



MINUTES

BE IT REMEMBERED that on the 25th day of February, 2019, the Honorable Commissioners Court of Uvalde County, Texas convened in the Commissioners' Courtroom of the Uvalde County Courthouse. The following members were in attendance:

William R. Mitchell, *County Judge*
Randy Scheide, *Commissioner #1*
Mariano Pargas Jr., *Commissioner #2*
Jerry W. Bates, *Commissioner #3*
Ronnie Garza, *Commissioner #4*
Valerie Del Toro Romero, *County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioner's Court*

Also present were *County Treasurer* Joni Deorsam, *County Auditor* Alice Chapman, *County Attorney* John Dodson, *County Tax Assessor-Collector* Rita C. Verstuyft, and *Road Administrator* Jesse Garcia.

1. Consider and act upon call to order, invocation and pledge of allegiance:

The Honorable William R. Mitchell called the meeting of February 25, 2019 to order at 10:00 AM followed with the invocation, led the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Consider and act upon approval of minutes:

Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve the minutes of February 11, 2019.
Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.
The motion unanimously carried (4-0).

3. Consider and act upon status report of collections by Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott, LLP:

Attorney Carlos Arce with Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott, LLP provided a status report to the Court on the collection of delinquent property taxes. This report included collection statistics, status of account and litigation update with a tax year chart and dollar range chart.

Motion by Commissioner Pargas to approve report.
Seconded by Commissioner Garza
The motion unanimously carried (4-0).

4. Consider and act upon resolution in support of Stonegarden Grant application:

County Consultant Carl Esser requested a resolution in support of the Stonegarden grant application. The grant is a one year grant available from the Department of Homeland Security to assist the sheriff's office with the purchase of two fully equipped vehicles at a cost of \$43,000 dollars each, radio equipment at a cost of \$5,400 dollars and overtime pay for deputies patrolling in the fight against drugs. No matching funds are required unless grant budget is exceeded.

Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve resolution.

Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.

The motion unanimously carried (4-0).

5. Consider an act upon resolution in support of Local Border Security Program:

County Consultant Carl Esser requested a resolution in support of the Local Border Security program grant application. The total grant award amount of \$48,700 dollars for the Uvalde County Sheriff's Office is for one year and the funds are available from the Office of the Governor. No matching funds are required unless grant budget is exceeded.

Motion by Commissioner Pargas to approve resolution.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

The motion unanimously carried (4-0).

6. Consider and act upon check presentation from TDA for home delivered meal program:

The Court was presented a check by County Consultant Carl Esser in the amount of \$17,835.35 from the Texas Department of Agriculture for the Uvalde County Nutrition Center home delivered meal program. The Nutrition Center served 23,809 home delivered meals in Uvalde County serving 144 clients in 2018.

No action was taken.

7. Consider and act upon racial profiling report presented by the County Sheriff:

Statute requires a Sheriff to file an annual report. Deputy Fred Ratliff informed the Court that the Uvalde County Sheriff's deputies conducted a total of 1,915 traffic stops in 2018 and no complaints were filed against the Uvalde County Sheriff's Office.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to approve the County Sheriff racial profiling report.

Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.

Motion unanimously carried (4-0).

8. Consider and act upon racial profiling reports filed by County Constables:

Statute requires a Constable to file an annual report. Reports were submitted for consideration by Constable Pct. 1 Johnny J. Field, Constable Pct. 2 Weldon McCutchen and Constable Pct. 3 Jimmy Mangum. No complaints were identified on these reports. Full exemption racial profiling reports were filed by Constable Pct. 2 Weldon McCutchen and Constable Pct. 3 Jimmy Mangum.

Motion by Pargas to approve the racial profiling reports filed by County Constables.

Seconded by Commissioner Bates.

Motion unanimously carried (4-0)

9. Consider and act upon presentation by Elections Administrator regarding election equipment:

Elections Administrator Melissa Jones provided information to the Court regarding the types of election equipment available related to a particular system a county uses in the election process. The four types of election equipment systems presented for informational purposes only were; Paper, Electronic, Ballot Marking Devices and Ballot on Demand.

No action was taken.

10. Consider and act upon resolution in support of proposed legislation pertaining to hand marked ballots in county wide polling places:

Elections Administrator Melissa Jones requested a resolution in support of hand marked ballots in the county wide polling place program. An amendment to the Texas Election Code is currently being presented in the state legislature, House Bill No. 1220, which would allow the use of ballot marking devices or hand marked paper ballots in county wide polling places. If adopted, it would allow an individual to vote in any polling site within the county instead of the polling precinct in which the individual resides.

Motion by Commissioner Pargas to approve resolution in support of proposed legislation.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

The motion unanimously carried (4-0). See attached.

11. Consider and act upon acknowledging certifications received by County Clerk:

A new county clerk is required to receive continuing education from the Attorney General's Office of the State of Texas. County Clerk Valerie Del Toro Romero received certificates of completion for Open Meetings Act and Public Information Act. This education is required within the first three months of taking office.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to approve certificates of completion.

Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.

The motion unanimously carried (4-0).

12. Consider and act upon Road Administrators report:

Road Administrator Jesse Garcia informed the Court that the Uvalde County Road Department worked on blading county roads 201, 202, 302, 308 and 330. Cutting brush on county road 334. Patch work was done on streets in Knippa and Utopia area and county road 405.

No action was taken.

13. Consider and act upon line item budget amendments:

No amendments were presented to the Court for consideration at this time.

No action was taken.

14. Consider and act upon payment of bills:

Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve payment of bills.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion unanimously carried (4-0).

15. Consider and act upon payroll approval:

Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve payroll.

Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.

Motion unanimously carried (4-0)

16. Consider and act upon approval of monthly reports:

Monthly reports on file for review in the office of the Uvalde County Clerk were presented for approval.

Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve monthly reports.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion unanimously carried (4-0)

17. Consider and act upon resolutions/proclamations:

The Court approved resolutions in honor of the memory of the following individuals:

Carlos Diaz, Jr. †

Carlos Rangel †

Irma L. Rodriguez †

Maria De Jesus Velasquez †

18. Executive Session (Permitted by section 551.074, Texas Government Code:

The Court entered into Executive Session at 10:40 AM and adjourned at 11:05 AM with the following items to discuss:

- a. Personnel matters – related to selection of Road Administrator.

19. Convene in open session and take action, if any:

The Court reconvened into open session. Applicants for the position of Uvalde County Road Administrator were discussed and the Court announced ready to proceed with the appointment of Lloyd Dee Kirkpatrick as the Uvalde County Road Administrator with a start date of March 1, 2019.

Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve Road Administrator appointment.

Seconded by Commissioner Scheide.

Motion carried (3-1). Commissioner Scheide, Commissioner Pargas and Commissioner Bates voting for the motion and Commissioner Garza voting against the motion.

With no further business, the meeting of February 25, 2019 was adjourned.

COMMISSIONERS COURT ORDER

On this the 11th day of March, 2019, came to be heard the Uvalde County Commissioners Court Minutes of February 25, 2019, as prepared by the Clerk of the Court.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED the foregoing be recorded and entered for record in the UVALDE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES, as required by law. (ORDER 03-12-12)

APPROVED BY: _____
William R. Mitchell, County Judge

Randy Scheide, Commissioner #1

Mariano Pargas, Jr., Commissioner #2

Jerry W. Bates, Commissioner #3

Ronnie Garza, Commissioner #4

(SEAL)

ATTEST: _____
Valerie Del Toro Romero, County Clerk and
Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court
of Uvalde County, Texas

UVALDE COUNTY

RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF HAND-MARKED BALLOTS IN THE COUNTY-WIDE POLLING PLACE PROGRAM

WHEREAS: Under current statute, only counties that use direct recording electronic voting machines are able to participate in the countywide polling place program; and

WHEREAS: An amendment to Section 43.007 of the Texas Election Code would allow the use of ballot marking devices or hand-marked scannable paper ballots with ballot printing and scanning at the countywide polling place; and

WHEREAS: The advent of new technologies in election equipment, provides counties who use ballot on demand systems the ability to successfully run a countywide polling place; and

WHEREAS: HB 1220 has been filed by Representative Travis Clardy to amend Section 43.007 of the Texas Election Code to allow hand-marked ballots in the County-wide Polling Place Program;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED;

That on February 25, 2019, the **Uvalde County Commissioners Court**, meeting as a body in Uvalde, Texas, adopts this resolution and urges the Texas Legislature to allow counties that use ballot marking devices or hand-marked scannable paper ballots with ballot printing and scanning at the polling site to be authorized to participate in the County-wide Polling Place Program.

SIGNED, THIS 25th DAY OF February, 2019, A.D.



William R. Mitchell
Uvalde County Judge