Discussion was held on this issue with different ideas presented as possible solutions. Beckett made a motion to waive Transfer Station fees for 2 weeks, from March 16 through March 27, for damage due to Storm Uri, on the honor system. Snowden seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.
12. (Item # 9) Hamner made a motion to approve existing metes and bounds division of 0.445 acres and 0.34 acres in the B.A.M. Thomas Survey; Precinct: 1; Owner: Walter Sneed (pursuant to Section 232.0015 of the Texas Local Government Code). Beckett seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.
13. (Item # 10) Meuth made a motion to award a contract for RFP 21BCP01A Grant Writing and Admin for TDA-CDBG 2021-2022 Community Development Funds - Stony Point to Langford Community Management Services. Hamner seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.
14. (Item # 11) Meuth made a motion to enter into contract negotiations and approve a contract with Steger Bizzell Engineering, Inc. for RFQ 21BCP01B Engineering for TDA-CDBG 2021-2022 Community Development Funds - Stony Point, contingent upon successful fee schedule negotiations. Snowden seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.
15. (Item # 12) Hamner made a motion to approve request to solicit bids for an erosion repair project at Dry Creek Bridge in Precinct 1. Beckett seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.
16. (Item # 13) Snowden made a motion to approve request to solicit bids for cleaning of COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Facilities. Beckett seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.

D. Department Reports:

4. Dr. Walkes addressed the Court stating that testing is declining and the positivity rate is slowly declining. We have received 14,200 doses of vaccine and plan to distribute 4000-5000 this week. They are in the process of collaborating with Circuit of the Americas to get folks vaccinated. Judge Pape thanked Dr. Walkes and her entire team for the excellent job they are doing.

E. ACTION AGENDA: The following items are for discussion and possible action:

17. (Item # 14) Zac Loftin from CAMPO reported on the 2020 Bastrop County Transportation Plan Update. Beckett thanked the CAMPO staff for preparing this Plan. Beckett made a motion to adopt the 2020 Bastrop County Transportation Plan Update. Hamner seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.

18. (Item # 15) Hamner made a motion to convey our willingness to conceptually amend our Transportation Plan and be flexible to honor this developer's request not to have a new regional corridor go through his development to connect Lovers Lane to SH 304. Beckett seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.

19. (Item # 16) Beckett made a motion to approve exemption from plat requirement on an existing metes and bounds division of 1.001 acres in the Henry P. Redfield Survey, Abstract 286; Owner: Buffalo Creek Properties, LLC (pursuant to Section 232.0015 of the Local Government Code). Meuth seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.

20. (Item # 17) Snowden made a motion to approve Preliminary Plan of Dunbar Estates Subdivision which lays out 5 lots out of 18.024 acres in the Dempsey Pace Survey; Owner: Austin787 Properties, LLC in Precinct 4. Meuth seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.

21. (Item # 18) Snowden made a motion to set a public hearing on Monday, April 12, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. for:

A. Regarding the revision of a portion of Tract 14, Rianna Woods Subdivision and Tract 15-B, Rianna Woods Subdivision, Amending Plat of Tract 15 with a variance to Bastrop County Subdivision Regulations, Section VI.3.a. (lot frontage); Owner: Luis Alberto Avila Flores (aka: Luis Avila) in Precinct 4.

22. (Item # 19) Beckett made a motion to appoint Mayor Joanna Morgan as Bastrop County representative to CARTPO Board. Hamner seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.

F. DISCUSSION ONLY:

DO1. Beckett explained the situation between the Tiner siblings concerning the Tiner Family Subdivision.

DO2. Carolyn Dill addressed the Court concerning updating subdivision regulations for high density development.

DO3. Amending Bastrop County COVID-19 Operations Strategies—Judge Pape informed the Court that folks will begin asking us to remove precautions based on the Governor's removal of the mask mandate effective 3/10/2021. He will address this in the next meeting.

G. CONSENT AGENDA (Consent Agenda items are generally routine.) Unless removed by a member of the Court, items listed on the consent agenda will be acted on together.

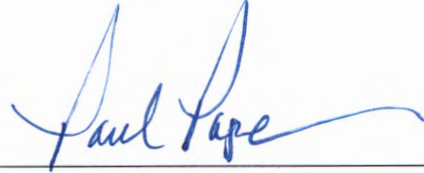
- CA1. Approve bond of Kyle Pence as Deputy Sheriff.
- CA2. Release of LPHCP Conservation Easement: Milner, Glona.
- CA3. Approve LPHCP Implementing Agreements: Milner, Littles.
- CA4. Approve LPHCP Conservation Easements: Milner, Fahrnkopf, Voight, Davis, Vassar, Evans.
- CA5. Election contracts for the following entities for the May 1, 2021 Election: (A) Elgin Municipal Utility District No. 1, (B) Elgin Municipal Utility District No. 2.
- CA6. Approve corrected "Consent to Define Easement on Upper Elgin Road".
- CA7. 2019 and 2020 Tax Rate Order typo corrections.
- CA8. Medina Place; divide 3 lots out of 3.998 acres in the Bastrop Town Tract Survey; Owners: Jose Medina Lopez (aka: Jose Medina Gallegos) and Carolina Medina Gallegos; Precinct 1.
- CA9. Reality Point Subdivision, Amending Plat of Lots 9A & 11A of Reality Point Subdivision, Amending Plat of Lots 9 & 11; Owners: Scott E. Botz & Valerie Gallegos-Botz and Euan Joseph Murphy, Jr. & Ebbie Doll Murphy; Precinct 2.
- CA10. Copeland Acres; divide an existing 5 acres in the George H. Stoval Survey; Owners: Franklin Dwight Copeland and Alisa Kay Copeland; Precinct 4.
- CA11. The Happy Toad Amended Plat of Lot 1; Owner; Miles E. Collinson; Precinct 2.
- CA12. Amending Plat of Lot 28 & Portion of Lot 29, Thousand Oaks; Owners: Marcos Rodriguez & Maria E. Rodriguez-Pacheco; Precinct 3.
- CA13. Brochtrup Subdivision; divide four (4) lots out of 14.05 acres in the Bernard Bymer Survey; Owners: Joseph E. Brochtrup and Vicki A. Junker; Precinct 3.
- CA14. Redbird Estates; divide two lots out 2.582 acres in the Sarah Cottle Survey; Owners: Craig Scot Robichaud & Sharon Grace Robichaud; Precinct 2.
- CA15. Ratify the signing of two rental agreements by the Bastrop County OEM with A-1 Party Time Rentals for Tents used at the COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics.
- CA16. Approve refunds of overpayment or double payment of property taxes since January 1, 2021, pursuant to Section 31.11 (a) (2) of the Texas Property Tax Code.
- CA17. Application for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) Grant FY 2020.

Judge Pape informed the Court that CA6 needed to be pulled.

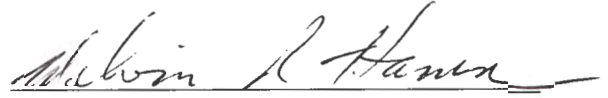
Snowden made a motion to approve all items on the Consent Agenda except Item CA6, which was pulled. Beckett seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.

CA6. Pape made a motion to table Item CA6. Hamner seconded, motion carried with 5 ayes.

H. Having concluded all the business on the Agenda, Judge Pape declared the meeting adjourned at 12:11 p.m.



County Judge

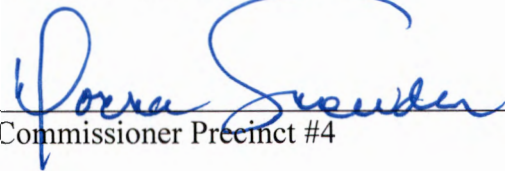


Commissioner Precinct #1

Commissioner Precinct #2



Commissioner Precinct #3



Commissioner Precinct #4

Attest:



Rose Pietsch, County Clerk