

STATE OF TEXAS:

COUNTY OF MILAM:

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on Tuesday, the 30TH day of June A. D. 2020, the Commissioners' Court of Milam County, Texas, convened in Emergency Session in the Commissioners' Courtroom, Milam County Courthouse, 102 S. Fannin, Cameron Texas, with the following members of the Court present, to-wit:

Due to the recent outbreak of the COVID-19; this meeting was conducted by video or phone. Call 1 408 650 3123 access code 325 043 941. To join by video

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/325043941>

Note: Power outage caused app not to work and majority of the meeting was not live streaming; court was notified at 10:17am that the live streaming was not working and begin to immediately seek out the issue

**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**

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS MAY BE VIEWED ON THE WEBSITE

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 – 10:00a.m.

2. Discuss the minutes of the previous Commissioner's Court meetings and take any necessary action regarding approval, correction and/or changes of the minutes

Motion by Commissioner Fisher to approve the minutes from the previous court, Seconded by Commissioner Muegge and carried unanimously

- June 22, 2020- Regular Meeting

3. Public Participation-

- a) James Walker- I support the Judge's Order to wear a mask in public, it's a compromise in doing nothing or shutting down. The governor is limiting the tools to you. It's not going to hurt business's, that's the law; example is Bar's can't serve intoxicated people it's the law. If you pass a different resolution, I ask you to pass an honest one, don't pass one that states you strongly encourage.

4. DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION ON THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN MILAM COUNTY, INCLUDING:

a) *UPDATE ON THE PANDEMIC*

- 88 Confirmed Cases
- 23 Active
- 3 Hospitalized
- 66 Monitoring

b) *COVID-19 CASE SUMMARY; AND*

- 20 Confirmed Cases in the last week
- 27% of the total confirmed cases in the County occurred last week
- More medical care and testing is needed in the County due to the pandemic. Test results are slow to come in taking 7-10 days during which time the infected person may not quarantine. Same day COVID test results are needed.
- 6th day in row or record high positive case results in Texas.
- Texas Ranks 4th in the nation with cases

c) *WEARING OF MASKS IN THE COUNTY*

- Mask are important to be worn within 6 feet of people
- All of the below listed Recommend Wearing Face Mask
 - WHO
 - CDC
 - OSHA
 - Health Departments from Every State
 - Texas Governor

- Milam County Health Department

- Order that was put in place Monday, June 29, 2020 is good for 7 days, will meet again Monday to discuss

Robert Kirkpatrick Health Director gave a handout and went over. Getting information from infection2020.com; when the Shelter in Place order was removed, one of the Commissioners ask if we would be able to put back in place. If we need to reinstate, we can do that, as of June 16, 2020 we have had 40 new cases reported. Wearing a mask does decreased case count.

Commissioner Shuffield- I have been getting phone calls regarding business's that have people working behind the scenes and no interaction with customers, do they have to wear a mask?

Judge Young- No; no need to wear if not interacting with people.

Commissioner Fisher- Are we imposing a fine?

Judge Young- Our order states \$1,000.00 fine, it is not applicable to individuals. Last thing I want to do is fine a business.

Commissioner Shuffield- The people that have been infected, do we have any numbers on how they are getting in? Are they wearing a mask or not?

Judge Young- Virus is spread by people who are symptomatic or asymptomatic

Robert Kirkpatrick- 5-10 Cases have been mass gathering; ie: birthday parties, gatherings of 5 or more people
5-10 cases congregating gatherings; ie: nursing homes
Rest have been community transmission

Commissioner Muegge- If you have the antibodies; do you test positive?

Robert Kirkpatrick- Only test that have the COVID-19 specific protein test determines if it's a positive case.

5. MILAM COUNTY ANNEX

- a) DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION TO REVIEW THE BIDS RECEIVED IN COMMISSIONERS COURT ON MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2020 REGARDING THE RENOVATION OF THE FORMER HOSPITAL BUILDING IN CAMERON, TEXAS
- b) DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION TO ACCEPT ONE OF THE EIGHT BIDS FOR RENOVATION
- c) DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION TO GO FORWARD WITH THE AGREEMENT TO ACQUIRE BY FORMER 8.5 ACRE HOSPITAL CAMPUS AND BUILDINGS FOR USE BY THE COUNTY
- d) DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION WITH EDA TO FUND THE RENOVATION PROJECT FOR THE HOSPITAL AND PROFESSIONAL BUILDING
- e) DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION FOR THE FILING OF THE EDA GRANT TO FUND THE RENOVATION PROJECT FOR THE HOSPITAL AND PROFESSIONAL BUILDING

Judge Young gave an update on the annex and professional building project. The County entered into a non-binding agreement with the banks in October 2019 to exchange property it owns in downtown Cameron for the approximate 8.5 acre former Little River Hospital campus. The County initially planned to renovate the former hospital building for use as County administrative offices. However, since the COVID-19 pandemic the County is in desperate need of additional medical care for the public and for additional COVID-19 testing. The medical clinics in the County are now overloaded and do not provide same day test results and only one of the four actually does testing on site. Most of those that need testing are sent out of county for testing. The County has no hospitals, no emergency room care and no urgent care.

Dannielle Janicek has offered to open an urgent care clinic in the former professional building, but cannot afford to renovate the building. It will cost around \$600,000. to renovate the building, but County has no funds for this renovation. County could use its TDEM grant money for this purpose and TDEM told Judge Young and Michelle Morgan during a phone call that this was a legitimate use of the TDEM funds. Milam County must own the building before funds can be used for renovation.

County has applied for an EDA grant to renovate the former hospital building and it looks like it will take over 4 million to do everything that is needed. Grant request cannot be submitted until the County owns the campus and thus the exchange agreement must be made if any of these projects are to go forward.

Judge Young recommended not deciding on a bid today, due to the EDA would need to look at the specs of bids submitted.

Stan Graves with ArchiTexas spoke about the bids and how they are placed on a scoring system and gave his recommendations by scoring on a spreadsheet

Judge Young talked about going live with Commissioners Court and getting microphones for the Commissioners.

Frank Summers asked about how Public Participation would be done?

Judge Young stated they could still come into the courtroom and give their statements or could participate through the go to meeting which will still be one of the forums used. Will place on the next Commissioner's Agenda to make a final decision on

Motion by Commissioner Fisher to approve moving forward with the agreement to acquire the former 8.5 acre hospital campus and buildings for use by the County by exchanging certain County property in downtown Cameron for the campus. Seconded by Commissioner Muegge and carried 4 to 1

***Judge Young- Aye
Commissioner Watkins- Aye
Commissioner Fisher- Aye
Commissioner Muegge- Aye
Commissioner Shuffield- Ney***

Motion by Commissioner Watkins to approve the Resolution and to move forward with the EDA Grant, Seconded by Commissioner Muegge and carried unanimously

***Judge Young- Aye
Commissioner Watkins- Aye
Commissioner Fisher- Aye
Commissioner Muegge- Aye
Commissioner Shuffield- Ney***

6. URGENT CARE

- a) DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING RENOVATION OF THE FORMER PROFESSIONAL BUILDING FOR USE AS AN URGENT CARE/MEDICAL CARE/COVID-19 TESTING FACILITY WITH AVAILABLE GRANT FUNDS PROVIDED BY TDEM
- b) DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING A PROPOSED CONTRACT WITH ARCHITEXAS TO DRAFT RENOVATION PLANS FOR THE FORMER PROFESSIONAL BUILDING FOR USE AS URGENT CARE/MEDICAL CARE/COVID-19 TESTING
- c) DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION TO HIRE A GENERAL CONTRACTOR TO MAKE RENOVATIONS TO THE FORMER PROFESSIONAL BUILDING

Motion by Commissioner Muegge to renovate the former professional building and to use TDEM grant funds to pay Architexas for architectural plans and renovation work to be done by EBCO for the professional building. Seconded by Commissioner Fisher and carried 4-1.

Judge Young- Aye

Commissioner Watkins- Aye

Commissioner Fisher- Aye

Commissioner Muegge- Aye

Commissioner Shuffield- Ney

Convened into Executive Session per Local Government Code 551.074 Personnel Matters at 10.58a.m.

Reconvened back into Commissioners Court at 11:03am

7. BRYAN BURNS

- a) DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING PAY AND FRINGE BENEFITS FOR BRYAN BURNS

Motion by Judge Young to approve the salary increase to \$44,970 for Bryan Burns, Seconded by Commissioner Shuffield and carried unanimously

- Effective next pay period

8. ADJOURN- Motion made by ***Commissioner Fisher***, seconded by ***Commissioner Muegge*** and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 A.M.

The above and foregoing Minutes for Tuesday, June 30, 2020 having been examined and approved in Open Court this _____ day of _____ 2020.

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 June 30, 2020

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

STATEMENT OF APPROVAL

June 30, 2020 Minutes

Approved _____

Commissioner of Precinct No. 1

Commissioner of Precinct No. 2

Commissioner of Precinct No. 3

Commissioner of Precinct No. 4