



MINUTES

BE IT REMEMBERED that on the 14th of August, 2023, the Honorable Commissioners Court of Uvalde County, Texas convened in regular session on the East lawn of the Uvalde County Courthouse. The following members were in attendance:

William R. Mitchell, *County Judge*
John Yeackle, *Commissioner Pct. #1*
Jerry W. Bates, *Commissioner Pct. #3 (via zoom)*
Ronnie Garza, *Commissioner Pct. #4*
John P. Dodson, *County Attorney*
Donna M. Williams, *County Clerk and Clerk of
the Commissioners Court*

Absent: Mariano Pargas, *Commissioner Pct. #2*

Also present were, District Judge Camile DuBose, *County Treasurer* Joni Deorsam, *County Tax-Assessor Collector* Rita Verstuyft, and *County Road Administrator* Dee Kirkpatrick.

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

The Honorable William R. Mitchell, Uvalde County Judge, called the meeting of August 14, 2023 to order at 10:10 AM, followed with the invocation, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Texas Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Consider and act upon approval of minutes:

Motion by Commissioner Garza to approve the Minutes of July 24, 2023, as presented.

Seconded by Commissioner Yeackle.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

3. Consider and act upon resolution prohibiting carrying of handguns in courthouse:

Section 46.03 of the Texas Penal Code prohibits the carrying of handguns, even by holders of a handgun license, on the premises of any government court or offices utilized by the court. The Uvalde County Judge and the 38th Judicial District Judge Camile DuBose have presented a joint resolution requesting the Commissioners Court to take action prohibiting the carrying of handguns in the Uvalde County Courthouse. Judge DuBose was present to discuss the resolution, and requested approval.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to approve resolution prohibiting the carrying of handgun in courthouse.

Seconded by Commissioner Yeackle.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

4. Consider and act upon approval to file DBA's for the resilience program under UTRC and UCWC:

District Attorney Christina Mitchell outlined the request to file DBA's (Doing Business As) for programs operated at the resiliency center. Mitchell requested that two DBA's be filed, one as Uvalde Together Resiliency Center, and the other as Uvalde County Wellness Center, with the understanding that eventually the resiliency center will transition to Uvalde County Wellness Center.

Motion by Commissioner Yeackle to approve for filing DBA's for the resilience program under UTRC and UCWC.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

5. Consider and act upon contract with Accelerated Card Company LLC dba Certified Payments for Tax Assessor Office credit card payments:

Tax Assessor Collector Rita Verstuyft outlined request.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to approve contract with Accelerated Card Company LLC dba Certified Payments.

Seconded by Commissioner Yeackle.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

6. Consider and act upon payment of bills:

Motion by Commissioner Yeackle to approve payment of bills.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (Bills were not presented)

7. Consider and act upon payroll approval:

Public Participants, Brett Cross and Ruben Torres Jr. spoke in opposition to approving payroll.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to approve payroll.
Seconded by Commissioner Yeackle.
Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

8. Consider and act upon monthly reports:

Monthly reports that are on file for review in the County Clerk's office were presented to the court for consideration and approval.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to accept monthly reports.
Seconded by Commissioner Yeackle.
Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

9. Consider and act upon change order for vehicle bids received for DA's Border Prosecution Unit:

At the last meeting of the Court, bids were awarded for purchase of vehicles for the District Attorney Border Prosecution Unit from Cavender Auto Country Motors. Since the award was made, the bidder indicated the vehicles were no longer available but another model was. The change order is to allow for the purchase of the different model. Carl Esser outlined the change request for \$4,151.74. Esser recommended approval.

Public Participant Diana Olvedo Karau requested information on why the dept. needed new vehicles and what they would be used for. County Auditor Alice Chapman gave overview.

Motion by Commissioner Yeackle to approve change order for vehicle bids for DA's Border Prosecution Unit.
Seconded by Commissioner Garza.
Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

10. Consider and act upon change order for vehicle bids received for DA's Operation Lone Star:

At the last meeting of the Court, bids were awarded for purchase of vehicles for the District Attorney Operation Lone Star Unit. Since the awarding was made, the bidder indicated the vehicles were no longer available but another model was. The change order in the amount of \$14,037.33 is to allow for the purchase of the different model. Carl Esser outlined the change order request and recommended approval.

Public Participant Diana Olvedo Karau requested information on the need for and use of new vehicles.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to approve change order for vehicle bids received for DA's Operation Lone Star.

Seconded by Commissioner Yeackle.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

11. Consider and act upon resolution to recall UCAD Board of Directors member Javier Flores:

Mr. Javier Flores is a member of the Board of Directors, but does not live in Uvalde County. SWTJC has recently filed a resolution seeking to recall the board member due to him not residing in the county. Uvalde County has 662 votes to cast for the recall of Mr. Flores.

Public Participant Diana Olvedo Karau addressed the court in opposition to the court allowing him to continue to serve for many years knowing he has not lived within the county.

Motion by Commissioner Yeackle to pass resolution to recall UCAD Board of Directors member Javier Flores due to Flores not residing in Uvalde County.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

12. Consider and act upon change order for Mid-Town complex building:

In order to finish out the east side of the Mid-Town Complex, a construction change order is needed. Change Order request in the amount of \$429,125.05 to complete the interior and exterior of the building. Carl Esser outlined the request and recommended approval.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to approve change order for Mid-Town Complex building.
Seconded by Commissioner Yeackle.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

13. Consider and act upon 2023-2024 final budget draft:

County Auditor Alice Chapman presented the proposed final draft.

Public Participant Diana Olvedo Karau addressed the court with her concerns with no longer holding budget request meetings with each department head.

Motion by Commissioner Yeackle to place the 2023-2024 final budget draft into the minutes of the court.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

14. Consider and act upon No-New-Revenue tax rate:

County Auditor Alice Chapman outlined. The No-New Revenue tax rate for the ensuing year is .625107.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to receive the No-New-Revenue tax rate.

Seconded by Commissioner Yeackle.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

15. Consider and act upon Voter-Approval tax rate:

County Auditor Alice L. Chapman outlined. The Voter- Approval rate for the ensuing year is .561853.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to place in the minutes the Voter-Approval tax rate, as presented.

Seconded by Commissioner Yeackle.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

16. Consider and act upon acceptance of Walmart community grant:

Fairplex Director Wendy Speer detailed the grant received from Walmart in the amount \$2,500.

\$1,250.00 to be used for Walmart advertising / \$1,250.00 to support the community for youth programs. Speer recommended acceptance of the grant.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to accept the Walmart community grant in the amount of \$2,500.00.

Seconded by Commissioner Yeackle.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

17. Consider and act upon 2023 TAC Cybersecurity training certification:

As required, each county official/employee utilizing the county computer system must take cybersecurity training. The County Auditor Alice L. Chapman discussed the certification, and reported 100% completion.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to accept 2023 TAC Cybersecurity training certification.
Seconded by Commissioner Yeackle.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

18. Consider and act upon Uvalde County Health Department copier contract:

County Auditor Alice L. Chapman outlined, and recommended approval.

Motion by Commissioner Yeackle to approve Uvalde County Health Department copier contract.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

19. Consider and act upon adopting order prohibiting outdoor burning:

Motion by Commissioner Garza to adopt order prohibiting outdoor burning.

Seconded by Commissioner Yeackle.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

20. Consider and act upon motor vehicle optional road/bridge and child safety fees:

Annually, the court is required to implement a vehicle fee designated for road maintenance. Additionally, there is an optional fee designated for school crossings. County Tax-Assessor Collector Rita Verstuyft recommended no changes in current fees.

Motion by Commissioner Yeackle to make no changes in motor vehicle optional road/bridge and child safety fees.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

21. Consider and act upon accepting 2024-2025 38th and 454th Judicial District CSCD budget:

The budget for the Community Supervision and Corrections Department is funded by the state. The County is required to accept the proposed budget and file it in the records of the court. No county funding is involved.

Motion by Commissioner Yeackle to accept the 2024-2025 38th and 454th Judicial District CSCD budget.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

22. Consider and act upon Road Administrators report:

Report by Road Administrator Dee Kirkpatrick.
July 19 - August 8, 2023.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to accept report.

Seconded by Commissioner Yeackle.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

23. Consider and act upon local disaster declaration:

A declaration of Local Disaster was issued following the fire at the courthouse. By issuing the declaration, the county could be eligible for state financial or other aid. The Declaration issued by the County Judge expires automatically after seven days. The Court can renew the declaration for a period of 30 days.

Motion by Commissioner Yeackle to approve extended local disaster declaration for 30 days.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion unanimously carried (3-0). (See Attached)

24. Consider and act upon resolutions/proclamations:

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

Maricela P. Gonzales †

Trinidad Cano Belman †

Maria G. Flores †

Delia V. Ortega †

Richard Casey Koehl †

Maria “Margie” Moreno †

Marvin Fred Kolinek, Jr. †

With no further business, the meeting of August 14, 2023 was adjourned at 11:26 AM. Exhibits identified under a specific agenda item are included as supporting documentation of the actions taken by the Uvalde County Commissioners Court, and are placed after the minutes and before the page titled Commissioners Court Order.