



MINUTES

BE IT REMEMBERED that on the 12th day of August, 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 Attorney John Dodson, County Treasurer Joni Deorsam, Tax Assessor-Collector Rita C. Verstuyft, County Auditor Alice Chapman and Road Administrator Dee Kirkpatrick.*

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

The Honorable William R. Mitchell called the meeting of August 12, 2019 to order at 10 AM followed with the invocation, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and Texas Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Consider and act upon approval of minutes:

Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve the minutes of July 22, 2019 and July 31, 2019. Seconded by Commissioner Garza.
The motion unanimously carried (4-0).

3. Consider and act upon adoption of 2019-2020 Uvalde County Budget:

Auditor Alice Chapman outlined the Uvalde County tax rate revenue, general fund totals and road and bridge fund totals. The proposed 2019-2020 balanced budget with a total tax rate of 0.7508 will result in an increase of 0.0149 per each \$100 of taxable value. The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year including tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax role is 13,787,542.00. Local resident Jared Capt addressed the Court in opposition of a tax rate increase citing a trend from local taxing entities and provided the Court documentation with surrounding area rate comparisons.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to adopt the 2019-2020 balanced budget.
Seconded by Commissioner Bates.

Motion carried with Commissioner Garza, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Pargas and Judge William R. Mitchell voting in favor of motion.
Commissioner Scheide voted against the motion.
The motion unanimously carried (4-1).

4. Consider and act upon adoption of Salary Fund:

Pursuant to Local Government Code Section 152 Auditor Alice Chapman outlined the proposed salary fund including a 5% increase for a grand total of \$1,225,439.12.

Motion by Commissioner Bates to adopt the salary fund.

Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.

Motion carried with Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Pargas, Commissioner Garza and Judge William R. Mitchell voting in favor of motion.

Commissioner Scheide voted against the motion.

Motion unanimously carried (4-1).

5. Consider and act upon discussion of tax rate; if proposed tax rate will exceed roll back rate or the effective tax rate (whichever is lower), take record vote and schedule public hearing:

Auditor Alice Chapman outlined the proposed 2019-2020 tax rates; General Fund M&O Tax Rate 0.5257, FM/Flood M&O Tax Rate 0.1350, I&S Debt Service Tax Rate 0.0901, Total Tax Rate 0.7508 with an increase of 0.0149, Total M&O Rate 0.6607, Total Effective Tax Rate 0.6976, Roll Back Rate 0.7732. The Court scheduled the first public hearing for August 26, 2019 and the second public hearing for September 9, 2019 and a final meeting on September 23, 2019 to adopt tax rate.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to accept the proposed tax rate.

Seconded by Commissioner Bates.

Motion carried with Commissioner Garza, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Pargas and Judge William R. Mitchell voting in favor of motion.

Commissioner Scheide voted against the motion.

Motion unanimously carried (4-1).

6. Consider and act upon Order setting salary of County Auditor:

An order setting salary of County Auditor was provided to the Court for consideration and approval by the 38th Judicial District Judge Camile G. Dubose.

Motion by Commissioner Bates to adopt the order.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion unanimously carried (4-0).

7. Consider and act upon Order setting salary of Assistant County Auditors:

An order setting salary of Assistant County Auditors was provided to the Court for consideration and approval by the 38th Judicial District Judge Camile G. Dubose.

Motion by Commissioner Bates to adopt the order.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion unanimously carried (4-0).

8. Consider and act upon Order setting salary of Official Court Reporter:

An order setting salary of Official Court Reporter was provided to the Court for consideration and approval by the 38th Judicial District Judge Camile G. Dubose.

Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve the order.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion unanimously carried (4-0).

9. Consider and act upon Order of Appointment of County Auditor and bond approval:

An Order of Appointment and a Western Surety Company official bond and oath was provided to the Court for consideration and approval by the 38th Judicial District Judge Camile G. Dubose appointing the County Auditor Alice Chapman for a two year term beginning August 14, 2019 and ending August 14, 2021.

Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve the order.

Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.

Motion unanimously carried (4-0).

10. Consider and act upon preliminary approval of Esperanza Subdivision submitted by Fry Homes:

A preliminary subdivision application submitted by Mark Fry of Fry Homes was outlined by Engineer Kenneth R. Dirksen. The proposed Esperanza Subdivision is 8 acres of land divided into seventeen (17) lots partially located in the City of Uvalde with the majority located in the County of Uvalde. It is a proposed L shaped cul de sac with water and sewer available through the City of Uvalde.

Motion by Commissioner Pargas to approve preliminary application of Esperanza Subdivision.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion unanimously carried (4-0).

11. Consider and act upon adopting optional road/bridge vehicle fee and child safety fee:

The Court has the option to approve a Road/Bridge fee in the amount of \$10 per vehicle and a Child Safety fee in the amount of \$1.50 per vehicle to be imposed upon the issuance of a motor vehicle registration. In the past, the Court has chosen the option to implement the Road/Bridge fee in the amount of \$10.

Motion by Commissioner Pargas to accept the Road/Bridge fee.

Seconded by Commissioner Bates.

Motion unanimously carried (4-0).

No action taken on Child Safety fee.

12. Consider and act upon resolution adopting voting system pursuant to Texas Election Code:

Texas Election Code Section 61.102 requires the Commissioners Court to adopt a voting system in each polling place used in a Texas election. A resolution outlined by Elections Administrator Melissa Jones Bradham recommending the use of Verity Print and Verity Touch Writer with Access System (Version 2.0.3) provided by Hart Intercivic, Inc. was considered by the Court.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to approve resolution.

Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.

Motion unanimously carried (4-0)

13. Consider and act upon nomination to fill vacancy to UCAD Board of Directors:

Due to a vacancy on the Uvalde County Appraisal District Board of Directors, the Court may submit a nominee to be considered as a replacement. Commissioner Garza made a recommendation to nominate Johnny Guzman, an employee of Southwest Texas Junior College.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to nominate Johnny Guzman to the UCAD Board of Directors.

Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.

Motion unanimously carried (4-0).

14. Consider and act upon ratification of ban on outdoor burning:

County Judge William R. Mitchell issued an Order Prohibiting Outdoor Burning on July 25, 2019. The Court considered and approved ratification of that order.

Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve the order.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion unanimously carried (4-0)

15. Consider and act upon line item budget amendments:

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

No action taken.

16. Consider and act upon Road Administrators report:

Road Administrator Dee Kirkpatrick informed the Court that the Road Department completed work on CR 355, patched CR 348 and will complete CR 414 by the end of the week.

No action taken

17. 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).

18. Consider and act upon payroll approval:

Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve payroll.
Seconded by Commissioner Garza.
Motion unanimously carried (4-0).

19. Consider and act upon resolutions and proclamations:

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

Jose Angel Ale †
Jerry Allen †
Jose B. Amaya, Sr. †
Irma Gaytan †
Esperanza U. Jaquez †
Juan “Johnny” Munoz †
Jose Reyes †
Blanche Robertson †
Virginia Scoggin †
Crissy Nicole Sweeten †
Carlton David Wood †

20. Executive session (as permitted by section 551.071, Texas Government Code):

A. Discussion with Attorney regarding national opioids litigation.

The Court entered into executive session at 10:34 AM to discuss national opioids litigation.

21. Convene in regular session and take action, if any:

The Court reconvened into regular session at 10:51 AM and considered the recommendation of the County Attorney John Dodson to join the litigation of opioid abuse with the State of Texas along with a pre arrangement with Phipps Deacon Purnell, PLLC, a firm from San Antonio, Texas as legal representatives for the County of Uvalde in this litigation.

Motion by Commissioner Bates to accept recommendation.
Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.
Motion unanimously carried (4-0).

With no further business, the meeting of August 12, 2019 was adjourned.

COMMISSIONERS COURT ORDER

On this the 26th day of August, 2019, came to be heard the Uvalde County Commissioners Court Minutes of August 12, 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