

**COMMISSIONERS COURT OF MILAM COUNTY, TEXAS**  
**AGENDA FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2020**

Notice is hereby given that a public meeting of the Milam County Commissioners Court will be held on Monday, September 28, 2020, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The Court will meet in person at the Milam County Courthouse in the Milam County Courtroom. Due to the recent outbreak of the COVID-19 virus the meeting will also be conducted by phone and by Facebook Live. Public attendance will be limited due to COVID-19 spacing requirements and admittance will be done on a first come, first serve basis.

To join by phone dial: 571 317 3122 and use access code 515-698-925.

To join by Facebook Live navigate to the Moving Milam Forward Facebook Page which is located at <https://www.facebook.com/live/producer/934846117015797>

The following items will be addressed:

1. Call Meeting to Order and establish a quorum.
2. Prayer.
3. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and to the Texas Flag.
4. Discuss and take any necessary to recess the Court in order to hold a public hearing on the proposed 2021 Milam County budget.
5. Conduct a public hearing on the proposed Milam County 2020 tax rate wherein any member of the public may comment on the 2020 proposed Milam County tax rate.
6. Discuss and take any necessary action to reconvene the Milam County Commissioners Court.
7. Discuss the minutes of previous Commissioner's Court meetings and take any necessary action regarding approval, correction and/or changes of the minutes.
8. Discuss and take any necessary action to recognize and honor Mr. Mike Brown for his many years of journalistic service to Milam County, Texas.
9. Discuss and take any necessary action to designate October 4-10, 2020 as National 4-H Week in Texas and commend the 4-H Youth Development Program of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the many men and women who have made the program successful in Milam County, Texas.
10. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the COVID 19 pandemic in Milam County, Texas including an update on:
  - a. Free testing in the County;
  - b. Renovation of the Professional Building for urgent care and COVID testing;
  - c. County wide infection; and

d. Other County wide mitigation efforts.

11. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the adoption of the 2020 Milam County tax rate and the 2021 budget:

- a. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the adoption of the Debt Service 2020 Tax Rate.
- b. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the adoption of the Maintenance and Operations 2020 Tax Rate.
- c. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the adoption of the Total 2020 Tax Rate.
- d. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the adoption of the Ad Valorem Tx Split of 65/35 for the 2021 Budget.
- e. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the adoption of the proposed 2021 Milam County budget.

12. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the External Audit Report for FY 2019.

13. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the Memo of Understanding between the City of Cameron and Milam County Little River Watershed.

14. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the adoption of the Milam County Annual Road Reports.

15. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the Milam County Sheriff's office COVID-19 hazard pay stipend policy.

16. Discuss and take any necessary action to approve the Sheriff and Constable fees for service of process fees for 2021.

17. Utility Installation:

- a. Discuss and take any necessary action for a Southwest Milam water line within the right of way of County Road 302, as follows: bore on CR 302 approximately 50 feet south of the intersection of CR 302 and FM 908; 6" PVC casing across entire ROW, minimum 36" deep.

18. Subdivision variance:

- a. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding a proposed subdivision variance for 15.886 acre tract on Cumley Lane, Appraisal District ID 20521610.

19. Discuss and take any necessary action to appoint a signature committee for mail ballots.

20. Discuss and take any necessary action to pay any bills of Milam County.

21. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the Milam County Health Department, including:

- a. An update from the Health Department as to its non-COVID activities.
- b. A new sign for the One Stop in Rockdale.

c. An update from Jennifer Ranspot regarding the WIC program.

22. Discuss and take any necessary action to adjourn the Commissioners Court.

Dated this the 25<sup>th</sup> day of September 2020:

Commissioners Court of Milam County, Texas

By:

Judge Steve Young

Digitally signed by Judge Steve Young  
Date: 2020.09.24 16:58:19 -05'00'

Steve Young, Milam 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 25th day of September 2020 and said Notice remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the schedule time of said Meeting.

Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September 2020  
County Clerk of Milam County, Texas

Jodi Morgan

By: Jodi Morgan



**JODI MORGAN**  
County Clerk

Filed 25 day of Sept  
in 2020, At 8:15 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 28<sup>th</sup> day of September A. D. 2020, the Commissioners' Court of Milam County, Texas, convened in a Public Meeting 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, phone and in court with limited seating. Call 571 317 3122 access code 515 698 925**

**To join by Facebook Live navigate to the Moving Milam Forward Facebook Page which is located at  
<https://www.facebook.com/live/producer/934846117015797>**

**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](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 a quorum. 10:20a.m.
  - a. Delay in starting due to technical difficulty in getting Facebook Live going****
- 2. Prayer.**
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and to the Texas Flag.**



**4. Discuss and take any necessary to recess the Court in order to hold a public hearing on the proposed 2021 Milam County budget.**

***Motion by Commissioner Muegge to recess into a Public Hearing on the proposed 2021 Milam County Budget at 10:23am, Seconded by Commissioner Shuffield and carried unanimously***

**5. Conduct a public hearing on the proposed Milam County 2020 tax rate wherein any member of the public may comment on the 2020 proposed Milam County tax rate.**

- **Judge Young announced 3 times asking for any public participation; no one spoke. Paperwork was submitted to the court by Wayne Horkheimer (see attached paperwork)**

**6. Discuss and take any necessary action to reconvene the Milam County Commissioners Court.**

***Motion by Commissioner Watkins to reconvene back to Commissioners Court at 10:23am, Seconded by Commissioner Muegge and carried unanimously***

**7. Discuss the minutes of 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 previous meetings, Seconded by Commissioner Shuffield and carried unanimously***

- **September 14, 2020 Regular Meeting**
- **September 17, 2020 Special Meeting**

**8. Discuss and take any necessary action to recognize and honor Mr. Mike Brown for his many years of journalistic service to Milam County, Texas.**

- **Mike Brown-46 years of service with the Rockdale Reporter and during that time received numerous awards**

**9. Discuss and take any necessary action to designate October 4-10, 2020 as National 4-H Week in Texas and commend the 4-H Youth Development Program of the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service and the many men and women who have made the program successful in Milam County, Texas.**

***Motion by Commissioner Muegge to designate October 4-10, 2020 as National 4-H Week in Texas, Seconded by Commissioner Fisher and carried unanimously***

**10. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the COVID 19 pandemic in Milam County, Texas including an update on:**

- a. Free testing in the County;**
  - **Only rural county offering free rapid testing**
- b. Renovation of the Professional Building for urgent care and COVID testing;**
  - **Using COVID money to renovate the building, right now asbestos is being torn out; cost for the removal of asbestos is at 91,000**
- c. County wide infection; and**
- d. Other County wide mitigation efforts.**

- 11. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the adoption of the 2020 Milam County tax rate and the 2021 budget:**
- a. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the adoption of the Debt Service 2020 Tax Rate.**
  - b. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the adoption of the Maintenance and Operations 2020 Tax Rate.**
  - c. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the adoption of the Total 2020 Tax Rate.**
  - d. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the adoption of the Ad Valorem Tx Split of 65/35 for the 2021 Budget.**
  - e. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the adoption of the proposed 2021 Milam County budget.**

***Motion by Judge Young to adopt the Debt Service 2020 Tax Rate, Seconded by Commissioner Muegge and carried unanimously***

***Motion by Judge Young to set the Maintenance and Operations tax rate at .6740 per \$100.00 evaluation, Seconded by Commissioner Watkins and carried unanimously***

***Motion by Judge Young to set the I&S (Debt Service) tax rate at .0560 per \$100.00 evaluation***

***Motion by Judge Young to set the tax rate for 2020 at .73 cents per \$100 evaluation per Section 26.05 (a) of the State of Texas Tax Code with 65% to be allocated to the General Fund after debt service payment is provided for and 35% allocated to the road and bridge accounts, divided equally four (4) ways, Seconded by Commissioner Fisher and carried unanimously***

***Motion by Judge Young to adopt the 2021 proposed Milam County budget of \$21,576,170.00, Seconded by Commissioner Shuffield and carried unanimously.***

- 12. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the External Audit Report for FY 2019.**

***Motion by Commissioner Muegge to accept the External Audit Report for FY 2019, Seconded by Commissioner Watkins and carried unanimously***

**13. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the Memo of Understanding between the City of Cameron and Milam County Little River Watershed.**

***Motion by Commissioner Fisher to table the Memo of Understanding between the City of Cameron and Milam County Little River Watershed, Seconded by Commissioner Muegge and carried unanimously***

**14. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the adoption of the Milam County Annual Road Reports.**

***Motion by Commissioner Shuffield to adopt the Milam County Annual Road Reports, Seconded by Commissioner Muegge and carried unanimously***

**15. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the Milam County Sheriffs office COVID-19 hazard pay stipend policy.**

***Motion by Judge Young to approve the Milam County Sheriff's office COVID-19 hazard pay stipend policy, Seconded by Commissioner Muegge and carried unanimously***

- **This was a grant that the Sheriff's Office applied for and received**

**16. Discuss and take any necessary action to approve the Sheriff and Constable fees for service of process fees for 2021.**

***Motion by Commissioner Muegge to approve the Sheriff and Constable fees for service of process fees for 2021, Seconded by Commissioner Fisher and carried unanimously***

**17. Utility Installation:**

**a. Discuss and take any necessary action for a Southwest Milam water line within the right of way of County Road 302, as follows: bore on CR 302 approximately 50 feet south of the intersection of CR 302 and FM 908; 6" PVC casing across entire ROW, minimum 36" deep.**

***Motion by Commissioner Muegge to approve the Utility Installation from Southwest Milam for a water line within the right of way of County Road 302, Seconded by Commissioner Fisher and carried unanimously***

**18. Subdivision variance:**

**a. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding a proposed subdivision variance for 15.886 acre tract on Cumley Lane, Appraisal District ID 20521610.**

***Motion by Commissioner Muegge to approve the subdivision variance for 15.886 acre tract on Cumley Lane, Seconded by Commissioner Watkins and carried unanimously***

**19. Discuss and take any necessary action to appoint a signature committee for mail ballots.**

***Motion by Commissioner Shuffield to appoint a signature committee for mail ballots, Seconded by Commissioner Watkins and carried unanimously***

**20. Discuss and take any necessary action to pay any bills of Milam County.**

***Motion by Commissioner Muegge to pay the bills in the amount of \$214,713.34, Seconded by Commissioner Fisher and carried unanimously***

**21. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding the Milam County Health Department, including:**

**a. An update from the Health Department as to its non-COVID activities. Robert Kirkpatrick presented a map of current septic applications, 92 applications most of them are for new construction. Also presented was an Operation Warp Speed Vaccine Distribution Process. Mr. Kirkpatrick noted that he received a Memorandum of Understanding to present to the court about accessing the State site for information regarding Death Data, he will present to the next court meeting**

**b. A new sign for the One Stop in Rockdale.**

***Motion by Judge Young to approve the remainder of payment due for the New One Stop Sign in Rockdale in the amount of \$945.00, Seconded by Commissioner Shuffield and carried unanimously***

- The WIC Department paid for the bulk of the sign in the amount of \$4405.00**



**c. An update from Jennifer Ranspot regarding the WIC program.**

**Jennifer Ranspot- From April to September there was a drastic increase in case load, Harris County had an influx of cases and needed help from other counties, so we took on some of the cases. We were averaging around 9800 additional from Harris Co and in a normal month for just Milam County its around 800. This has helped to create \$43,000 in surplus money that we have to spend on WIC allowables. This must be spent by September 30, 2020 or we lose it. I would like for Milam Co WIC Employees to receive Essential Workers pay with this at \$5,000.00 an employee.**

***Motion by Judge Young to approve Essential Workers Pay for the WIC employees at \$5,000.00 an employee, Seconded by Commissioner Fisher and carried unanimously***

**22. Adjourn- Motion by Commissioner Fisher to adjourn at 11:57a.m., Seconded by Commissioner Muegge and carried unanimously**

**The above and foregoing Minutes for Monday, September 28, 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 September 28, 2020**

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

**STATEMENT OF APPROVAL  
September 28, 2020 Minutes  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Commissioner of Precinct No. 1**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Commissioner of Precinct No. 2**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Commissioner of Precinct No. 3**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Commissioner of Precinct No. 4**