



MINUTES

WALLER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT REGULAR SESSION WEDNESDAY – SEPTEMBER 3, 2025

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Honorable Commissioner's Court of Waller County, Texas, met in **REGULAR SESSION** on Wednesday, the 3rd day of September 2025 at its meeting place at the Waller County Joe Kuciemba Annex, Hempstead, Texas.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Waller County Judge Trey Duhon at 9:20 a.m. with the following members of the Court present to-wit:

Carbett "Trey" J. Duhon III, County Judge
John A. Amsler, Commissioner Precinct 1
Walter Smith, Commissioner Precinct 2
Kendric D. Jones, Commissioner Precinct 3
Justin Beckendorff, Commissioner Precinct 4
Debbie Hollan, County Clerk

Delivery of Invocation by: Commissioner Amsler

Pledge to the American Flag and Texas Flag read by: Commissioner Beckendorff

1. Approval of Agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon	– Yes	Commissioner Amsler	– Yes	Commissioner Smith	– Yes
		Commissioner Jones	– Yes	Commissioner Beckendorff	– Yes

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Larry Parr

CONSENT AGENDA

Items identified within the Consent Agenda are of a routine nature and will be passed with one vote without being discussed separately. If a member of the court or public requests that a particular item be discussed, that agenda item will be pulled from the Consent Agenda and discussed as part of the regular agenda at the appropriate time. One vote will approve the remaining items on the Consent Agenda.

2. Approval of Minutes – August 20, 2025 Regular Session
3. Request by County Treasurer for Approval of Payroll Disbursements.
4. Request by County Auditor to Approve and/or Ratify 2025 Budget Adjustments and Departmental Line-Item Transfers. *(no backup submitted)*

5. Request by County Engineer to accept a Formal Notice from A T & T for Hand Holes and Communication Lines within right of way of Riverwood Ln, Windmill Dr, Pin Oak Ln, Jozwiak Ln, Bosque Rd (Project # 2025-1776).
6. Request by County Engineer to accept a Formal Utility Notice from ATT to place PFP Cabinet and communication lines in the right-of-way of Thomas Ln. (Project # 2025-1777).
7. Request by County Engineer to accept a Formal Utility Notice from ATT to place hand holes and communication lines in the right-of-way of Thomas Ln., Jingles, Brazos Estates Dr., and Cooke Rd. (Project # 2025-1778).
8. Request by County Engineer to approve the Final Plat of La Segarra Section 2 and accept the Construction Bond in Precinct 3.
9. Request by County Engineer to approve the Final Plat of Maple Woods Section 1 and accept the Construction Bond in Precinct 2.
10. *Item 10 removed from Consent Agenda, Court addressed after item 33. (page 4)*
11. Request by County Grant Manager to approve contract extension with Justice Benefits, Inc. for grant administrative services for the S.M.A. grant program for a term ending August 18, 2029.
12. Request by County Grant Manager to accept FY25 Texas Indigent Defense Commission Formula Grant Award in the amount of \$50,192.00.
13. Request by County Tax Assessor-Collector to approve Fixed Asset Transfer to the Maintenance Department.
14. Request by County Fire Marshal to approve Fixed Asset Transfer to the Sheriff's Office.
15. Approve contract with Gene Bates Auctioneers, Inc. to conduct auctions related to contraband forfeited under Chapter 59 of the Texas Penal Code.

Requests to approve payments on the following:

16. Request by County Tax Assessor-Collector to approve refund in excess of \$500.00 in accordance with Article 31.11 State Property Tax Code.
17. \$202,539.75 for Invoice #8152025GWA to Waller County Appraisal District from line item 125-437-540500 [Tax Appraisal District].
18. \$48,384.00 for Invoice #27705 to BGE, Inc. for Professional Services current June 28, 2025 through July 25, 2025. Funds to be paid from line item 605-605-545405 [Prof. Services].
19. \$18,795.70 for Invoice #27704 to BGE, Inc. for Professional Services rendered June 28, 2025 through July 25, 2025. Funds to be paid from line item 605-605-545405 [Prof. Services].

20. \$267,683.57 for Invoice #73519 to Binkley & Barfield, Inc. for Professional Services rendered June 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025. Funds to be paid from line item 605-605-545405 [Prof. Services].
21. \$49,907.65 for Invoice #10664-1 to EHRA, Inc. for Professional Services ending June 29, 2025. Funds to be paid from line item 605-605-545405 [Prof. Services].
22. \$114,339.93 for Invoice #190525 to HR Green for Professional Services rendered May 31, 2025 through June 27, 2025. Funds to be paid from line item 605-605-545405 [Prof. Services].
23. \$35,563.51 for Invoice #191115 to HR Green for Professional Services rendered June 28, 2025 through July 25, 2025. Funds to be paid from line item 605-605-545405 [Prof. Services].
24. \$77,923.90 for Invoice #25-001.003 to Trilogy Engineering Services LLC. for Professional Services rendered July 1, 2025 through July 31, 2025. Funds to be paid from line item 605-605-545405 [Prof. Services].
25. \$70,092.40 for Invoice #307007-3 to Volkert, Inc. for Professional Services rendered June 21, 2025 through July 18, 2025. Funds to be paid from line item 605-605-545405 [Prof. Services].
26. \$28,653.00 to be paid to Benny G. Courtney for deposit of the repairs to the bell tower. Funds to be paid from 604-604-581839 [Soft Costs].
27. \$2,043.96 for Invoice #60 to King Architectural Consulting Services to be paid from line item 604-604-545405 [Professional Services].
28. \$3,281.25 for Invoice #50694, and \$2,798.72 for Invoice #50944, for a total payment of \$6,159.97 to LDDBlueline from line item 125-600-545402 [Professional Services Pct 2 Annex].
29. \$4,331.25 for Invoice #50693, and \$3,712.50 for Invoice #50943, for a total payment of \$8,043.75 to LDDBlueline from line item 125-600-545403 [Professional Services Pct 3 Annex].
30. \$20,142.50 for Invoice #50695, and \$2,375.00 for Invoice #50945, for a total payment of \$22,517.50 to LDDBlueline from line item 606-606-545407 [Professional Services/Vehicle Maintenance].
31. \$122,231.77 for Invoice #9917, \$146,574.56 for Invoice #9924, and \$135,608.63 for Invoice #9948 for a total amount of \$404,414.96 to Wilson Bauhaus Interiors to be paid from line item 604-604-581839 [Soft Costs].
32. Request by County Auditor to Approve and/or Ratify Accounts Payable.

Commissioner Beckendorff made motion to approve the Consent Agenda with item 10 removed, to address after item 33, seconded by Commissioner Jones.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler

– Yes

Commissioner Jones

– Yes

Commissioner Smith

– Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

COUNTY ENGINEER

33. **Public Hearing:** Replat of Frontier Farms Section Two. The amendment will create ten (10) Lots and one (1) Block by Owner R & L Solutions INC.

Public Hearing began at 9:30 a.m.

County Engineer Ross McCall explained amendment.

Public Hearing ended at 9:32 a.m.

Addressed Agenda Item 10 from Consent Agenda

10. Approve Final Replat of Frontier Farms Section Two in Precinct 2.

Motion made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Jones.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler

– Yes

Commissioner Smith

– Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

34. Discuss and take action on variance request from San Bernard Electric Cooperative (SBEC), to exempt SBEC from the right-of-way restoration bond requirement when applying for Right-of-Way permits. *(no backup submitted)*

Motion made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Motion FAILED by 0-5 vote. **VARIANCE DENIED**

Judge Trey Duhon – No

Commissioner Amsler

– No

Commissioner Smith

– No

Commissioner Jones – No

Commissioner Beckendorff – No

GRANT MANAGER

35. Authorize the County Grant Manager to submit an application under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program pursuant to W-552-17 for funding to purchase a generator for the Waller County Radio Tower.

Motion made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler

– Yes

Commissioner Smith

– Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

PROCUREMENT DIRECTOR

36. Approve Agreement with Orsa Dynamics for services regarding the dissemination of information related to the creation of a County Assistance District, in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.00. Funds to be paid from line item 125-401-540900 [Prof. Consultant Services]. **and**
37. Approve the award recommendation of Bid 25-002, Justice Center Vehicle Maintenance Garage to Gullo Commercial Construction LLC, in the amount of \$1,552,809.00. Funds to be paid from line item 606-606-582809 [Tax Notes]. **and**
38. Approve Agreement with B-Greener Industrial Cleaners, LLC for degreaser products and consultation services for Road & Bridge oil tank in the amount of \$14,987.74. Funds to be paid from line item 110-530-568455 [Fleet Operations]. **and**
39. Approve Agreement with Texas Patcher, LLC for repair parts and installation services for Road & Bridge asphalt tank in the amount of \$4,884.00. Funds to be paid from line item 110-530-568455 [Fleet Operations].

Commissioner Jones made motion to approve items 36 thru 39, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler

– Yes

Commissioner Smith

– Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

COUNTY JUDGE

40. Approve the Certification of the 2025 Waller County Appraisal Roll as required under Property Tax Code 26.04(b).

Motion made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler

– Yes

Commissioner Smith

– Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

41. Take appropriate action regarding the 2025 Tax Rate.

Commissioner Smith moved that the Waller County Commissioners Court propose to adopt a total tax rate of 55.6187 cents per \$100 valuation, the same rate being a combination of rates for the Waller County General Fund rate of 43.9463 cents per \$100 valuation and the Farm to Market Flood control rate of 2.3591 cents per \$100 valuation and to the Debt Service Fund rate of 2.3133 cents and to schedule the Public Hearing for the 2025 tax rate on September 17, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Waller County Joe Kuciemba Annex in Hempstead, Texas, seconded by Commissioner Jones.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler

– Yes

Commissioner Smith

– Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

42. Authorize the County Judge to publish the Notice of Salary Increases for Elected Officials in the Katy Times, Waller Times, The Waller County Express, and on the County Website. Funds to be paid from line item 125-401-544100 [Bid Notices and Printing]. **and**

43. Authorize the County Judge to publish the Notice of 2025 Tax Year Proposed Tax Rate for Waller County in the Katy Times, Waller Times, The Waller County Express, and on the County Website. Funds to be paid from line item 125-401-544100 [Bid Notices and Printing]. **and**

44. Authorize the County Judge to publish the Notice of Budget Hearing in the Katy Times, Waller Times, The Waller County Express, and on the County Website. Funds to be paid from line item 125-401-544100 [Bid Notices and Printing].

Judge Duhon made motion to approve items 42, 43 and 44, seconded by Commissioner Jones.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler

– Yes

Commissioner Smith

– Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

45. Accept the resignation from Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1, Judge Charles Karisch, effective September 3, 2025.

Motion made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler

– Yes

Commissioner Smith

– Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

46. Discuss and take action on interim appointment for Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1, to fill unexpired term, until December 31, 2026.

Public comments were received from the following:

1. Samantha Harris 2. Anthony Pulci 3. Candice Adams 4. Joe Hester

Commissioner Beckendorff made motion to appoint Mr. Joe Hester the interim Justice of the Peace for Precinct 1, seconded by Commissioner Amsler.

Motion carried by 4-1 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – No

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES

47. Discuss and take action on Precinct 2 and Precinct 3 Architectural Designs and Floor Plans.

Motion made by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Jones.

Commissioner Beckendorff made motion to approve the current design with the caveat that Danny and Sheriff are going to get together and hammer this out by the next couple of days, by the end of the week and we'll get numbers so we can get with the Auditor and make sure we move everything over because we have to have this done 2 weeks from today, just for the budget portion of it, seconded by Commissioner Jones.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

MISCELLANEOUS

48. Discuss and take action to accept the donation of a refrigerator valued at \$324.74 from Rick Castillo of Early Birdie Plumbing to be located in the juror room at the 506th District Court.

Motion made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Amsler.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

49. Approve acceptance of Masonic Lodge Cornerstone to be placed on the Waller County Courthouse.

Public Comments were received from the following:

1. Stephen Orlando 2. Carter Sharbrough 3. Ben Tibbs 4. Joe Rutledge 5. Angela Hardy
6. Shannon Birkenbach

Motion made by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Amsler.

Motion carried by 4-1 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – No

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

Advanced to Agenda Item 51

51. Approve transfer of FIRE/EMS emergency calls to WestCom 911 Center.

Public comments were received from the following:

1. Max Doss 2. Rhonda Getschman 3. Dr. Aaron Buzzard 4. William McDougal 5. Brian Davis
6. Samantha Harris 7. Rebecca Densmore 8. Sheriff Troy Guidry

Motion made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Motion carried by 3-2 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – No

Commissioner Smith – No

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

Returned to Agenda Item 50

50. Approve the Lease and Facility Interlocal Agreement between Waller-Harris ESD 200 and Waller County.

Motion made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler

– Yes

Commissioner Smith

– Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

Proceeded with Agenda Item 52

52. Approve settlement agreement related to Opioid Litigation against Purdue and the Sacklers. *and*

53. Approve resolution and settlement agreement related to opioid litigation against Alvogen, Inc.; Apotex Corp.; Amneal Pharmaceuticals LLC; Hikma Pharmaceuticals USA Inc.; Indivior Inc.; Viatrix Inc.; Sun Pharmaceutical Industries, Inc.; and Zydus Pharmaceuticals.

Commissioner Jones made motion to approve Items 52 and 53, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler

– Yes

Commissioner Smith

– Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

54. Approve agreement with Sparklight Business for construction costs in the event of early termination related to previous contract.

Motion made by Commissioner Beckendorff, seconded by Commissioner Jones.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler

– Yes

Commissioner Smith

– Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

- ~~55. Approve deliberation of business and financial issues in executive session based on determination and recommendation from the District Attorney's Office that deliberation in an open meeting regarding business and financial issues related to the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real properties would have a detrimental effect on the position of the County in negotiations with third persons. Item WITHDRAWN.~~

- ~~56. Approve deliberation of business and financial issues in executive session based on determination and recommendation from the District Attorney's Office that deliberation in an open meeting regarding business and financial issues related to contract negotiations for it would have a detrimental effect on the position of the County in negotiations with third persons. Item WITHDRAWN.~~

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- ~~57. Consultation with District Attorney related to advice about pending or contemplated litigation or a settlement offer. Item WITHDRAWN.~~

- ~~58. Deliberate business and financial issues related to the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real properties pursuant to Government Code Sections 551.072 and 551.0725. Item WITHDRAWN.~~

- ~~59. Deliberate business and financial issues related to contract negotiations pursuant to Government Code 551.0725. Item WITHDRAWN.~~

60. ~~Reconvene in Open Session to take any action necessary on matters discussed in Executive Session. Item WITHDRAWN.~~

ADJOURN MEETING

Motion to **adjourn** meeting by Commissioner Amsler, seconded by Commissioner Beckendorff.

Motion carried by 5-0 vote.

Judge Trey Duhon – Yes

Commissioner Amsler – Yes

Commissioner Smith – Yes

Commissioner Jones – Yes

Commissioner Beckendorff – Yes

Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 12:35 p.m

I **ATTEST** that the above proceedings are the true and correct minutes taken in my capacity as
Ex-Officio for the Commissioners' Court of Waller County.

Debbie Hollan
Waller County Clerk

APPROVED this the 17th day of September 2025.

Carbett "Trey" J. Duhon, III
County Judge