



## MINUTES

BE IT REMEMBERED that on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2022, the Honorable Commissioners Court of Uvalde County, Texas convened in regular session in the Commissioners Courtroom of the Uvalde County Courthouse. The following members were in attendance:

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

Also present were *County Treasurer* Joni Deorsam, *Tax Assessor-Collector* Rita Verstuyft, *County Auditor* Alice Chapman, *Elections Administrator* Melissa Jones, *Sheriff* Ruben Nolasco, and *Road Administrator* Dee Kirkpatrick.

Absent: *County Attorney* John Dodson

### **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 22, 2022 to order at 10:00 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 Pargas to approve the minutes of August 8, 2022.  
Seconded by Commissioner Garza.  
Motion carried (4-0).

### **3. Consider and act upon review of Sheriff Office policies and procedures:**

Commissioner Garza requested consideration from the Court to move forward and procure a firm to conduct a review of policies and procedures for the Uvalde County Sheriff's Office. A public participation form was submitted by Diana Olvedo-Karau and Jesse Rizo who commented on this agenda item.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to move forward and procure a firm to conduct a review of policies and procedures for the Uvalde County Sheriff's Office.  
Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.  
Motion carried (4-0).

**4. Consider and act upon presentation of No New Revenue Tax Rate and Voter Approval Tax Rate:**

As designated by the Court pursuant to Texas Tax Code §26.17 and §26.04, County Auditor Alice Chapman presented to the Court the tax rate calculated as a result of the appraisal values and exported information provided by the Uvalde County Appraisal District using the calculation service by Harris Govern Truth in Taxation software generating for Uvalde County the “NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE” at \$0.6379/\$100 and the “VOTER APPROVAL TAX RATE” at \$0.6915/\$100 and confirmed the NO-NEW-TAX RATE included properties in both the prior and current tax years and informed the Court that all supporting documentation of this presentation was posted to the Uvalde County website allowing the Court to move forward at the scheduled Commissioners Court meeting of September 26, 2022 to hold a public hearing on the 2022 proposed tax rate and adoption of the 2022-2023 budget by record vote.

Motion by Commissioner Yeackle to accept the presentation of NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE and the VOTER APPROVAL TAX RATE as presented to the Court.

Seconded by Commissioner Bates.

Motion carried (5-0) with Judge Mitchell voting in favor of this motion.

**5. Consider and act upon Public Hearing on 2022-2023 Final Uvalde County Budget:**

The Court opened a public hearing at 10:23 AM on the proposed 2022-2023 final budget. A public participation form was submitted by Diana Olvedo-Karau who commented on this agenda item. The public hearing was closed at 10:25 AM.

No action taken.

**6. Consider and act upon adoption of 2022-2023 Salary Fund:**

Pursuant to Local Government Code Section 152, the Court considered and adopted the County of Uvalde 2022-2023 Salary Fund with a grand total of \$1,317,884.79 for elected and appointed official salaries.

Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve the 2022-2023 Salary Fund.

Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.

Motion carried (4-0).

**7. Consider and act upon adoption of 2022-2023 Uvalde County Budget and take record vote:**

County Auditor Alice Chapman outlined the final proposed 2022-2023 Budget. A balanced budget was presented to the Court with revenue and expenditure totals in the amount of \$45,562,651.75. General Fund totaling \$20,123,169.00, Road & Bridge totaling \$4,602,042.00, Flood Control Maintenance Fund totaling \$926,780.00 and I & S Debt Service Fund totaling \$1,793,084.00. The “TOTAL NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE” is \$0.6379. The “TOTAL NO-NEW-REVENUE M & O RATE” is \$0.5838. The “TOTAL VOTER-APPROVAL-TAX RATE” is \$0.6915. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is \$232,940.00. The Court then proceeded to take record vote.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to approve the final proposed 2022-2023 budget as presented.

Seconded by Commissioner Bates.

Motion carried (5-0) with Judge Mitchell voting in favor of this motion. The vote for the record is as follows; Commissioner Yeackle-“Aye”, Commissioner Pargas-“Aye”, Commissioner Bates-“Aye”, Commissioner Garza-“Aye” and Judge Mitchell-“Aye”.

**8. Consider and act upon proposed 2022-2023 tax rate and set public hearing:**

As designated by the Court pursuant to Texas Tax Code §26.17 and §26.04, County Auditor Alice Chapman presented to the Court the total proposed 2022-2023 tax rates; General Fund M&O Tax Rate \$0.4812, FM Flood M&O Tax Rate \$0.1350, I&S Debt Service Tax Rate \$0.0753 and the “TOTAL-VOTER-APPROVAL-TAX RATE” of \$0.6915. The total proposed tax rate of \$0.6915 per \$100.00 valuation with a decrease in the amount of \$0.0485 and a total debt obligation of \$1,742,552.00. A public hearing was scheduled for September 26, 2022.

Motion by Commissioner Pargas to approve the total proposed 2022-2023 tax rate of \$0.6915 and schedule public hearing for September 26, 2022.

Seconded by Commissioner Yeackle.

Motion carried (4-0).

**9. Consider and act upon Texas Association of Counties Cybersecurity training certification:**

County Auditor Alice Chapman requested approval of the Texas Association of Counties 2022 Cybersecurity Awareness Training Certificates of Completion for the County of Uvalde employees and elected officials, coordinated by Assistant Auditor M’Liss Braker, in accordance with Texas Government Code, Sections 2054.5191 & 2054.5192 and certified Uvalde County’s 100% participation and completion in compliance with code requirements. Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve the report of the 2022 Cybersecurity Awareness Training certificates of completion.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion carried (4-0).

**10. Consider and act upon order calling General Election for November 8, 2022:**

The Court considered ORDER OF GENERAL ELECTION presented by Elections Administrator Melissa Jones. The Court ordered an election to be held on November 8, 2022 for the purpose of electing county and precinct officers as required by Article XVI, Section 65 of the Texas Constitution.

Motion by Commissioner Yeackle to approve the Order of General Election.

Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.

Motion carried (4-0).

**11. Consider and act upon adopting optional road and bridge fee:**

Tax Assessor-Collector Rita Vertuyft requested consideration from the Court pursuant to Texas Transportation Code, Section 502.401. The Commissioners Court of a county, by order, may impose an additional Road/Bridge fee not to exceed \$10 for registering a vehicle in the county. Revenue must be credited to the county road and bridge fund.

Motion by Commissioner Bates to adopt the optional \$10 Road/Bridge fee.

Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.

Motion carried (4-0).

**12. Consider and act upon adopting optional school crossing fee:**

Tax Assessor-Collector Rita Vertuyft requested consideration from the Court pursuant to Texas Transportation Code, Section 502.403. The Court declined the imposition of a Child Safety Fee not to exceed \$1.50 for registering a vehicle in the county. Revenue must be used to enhance child safety.

Motion by Commissioner Garza not to adopt the optional school crossing fee.

Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.

Motion carried (4-0).

**13. Consider and act upon lifting ban on outdoor burning:**

The Court considered an order abolishing burn ban on outdoor burning due to recent area rainfall.

Motion by Commissioner Bates to lift ban on outdoor burning.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion carried (4-0).

**14. Consider and act upon approval of Sheriff and Constable fees for 2022-2023:**

Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section §118.131 the Commissioners Court is required to set fees charged for civil services provided by the Sheriff and Constables for the County of Uvalde before October 1 of each year to be effective January 1 of the following year. These fees are to be reported to the Comptroller's office no later than October 15. The Court considered the proposed 2023 Sheriff and Constable fee's with recommended changes as presented to the Court.

Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve the 2023 Sheriff and Constable fees with changes.

Seconded by Commissioner Yeackle.

Motion carried (4-0).

**15. Consider and act upon Road Administrators Report:**

Road Administrator Dee Kirkpatrick informed the Court that the Road Department patched and bladed roads throughout the county, pulled up temporary speed bumps in Uvalde Estates, leveled Fairplex Arena, installed speed bumps on Seven Bluffs Bridge, installed No Parking signs between Seven Bluffs Bridge and Bear Creek and removed a fallen tree limb from an RV at Cooksey Park.

No action taken.

**16. Consider and act upon line-item budget amendments:**

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

**17. Consider and act upon payment of bills:**

Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve payment of bills and payroll.  
Seconded by Commissioner Garza.  
Motion carried (4-0).

**18. Consider and act upon payroll approval:**

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

**19. Consider and act upon approval of monthly reports:**

Monthly reports on file for review in the office of the Uvalde County Clerk were presented to the Court for consideration and approval.  
Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve monthly reports.  
Seconded by Commissioner Yeackle.  
Motion carried (4-0).

**20. Consider and act upon resolutions/proclamations:**

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

Andrea R. Arredondo †  
Armando Cardona, Jr. †  
Maxie W. Carter, Sr. †  
Dorothy Cauble †  
Petra R. Garza †  
Julia T. Guzman †  
Minerva F. Sanchez †  
Juan R. Sosa †  
Yolanda S. Ybarra †

With no further business, the meeting of August 22, 2022 was adjourned. Exhibits identified under a specific agenda item are included as supporting documentation of the action taken by the Uvalde County Commissioners Court and are placed after the minutes and before the last page titled Commissioners Court Order.

**COMMISSIONERS COURT ORDER**

On this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2022, came to be heard the Uvalde County Commissioners Court Minutes of August 22, 2022 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

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John Yeackle, Commissioner Pct. #1

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Mariano Pargas, Jr., Commissioner Pct. #2

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Jerry W. Bates, Commissioner Pct. #3

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Ronnie Garza, Commissioner Pct. #4

(SEAL)

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