STATE OF TEXAS:

COUNTY OF MILAM:

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on Monday, the 9th day of December A. D. 2013, 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:

DAVID BARKEMEYER, COUNTY JUDGE

CHUCK BALCH, COMMISSIONER PRECINCT NO.1

KENNETH HOLLAS, COMMISSIONER PRECINCT NO. 2

JOHN FISHER, COMMISSIONER PRECINCT NO. 3

JEFF MUEGGE, COMMISSIONER PRECINCT NO. 4

BARBARA VANSA, COUNTY CLERK

Others present, to-wit
John Redington, Legal Counsel

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

#1 – CALL MEETING TO ORDER & ESTABLISH QUORUM – 10:00 a.m. - All Present

#2 – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE – U. S. Flag. "Honor the Texas Flag", I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one State, Under God, one and indivisible

#3 – MINUTES – Motion by Commissioner Muegge, seconded by Commissioner Fisher to approve the November 25, 2013 meeting minutes as presented to the court. This motion having been put to vote prevailed, the vote being unanimous.

#4 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

- **JOHN REDINGTON – DA's Office – Public Sale of Property – 1 acre, Sterritt Dobbins League**
    - **Mr. Redington asked the Court to sign an "Order Appointing Commissioner For Sale of Land" and that the Judge excuse Commissioner Hollas & himself (Redington) so they can step out to sell the land. Judge mentioned to the Court about signing the "Order" and then told Hollas & Redington to come back when they are done.**
    - **Commissioner's Deed recorded in Volume 1214 Page 516**
- **JOLEEN CAHILL – Budget Cut –**
    - **Service – you get what you pay for**
    - **I understand your budget issue, please allow two part time employees; reconsider keeping employees in the County & District Clerk's Office**
    - **You have to have people to issue warrant on person right away or person could leave state**
    - **Also a protective order you could lose a life, it could be critical**
    - **Businesses want service & education where they locate**
    - **To the Commissioners – It's your responsibility to provide service to everyone, regardless of their party.**

#5 – FINANCIAL / AUDITORS REPORT – Refer to the POWER POINT on the Milam County website.

- **November we paid Longevity & charges on the Cotton Murder Trial**
- **Most everyone under budget**
- **Judge John Firth asking Milam County to enter to a long term contract with Coryell County to continue housing their prisoners**
- **Luminant another challenge for us to deal with**
- **District Court – General Fund Expenditures summary November 2013 should be (+)97256 not (-)**
- **Non Budget Funds November 2014 #60 should be 2013 not 2011**

#6 – TREASURERS REPORT – Refer to the POWER POINT on the Milam County Website.

#7 - JP OFFICE FINANCIAL UPDATE – Refer to the Power Point on the Milam County Website.

#8 – COMMISSIONERS PRECINCT UPDATES –

Pct 1 – washout culver (9' diameter steel culvert) about 30 yards of concrete – CR423 gravel - CR412 & CR416 graded washouts

Pct 2 – NE part of County torn up / Big – Little Pond – CE259,258,274 & 133 = 3400 yards of gravel – removing trees –

Pct 3 – CR358 & CR353 – hauling gravel – patching roads – caught up from previous rains

Pct 4 – ROW CR457 – base – screen – grade roads

Judge – Pct 1 & Pct 2 have gravel pits within their precincts

Hollas – yes we do but I have bought some gravel

Muegge – Worley Bridge / disassembling - time table to be back together is May 2014 – metal trussel next to Apache Pass – will be for vehicles –

Judge – we have received notification from TXDOT that we are eligible for little over $2 Million – we will have our first meeting this afternoon

Fisher – no guarantee that we will get it – majority of the work is in Pct. 3

Judge – if we do the paperwork & meet deadlines

#9 – COURT UPDATE – Refer to the POWER POINT on the Milam County Website.

- **County Court Case Pending should be 12/01/2013 not 11/01/2013**

#10 – BIDS / ROAD & BRIDGE - Motion by Commissioner Muegge, seconded by Commissioner Balch to appoint Commissioner Balch & Hollas to study the bids for gravel, asphalt & fuel and Commissioners Fisher & Muegge to study the bids for road materials, cutting edges & culverts and report their recommendations to the court and the Court award the bids on December 23 2013. This motion having been put to vote prevailed, the vote being unanimous.

#11 – RETIREMENT SYSTEM RATE – Motion by Commissioner Balch, seconded by Commissioner Hollas to approve the Authorization to maintain TCDRS plan provisions / Plan Year 2014 to maintain the elected rate of 10% with 9.30% being the total required rate. This motion having been put to vote prevailed, the vote being unanimous.

#12 – BRYANT STATION BRIDGE – Presentation by Kinder Chambers – Presentation recorded in the Commissioner Court Minute Book Volume 67.

Motion by Judge Barkemeyer, seconded by Commissioner Balch to "If in fact Milam County owns the bridge, the Commissioners Court deed the bridge to the cemetery association with restriction to be only used as a Historical site in conjunction with the cemetery; cannot be cut up for scrap, if any other purpose revert back to the County". This motion having been put to vote prevailed, the vote being 4 to 1, Commissioner Muegge opposing.

- **Chambers - I ask that whatever it takes to move bridge that it be done**
- **Balch – repaired entrance numerous times**
- **Judge & Tomek – turn over to Cemetery Association**
- **Redington – is it considered "real" or "personal" property? – it's real. Local Government Code would be same as "sell of property today" – don't know if there are any provisions to give – Do we "own" or does the State?**
- **Balch – many years ago I asked V.W. Hauk if they talked to the State – TXDOT man closed until it got fixed**
- **Dr. Estelle – such an important part of our history – think long time before making decision – lose something that is History – please with you before you move bridge think about preserving it – does the cemetery association have the money to reserve it**
- **Chambers – No; drunken parties on the bridge**
- **Frank Summers – issues we ran into years ago TXDOT had interest in bridge**
- **Chambers – as John said "what interested does the State have"**
- **Dr. Estelle – I think there are some efforts**
- **Chambers – ½ or 1/3 mile**
- **Redington – roughly what is the cost of the Worley bridge**
- **Muegge – 1.27million to refurbish bridge from start to finish – TXDOT may regulate what you do**
- **Judge – not sure if it's a TXDOT bridge, I think it's an abandoned bridge**
- **Mrs. Chambers – years ago commissioners planned to sell for scrap**
- **Chambers – Texas State Historical Commission didn't want anything to do with it, 2009 it was 100 years old – no one cared, TXDOT or anyone else – it was neglected**
- **Hollas – Sugarloaf spent $1million to restore – new one cost approximately $600,000**
- **Dr. Estelle – National Trail, site to see @ Sugarloaf**
- **Judge – moved one to Ledbetter park – opportunity to save would be to move it over**

- **Only 2 or 3 camelback bridges in the State**
- **Dr. Estelle – might get help preserving**
- **Judge – made motion**
- **Judge – restore for small vehicle only – if not then for foot traffic**
- **Redington – County needs to undertake entrances blockage & mark properly**
- **Judge – renovate after moved**
- **Muegge – need to make sure it is ours**
- **Judge – if ours "give"**
- **Dr. Estelle – does the cemetery association have 501C3 funding**
- **Chambers – not non-profit – may need to apply**
- **Redington – need to do a 20 day notice**
- **Andy Isaacs – need to table**
- **Judge – don't want to table**
- **Redington - appoint committee of Commissioner Balch &**
- **Lady – Judge, would you be able to protect the court if the cemetery association decided to sell?**

#13 – 2014 BUDGET – Presentation by Barbara Vansa, County Clerk –
DIED FOR LACK OF MOTION

MILAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING

MONDAY, December 9, 2013

ITEM # 13 DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON THE REINSTATEMENT OF EMPLOYES AND POSITIONS TO THE 2014 BUDGET

Yet another plea to the Court regarding the Termination of Employees & Positions in the 2014 Budget. I have discussed with Judge Barkemeyer & the Commissioners my concern about terminating an employee. I was asked by a Commissioner if I can do without one employee & my response was "Yes, WE, meaning employees & myself will do what we have to with as many employees there are in the County Clerk's Office but with 2014 being a very busy election year it's going to make it little difficult because we will have our normal working conditions plus putting extra time towards the election process". Susanne, the County Court Criminal Clerk dedicates lot of her time to completing the Criminal History Disposition which determines & allows Milam County grant money.

Most of us have heard numerous times from the Judge & read his articles "what a good job the elected & appointed officials are doing keeping within their budgets"; $350,000 budgeted for the Cotton Murder Trial which was settled out of court & not costing near that amount; a loss of some $480,000 in tax revenue; & increasing the tax rate; but yet going in to 2014 without touching the reserves.

I am requesting that the $28,500 salary plus benefits for Linda Hall be "line itemed back into my budget" prior to the 2014 Budget year beginning and that I, along with the other offices having to terminate an employee by the end of the year also have those salaries & positions line itemed and allow us to keep our employees".

As I end this plea, I ask the COURT to VOTE once again and hope you will vote in FAVOR of KEEPING THESE EMPLOYEES & POSITIONS to help us Elected Officials give the service to Milam County that the Voters expect from us.

Thank you for keeping the Retirement Rate @ 10%. I feel that I can say we, Elected & Appointed Officials and employees appreciate it.

COMMENTS from the Court –

Judge – have already stated my concerns & they remain the same

Fisher – if luminant turns out the way we think it will, we won't be in any better shape than we are

Judge – that we stay very conservative

Hollas – squinches up with luminant, think we need to hold off

Judge – don't want anyone to blame the commissioners, I am the financial budget chief – I'm the one that called the shot, don't want it to go against the commissioners.

#14 BILLS – Motion by Commissioner Muegge, seconded by Commissioner Balch to approve the payment of bills in the amount of $148,533.64 as presented to the court. This motion having been put to vote prevailed, the vote being unanimous.

#15 - ADJOURN – Motion by Commissioner Muegge, seconded by Commissioner Hollas to adjourn @ 11:28A.M. This motion having been put to vote prevailed, the vote being unanimous.

The above and foregoing Minutes examined and approved in Open Court this 24rd day of December 2013.

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County Judge

State of Texas:

County of Milam:

I, Barbara Vansa, County Clerk, Milam County, Texas, attest that the foregoing is a true and correct accounting of the Commissioners' Court authorized proceedings for December 9th 2013.

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

STATEMENT OF APPROVAL

_____ _____

Commissioner of Precinct No. 1 **Commissioner of Precinct No. 3**

_____ _____ **Commissioner of Precinct No. 2** **Commissioner of Precinct No.4**

P O W E R P O I N T

P R E S E N T A T I O N

December 9 2013

Minutes from the December 9, 2013 Milam County Commissioners Court meeting and Volume 67 ends on page 836.