

## MILAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT AGENDA

For

Monday, January 27, 2020

Notice is hereby given that a public meeting of the Milam County Commissioners Court will be held on Monday, the 27th day of January, 2020, beginning at 10:00 a.m., in the Commissioners Courtroom, Milam County Courthouse, 102 S. Fannin, Cameron, Texas, at which time the following items will be addressed:

1. Call Meeting to Order and establish quorum.
2. Prayer.
3. Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag and Texas Flag.
4. Discuss the minutes of the most recent Commissioners Court meetings and take any necessary action regarding approval, correction and/or changes to the minutes.
5. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the recognition of Mr. John Johnson and presentation of the Milam County Heritage Award.
6. Discuss and take any necessary action to recognize and honor the Rockdale Reporter and Cameron Herald for years of distinguished public service of accurately reporting the news and events of the Milam County.
7. Hear public participation comments from the public who have timely made a proper request and take any necessary action regarding such request and/or comments.
8. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding County Road 242; specifically, a request of Mr. Jason Talley to donate labor and equipment to repair County Road 242 pursuant to the Texas Transportation Code, Section 252.109 and the Local Government Code, Section 81.032.
9. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding County Roads 253, 254, 255 & 256; specifically, a request of Mr. Mike Fulton to donate labor and equipment to repair County Roads 253, 254, 255 & 256 pursuant to the Texas Transportation Code, Section 252.109 and the Local Government Code, Section 81.032.
10. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the transfer/exchange of County offices for the former Little River medical complex, pursuant to the request of Commissioner Shuffield.
11. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding economic development in Milam County, including but not limited to:
  - a. The Milam County Annex;
  - b. Repair costs for Milam County IT connectivity in downtown Cameron;
  - c. New medical care in Milam County; and
  - d. Proposed grant for a job training center in Milam County.
12. Hold a public hearing to hear from any members of the public who wishes to comment on a proposed tax abatement agreement between Milam County and JELD Holdings.
13. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the proposed tax abatement agreement for JELD Holdings in Rockdale, Texas.
14. Hold a public hearing to hear from any member of the public who wishes to comment on a proposed reinvestment zone for Project Athena, which is an approximate 12-acre solar farm in Milam County.
15. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the creation of a proposed reinvestment zone for project Athena, which is an approximate 12-acre solar farm in Milam County.
16. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding a proposed lease of the Rockdale Historical Society IG&N Depot/Museum.

17. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding a proposed new subdivision plat for "San Gabriel Vistas."
18. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding a proposed new ten acre (10) subdivision plat on County Road 221.
19. Discuss and take necessary action regarding the following March 2020 election issues:
  - a. Notice of Election for the March 2020 Primary Election;
  - b. Approval of an order to establish a Central Counting Station personnel; and
  - c. Approval of an order for additional early voting on Saturday.
20. Discuss and take necessary action on Constables' Racial Profiling Report – (Precinct 2 and 3).
21. Discuss and take any necessary action to accept the Certificate of Completion from County and District Clerks Association of Texas for Karen Berry completing the required 20 hours of continuing education in 2019.
22. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the payment of any bills of Milam County.
23. Adjourn.

Dated this the 24th day of January, 2020  
 Commissioners Court of Milam County, Texas

By **Steve Young** Digitally signed by Steve Young  
Date: 2020.01.24 08:40:15 -06'00'  
 Steve Young, County Judge

I, the undersigned, County Clerk, do hereby certify that the above Notice of Meeting of the above named Commissioners Court, is a true and correct copy of said Notice, and that I posted a true and correct copy of said Notice on the Courthouse door and the County Clerk's office of Milam County, Texas, at a place readily accessible to the general public at all times on the 24th day of January, 2020, and said Notice remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said Meeting.

Dated this the 24th day of January, 2020  
 County Clerk of Milam County, Texas

Jodi Morgan

By

*Jodi Morgan*



**JODI MORGAN**  
 County Clerk

Filed 24 day of Jan  
 in 2020, At 11 M.  
**JODI MORGAN**  
 County Clerk, Milam County, Texas  
 By *Jodi Morgan*  
 Deputy

If, during the course of the meeting, discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting the Commissioners Court will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapters D and E. Before any closed meeting is convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the section or sections of the Act authorizing the closed meeting. All final votes or decisions will be taken in open meeting.

**STATE OF TEXAS:**

**COUNTY OF MILAM:**

**BE IT REMEMBERED, that on Monday, the 27th day of January A. D. 2020, the Commissioners' Court of Milam County, Texas, convened in Regular Session in the Commissioners' Courtroom, Milam County Courthouse, 102 S. Fannin, Cameron Texas, with the following members of the Court present, to-wit:**

**STEVE YOUNG, MILAM COUNTY JUDGE  
RICHARD "OPEY" WATKINS, COMMISSIONER PRECINCT NO.1  
DONALD SHUFFIELD, COMMISSIONER PRECINCT NO. 2  
JOHN FISHER, COMMISSIONER PRECINCT NO. 3  
JEFF MUEGGE, COMMISSIONER PRECINCT NO. 4  
JODI MORGAN, COUNTY CLERK**

**Members of the court absent:**

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS MAY BE VIEWED ON THE WEBSITE  
[WWW.MILAMCOUNTY.NET](http://WWW.MILAMCOUNTY.NET)  
or in the Minutes of the Commissioners Court recorded in the  
Milam County Clerk's Office.**

**And the proclamation having been made the Court was in session, the following business came on to be considered:**

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND ESTABLISH QUORUM – 10:00 A.M.**
- 2. Prayer**
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – U. S. FLAG, TEXAS FLAG. "HONOR THE TEXAS FLAG, I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THEE, TEXAS, ONE STATE, UNDER GOD, ONE AND INDIVISIBLE.**

**4. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS – Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Muegge, seconded by Commissioner Shuffield and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous meetings.**

- **January 13, 2020- Regular Meeting**

**5. RECOGNITION OF MR. JOHN JOHNSON AND PRESENTATION OF THE MILAM COUNTY HERITAGE AWARD**

- **Mr. John Johnson honored for doing an amazing job in creating Old Town Cameron**
- **Hand crafted replica of Cameron**

**6. RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE ROCKDALE REPORTER AND CAMERON HERALD FOR YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE OF ACCURATELY REPORTING THE NEWS AND EVENTS OF MILAM COUNTY –**

- **Cameron Herald oldest paper; operating since 1860**
  - **Cameron Herald also operates the Thorndale Champion**
  - **Lindsey Vaculin the General Manager and Publisher accepted the award**
- **Rockdale Reporter operating since 1873**
  - **1 year older than the town of Rockdale**
  - **Went by different names before it was Rockdale Reporter; one being the Messenger**
  - **John Esten Cooke bought in 1911**
  - **Mike Brown is the Editor**
  - **Kyle Cooke General Manager accepted the award**

**7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION-**

- **Jason Talley- See #8**
- **Michael Fulton- See #9**

**8. DISCUSS AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING COUNTY ROAD 242; SPECIFICALLY A REQUEST OF MR. JASON TALLEY TO DONATE LABOR AND EQUIPMENT TO REPAIR COUNTY ROAD 242: PURSUANT TO THE TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, SECTION 252.109 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SECTION 81.032- Upon motion duly made by Judge Young, seconded by Commissioner Shuffield and carried unanimously to table this item until the meeting Friday, January 31, 2020**

- **Jason Talley- wants to donate labor and equipment for road maintenance on CR 242 including drainage**
  - **Is qualified to operate maintainer**
  - **Ranch at the end of the road has anywhere from 20-25 cattle trucks in and out every 45 days.**
  - **Owner of the ranch will donate the equipment and fuel and I (Jason Talley) will operate**
  - **Road is rough and tearing up vehicles**
- **Commissioner Shuffield- I spoke with the ranch manager about supplying material (limestone), I worked up a quote and never heard back. This is my decision not the decision of the court**
- **Jason Talley- If we don't maintain and the County doesn't who will pay for damages to the vehicles**
- **Commissioner Shuffield- Not us; we will maintain it**
- **Kyle Nuttall- Per Section 251.019 is applicable to our county**
- **Commissioner Muegge- How many miles of road and how many people live down there?**
- **Jason Talley- 2-3 miles of road and 20 residents; 3 other homes**

*(codes mentioned above are attached to recorded minutes)*

**9. DISCUSS AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING COUNTY ROADS 253, 254, 255 & 256; SPECIFICALLY, A REQUEST OF MR. MIKE FULTON TO DONATE LABOR AND EQUIPMENT TO REPAIR COUNTY ROADS 253, 254, 255 & 256: PURSUANT TO THE TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, SECTION 252.109 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SECTION 81.032 - Upon motion duly made by Judge Young, seconded by Commissioner Shuffield and carried unanimously to table this line item until the meeting Friday, January 31, 2020**

- **Michael Fulton- Not here to complain, and I never have, I just want to continue to help maintain the roads that I have been maintaining**
  - **On any given day we have numerous trucks coming in and out and we need good roads**
- **Commissioner Shuffield- If I do for one then I have to do for all; there is one taxpayer on one of the roads complaining about dust**
- **Michael Fulton- I talked to the lady this weekend and we decided that I just wouldn't' blade in front of her house I would just skip it and she was okay with that**
  - **56,000 loads went out last year**

- **Commissioner Shuffield- Can I visit with you both and see if we can come to an agreement? (Jason Talley and Michael Fulton)**
- **Jason Talley & Michael Fulton – Yes**
- **Michael Fulton- If we come to an agreement will we have to sign a liability?**
- **Commissioner Shuffield- Yes**

**10. DISCUSS AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING THE TRANSFER/EXCHANGE OF COUNTY OFFICES FOR THE FORMER LITTLE RIVER MEDICAL COMPLEX-COMMISSIONER SHUFFIELD-**

- **Commissioner Shuffield- My slogan when I started running for Commissioner was to be a voice in the County. Numerous people have contacted me about the move, and they are not for it. There is nothing wrong with the county offices; people don't want to go into debt when we are already in debt with the Sheriff's Office, the voting machines and now digitizing records. Why don't we wait until industries come in. Most are okay with moving but would rather have a new building instead of moving into the old Hospital, the location is not good and not visible. It's not big enough for expansion and most would like a courtroom in there so they wouldn't have to travel to the courthouse for court.**

**I make a motion to put on the ballot in November to let the public decide to purchase the building (Commissioner Shuffield)**

**Motion dies due to no second or other activity**

- **Judge Young- We spent \$100,000 on plans, if the price is too much, we don't have to move forward with it. We can put financing on the ballot, but the decision is up to the Commissioner's Court**
- **Commissioner Muegge to Frank Summers- Was the jail on a ballot?**
- **Frank Summers- No but we had a committee that did an 8-10-month study and visited other jail. It was getting harder and harder to get the old jail inspected. So no we did not put on a ballot for the public to decide.**

**11. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO-**

- **THE MILAM COUNTY ANNEX**
- **REPAIR COSTS FOR MILAM COUNTY IT CONNECTIVITY IN DOWNTOWN CAMERON**
  - **Tax Office lost service; estimated repairs is \$6,000**
    - **Old wiring and above ground**
    - **2<sup>nd</sup> time this has happened**
- **NEW MEDICAL CARE IN MILAM COUNTY**
  - **Partner with Texas A&M**
  - **Grant through Blue Cross Blue Shield**
  - **Will help with Transport; Train EMT's**
  - **Provide Equipment**
  - **Phone App**
- **PROPOSED GRANT FOR A JOB TRAINING CENTER IN MILAM COUNTY**
  - **Working with Workforce and Central Texas Council of Government**
  - **Applying for 1-million-dollar grant for training station**
  - **Requested assistance from Governor's Office for assistance with teaching**
- **Thrasher Clean Up**
  - **Raymond Allison paid to date \$111,400**
  - **Paid out to date \$119,938.35**
  - **Commissioners #1, #3, #4 have been assisting with clean up**
  - **All tire removed by probationers**

**12. HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING TO HEAR FROM ANY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISHES TO COMMENT ON A PROPOSED TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN MILAM COUNTY AND JELD HOLDINGS-**

*Motion made by Judge Young, Seconded by Commissioner Muegge to recess for Public Hearing at 11:20a.m.*

**Judge Young- Any comments from the Public about JELD?**

**Kara Clore- It's a great project and I hope it will be approved all the way through; there are 3 prospects for the building that will create lots of foot traffic for that shopping center.**

**Frank Summers- What is JELD? What do the letters stand for?**

**Kara Clore- I do not know, its an investor**

***Motion made by Judge Young, Seconded by Commissioner Fisher to reconvene back into Commissioners Court at 11:23a.m.***

**13. DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING THE PROPOSED TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT FOR JELD HOLDINGS IN ROCKDALE, TEXAS- Upon motion duly made by Judge Young, seconded by Commissioner Muegge and carried unanimously to approve the Proposed Tax Abatement Agreement for JELD Holdings in Rockdale.**

**14. HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING TO HEAR FROM ANY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISHES TO COMMENT ON A PROPOSED REINVESTMENT ZONE FOR PROJECT ATHENA, WHICH IS AN APPROXIMATE 12-ACRE SOLAR FARM IN MILAM COUNTY-**

***Motion made by Judge Young, Seconded by Commissioner Muegge to recess for Public Hearing at 11:25a.m.***

**Judge Young- Any comments from the Public about the Reinvestment Zone?**

**Frank Summers- It's good for the environment are there any other kind of exemptions from the State?**

**Judge Young- a Federal Tax Credit**

**Kara Clore- I want to add that this project has a 2<sup>nd</sup> phase to add a storage center that depends on the abatement**

***Motion made by Judge Young, Seconded by Commissioner Watkins to reconvene back into Commissioners Court at 11:27am***



**15. DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING THE CREATION OF A PROPOSED REINVESTMENT ZONE FOR PROJECT ATHENA, WHICH IS AN APPROXIMATE 12-ACRE SOLAR FARM IN MILAM COUNTY-** Upon motion duly made by Judge Young, seconded by Commissioner Muegge and carried unanimously to accept the Proposed Reinvestment Zone for Project Athena, which is an approximate 12-Acre Solar Farm in Milam County

**16. DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING A PROPOSED LEASE OF THE ROCKDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY IG&N DEPOT/MUSEUM-**

- Met with Rockdale Historical Society about consolidating with Milam County Museum and Old Town Cameron Display
- Drafted a proposed agreement
  - 5 Year Lease \$10.00 per year
  - County to provide Liability Insurance provided by TAC

**17. DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING A PROPOSED NEW SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR "SAN GABRIEL VISTAS"-** Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Muegge, seconded by Commissioner Watkins and carried unanimously to approve the New Subdivision Plat for "San Gabriel Vistas"

**18. DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING A PROPOSED NEW TEN ACRE (10) SUBDIVISION PLAT ON CR 221-** Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Fisher and carried unanimously to approve the proposed new ten (10) acre subdivision plat on CR 221

- 10 Acres divided into 1-6acre tract and 1-4acre tract

**19. DISCUSS AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING THE FOLLOWING MARCH 2020 ELECTION ISSUES:** Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Fisher and carried unanimously to approve the Notice of Election, Order establishing Central Counting Station and Order for additional Early Voting on Saturday

- NOTICE OF ELECTION FOR THE MARCH 2020 PRIMARY ELECTION
- APPROVAL OF AN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A CENTRAL COUNTING STATION PERSONNEL
- APPROVAL OF AN ORDER FOR ADDITIONAL EARLY VOTING ON SATURDAY

**20. DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION ON CONSTABLES' RACIAL PROFILING REPORT – (PCT#2 & PCT#3)- Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Shuffield and carried unanimously to accept the Constables' Racial Profiling Report from Constable PCT #2 and Constable PCT #3**

**21. ACCEPT KAREN BERRY'S CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLERKS ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS; COMPLETING 20 HOURS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION IN 2019- Upon motion duly made by Judge Young, seconded by Commissioner Fisher and carried unanimously to accept the Certificate of Completion from County and District Clerk's Association of Texas for Karen Berry completing 20 hours of continuing education in 2019**

**22. BILLS- Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Muegge, seconded by Commissioner Watkins and carried unanimously to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$532,129.80.**

**23. ADJORN- Upon Motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Muegge and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:38 A.M.**

The above and foregoing Minutes for Monday, January 27, 2020 having been examined and approved in Open Court this 10<sup>TH</sup> day of February 2020.

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**County Judge**

**State of Texas:  
County of Milam:**

**I, Jodi Morgan, County Clerk, Milam County, Texas, attest that the foregoing is a true and correct accounting of the Commissioners' Court authorized proceedings for January 27, 2020**

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**County Clerk and Ex-Officio Member of  
Commissioners' Court, Milam County, Texas**

**STATEMENT OF APPROVAL**

**January 27, 2020 Minutes**

**Approved February 10, 2020**

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**Commissioner of Precinct No. 1**

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**Commissioner of Precinct No. 2**

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**Commissioner of Precinct No. 3**

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**Commissioner of Precinct No. 4**

