



Ector County Commissioners' Court

August 19, 2025

10:00 AM

Commissioners' Courtroom, Ector County Administration Building Annex, 1010 E. 8th St.,  
Odessa, Texas

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**CALL TO ORDER- JUDGE DUSTIN FAWCETT**

Dustin Fawcett, County Judge  
Mike Gardner, Commissioner Precinct #1  
Greg Simmons, Commissioner Precinct #2  
Samantha Russell, Commissioner Precinct #3  
Billy Hall, Commissioner Precinct #4  
Minutes taken by Marco Dominguez, Assistant Chief Deputy Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

**INVOCATION- COMMISSIONER BILLY HALL**

The invocation was led by Commissioner Hall.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- UNITED STATES AND TEXAS**

Commissioner Russell led the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag and the pledge of allegiance to the Texas flag.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/REQUESTS/RESOLUTIONS**

**1. Public Participation/Comments, Shelby Rigtrup- Public Information Officer**

To receive public comments on non-agenda related items.

Scott Johnson & David James (Chaplin) - 1950 S. Shawnee Trail Odessa, Texas 79763 - Talked about who gave the right to split the district out in the County without voting on it and water issues.

Shirley Kelly - P.O. Box 69012 Odessa, Texas - Spoke on behalf of a neighbor that is having water issues out in the County and how they can be resolved.

**NO ACTION WAS TAKEN**

**2. Recognition, Mike Griffis- Sheriff**

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to recognize Marina Lujan for her decisive response to a life-threatening situation that resulted in saving a life on November 2nd, 2024. She was awarded the Director's Award by the Texas Department of Public Safety for her immediate response in assisting State Troopers.

## NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

### 3. Donation, Howard Marks- Library Director

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve* a \$125.00 gift card donation from Market Street to the Ector County Library.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve a \$125.00 gift card donation from Market Street to the Ector County Library; Commissioner Russell seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED 5 - 0

### 4. Library Card Sign-Up Month, Howard Marks- Library Director

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action regarding the Ector County Library holding the month of September as the official *Library Card Sign-Up Month*, which the American Library Association (ALA) has been holding since 1987, to ensure every child in Ector County has their own library card.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to take any necessary action regarding the Ector County Library holding the month of September as the official *Library Card Sign-Up Month*, which the American Library Association (ALA) has been holding since 1987, to ensure every child in Ector County has their own library card; A second was made by Commissioner Gardner.

MOTION PASSED 5 - 0

### 5. 2025-2026 Proposed Tax Rate, Shelby Rigtrup- Public Information Officer

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action regarding the *2025-2026 Proposed Tax Rate*, and authorize the County Judge, and any other necessary party, to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gardner regarding the *2025-2026 Proposed Tax Rate*; A second was made by Commissioner Hall.

MOTION PASSED 3 - 2

### 6. Public Hearing Scheduling: 2025-2026 Tax Rate, Shelby Rigtrup- Public Information Officer

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to schedule the *public hearing* for the *2025-2026 Tax Rate* at the regularly scheduled Commissioners' Court meeting on September 9th, 2025, at 10:00AM, and authorize the County Judge, and any other necessary party, to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

Commissioner Gardner made a motion to schedule the *public hearing* for the *2025-2026 Tax Rate* at the regularly scheduled Commissioners' Court meeting on September 9th, 2025, at 10:00AM; Commissioner Hall seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED 4 - 1

Commissioner Russell made a motion to schedule a Special Meeting on September 4th, 2025, at 6:00PM to hear the public on the 2025-2026 Tax Rate at the regularly scheduled Commissioners' Court meeting on September 9th, 2025, at 10:00AM; Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED 5 - 0

### 7. Public Hearing Scheduling: 2025-2026 Budget, Shelby Rigtrup- Public Information Officer

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to schedule the *public hearing* for the *2025-2026 Budget* at the regularly scheduled Commissioners' Court meeting on September 9th, 2025, at 10:00AM, and authorize the County Judge, and any other necessary party, to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hall to schedule the *public hearing* for the *2025-2026 Budget* at the regularly scheduled Commissioners' Court meeting on September 9th, 2025, at 10:00AM; A second was made by Commissioner Gardner.

MOTION PASSED 4 - 1

8. Courthouse Design Discussion, Dustin Fawcett- Ector County Judge

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action regarding the design of the *Ector County Courthouse* as it relates to multiple departments and Elected Officials.

A presentation was made by April Pottorff with DLR Group regarding the design of the *Ector County Courthouse* as it relates to multiple departments and Elected Officials.

**NO ACTION WAS TAKEN**

**CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS/GRANTS**

9. 2025 ILL Reimbursement Program, Howard Marks- Library Director

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve* the Ector County Library to receive funds through a *reimbursement award* with the *Texas State Library and Archives Commission Interlibrary Loan (ILL) Lending Reimbursement Program* for 2025 in the amount of \$2,088.00, and authorize the County Judge, and any other necessary party, to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to *approve* the Ector County Library to receive funds through a *reimbursement award* with the *Texas State Library and Archives Commission Interlibrary Loan (ILL) Lending Reimbursement Program* for 2025 in the amount of \$2,088.00; A second was made by Commissioner Hall.

**MOTION PASSED 5 - 0**

10. Intergovernmental Agreement, Mike Griffis- Sheriff

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve* an *Intergovernmental Agreement* by and between Ector County, Texas, and Winkler County, Texas, to house inmates at \$80.00/day per inmate, and authorize the County Judge, and any other necessary party, to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

Minutes Attachments

1. Agenda Item #10 08-19.pdf

Commissioner Simmons made a motion to *approve* an *Intergovernmental Agreement* by and between Ector County, Texas, and Winkler County, Texas, to house inmates at \$80.00/day per inmate; Commissioner Gardner seconded the motion.

**MOTION PASSED 5 - 0**

11. Unimproved Property Contract, John Henderson- Commissioners' Court Attorney/Grant Writer

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve* an *Unimproved Property Contract* by and between Ector County, Texas, and Claude Everett Jr., regarding the corner of 16th Street and Tripp Avenue, and authorize the County Judge, and any other necessary party, to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

Minutes Attachments

1. Agenda Item #11 08-19.pdf

A motion was made by Commissioner Gardner to *approve* an *Unimproved Property Contract* by and between Ector County, Texas, and Claude Everett Jr., regarding the corner of 16th Street and Tripp Avenue; A second was made by Commissioner Hall.

**MOTION PASSED 5 - 0**

12. Unimproved Property Contract, John Henderson- Commissioners' Court Attorney/Grant Writer

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve* an *Unimproved Property Contract* by and between Ector County, Texas, and Claude Everett Jr., regarding the western portion of 3rd Street and Tripp Avenue (intersection), and authorize the County Judge, and any other necessary party, to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

Minutes Attachments

1. Agenda Item #12 08-19.pdf

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve an *Unimproved Property Contract* by and between Ector County, Texas, and Claude Everett Jr., regarding the western portion of 3rd Street and Tripp Avenue (intersection); Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED 5 - 0

A motion to adjourn to executive session was made by Commissioner Hall; A second was made by Commissioner Simmons.

MOTION PASSED 5 - 0

**Adjourned** at 11:16 A.M.

Commissioner Gardner made a motion to reconvene; Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED 5 - 0

**Reconvened** at 11:38 A.M.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

### 13. Legal Matters, Sam Brijalba- H.R. Safety/Risk Coordinator

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action regarding *legal matters* pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 551, Section 551.071, Texas Government Code, in relation to a *General Liability Claim* regarding an employee's personal auto- vehicle sustaining paint damage due to excrement which leaked from the covered parking ceiling at Ector County Courthouse on Friday, July 11th, 2025, and authorize the County Judge, and any other necessary party, to sign all documents associated with this agenda item; the employee has secured 3 estimates from local body shops.

Commissioner Simmons made a motion to deny the agenda item as presented; A second was made by Commissioner Russell.

MOTION PASSED 4 - 0

ABSTAIN 1

### 14. Legal Matters, Julie Prentice- County Attorney

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action regarding *legal matters* pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 551, Section 551.071, Texas Government Code, in relation to *Opioid Litigation*, and authorize the County Judge, and any other necessary party, to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to take any necessary action regarding *legal matters* pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 551, Section 551.071, Texas Government Code, in relation to *Opioid Litigation*; A second was made by Commissioner Hall.

MOTION PASSED 5 - 0

## ADJOURN

Time 11:45 A.M.

With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Simmons with a second by Commissioner Gardner.

MOTION PASSED 5 - 0

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF ECTOR

I, Jennifer Martin, County Clerk, do hereby attest to the accuracy of the Commissioners Court Proceedings for the meeting held on the above date.

September 30, 2025 at 11:31 AM

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer Martin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "M".

Jennifer Martin, Ector County Clerk