

**MINUTES**  
**MATAGORDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT MEETING**  
**MATAGORDA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM 300**  
**1700 SEVENTH STREET, BAY CITY, TEXAS 77414**  
**9:30 A.M., MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2013**

**Call to Order**

This **Regular Session** of the Matagorda County Commissioners' Court was called to order at 9:30 A.M., Monday the 12<sup>th</sup> day of August 2013 in the Matagorda County Commissioner's Courtroom, located on the Third Floor, 1700 Seventh Street, Room 300, Bay City, Texas, with County Judge McDonald presiding.

Others present were as follows: Ellen Dodd, Bob Watts, Doug Matthes, Ruben Gonzales, Tammy McDonald, Sheriff Osborne, Chris Peikert, Ed Stavinoha, Willie Younger, Donna Younger, Barry Halvorson, Denise Fortenberry, D C Dunham, Victoria Herrin, Mike Strotheide, Harriet Townsend and Janet Hickl

1. **Certification of quorum**

County Judge McDonald certified a quorum in attendance with Commissioner Kent Pollard, Commissioner Pustka, Commissioner Woodson and Commissioner James Gibson.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Woodson**

3. **Texas Pledge – Commissioner Woodson**

4. **Prayer – Commissioner Gibson**

5. **Consideration and possible action regarding approving Commissioners Court Minutes for August 5, 2013**

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Woodson and seconded by Commissioner Gibson, with all others concurring, to approve Commissioners Court Minutes for August 5, 2013. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

6. **Consideration and possible action regarding contracts for the use of the Matagorda County Fairground facilities**

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Pustka and seconded by Commissioner Gibson, with all others concurring, to approve one contract for the use of the Matagorda County Fairground facilities by New Fellowship. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

7. **Consideration and possible action to amend previous orders approved by Commissioners Court on April 23, 2001, and April 1, 2004, which increased the salary of the Office Manager of the County Attorney's Office, by relieving the County Attorney's state supplement's obligation to cover the annual cost (\$2,571.36) associated with these two orders. Thereby obligating the general fund to cover this cost effective January 1, 2014**

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Gibson and seconded by Commissioner Woodson, with all others concurring, to amend previous orders approved by Commissioners Court on April 23, 2001, and April 1, 2004, which increased the salary of the Office Manager of the County Attorney's Office, by relieving the County Attorney's state supplement's obligation to cover the annual cost (\$2,571.36) associated with these two orders. Thereby obligating the general fund to cover this cost effective January 1, 2014. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

**8. Consideration and possible action to approve the recognition of the current Legal Secretary position in the County Attorney's office as an employee of Matagorda County subject to all benefits, pay increases and other incentives as approved by the Commissioners Court. This is with the understanding that the current supplemental fund in the amount of \$35,000 (as of September 1, 2013) received from the state continue to contribute to the cost of this position as they remain available. If these funds at any time cease, this position will not be affected**

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Gibson and seconded by Commissioner Pollard, with all others concurring, to approve the recognition of the current Legal Secretary position in the County Attorney's office as an employee of Matagorda County subject to all benefits, pay increases and other incentives as approved by the Commissioners Court. This is with the understanding that the current supplemental fund in the amount of \$35,000 (as of September 1, 2013) received from the state continue to contribute to the cost of this position as they remain available. If these funds at any time cease, this position will not be affected. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

**9. Consideration and possible action to discuss a Proposed tax rate for tax year 2013 for Matagorda County, and set 2 Public Hearings to discuss the 2013 Proposed Maintenance and Operation tax rate of .31695, and the 2013 Proposed Interest and Sinking tax rate of .00404 (for a total tax rate of .32099) and approve the Publishing of Notice of these 2 hearings. The hearings will be at 9:30 AM on Thursday, August 22, 2013 and at 9:45 AM on Monday, August 26, 2013 in the Matagorda County Commissioners Courtroom**

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Pustka and seconded by Commissioner Gibson, with all others concurring, to discuss a Proposed tax rate for tax year 2013 for Matagorda County, and set 2 Public Hearings to discuss the 2013 Proposed Maintenance and Operation tax rate of .31695, and the 2013 Proposed Interest and Sinking tax rate of .00404 (for a total tax rate of .32099) and approve the Publishing of Notice of these 2 hearings. The hearings will be at 9:30 AM on Thursday, August 22, 2013 and at 9:45 AM on Monday, August 26, 2013 in the Matagorda County Commissioners Courtroom. Motion carried.

Vote: Commissioner Pustka Pct #1 – aye

Commissioner Pollard Pct. #2 – aye

Commissioner Gibson Pct. #3 – aye

Commissioner Woodson Pct. #4 – aye

County Judge McDonald – aye

**10. Consideration and possible action to set a Public Hearing for August 26, 2013 at 9:55 AM in the Matagorda County Commissioners Courtroom to discuss the 2014 Matagorda County Budget, and to publish notice of the Public Hearing**

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Pollard and seconded by Commissioner Gibson, with all others concurring, to set a Public Hearing for August 26, 2013 at 9:55 AM in the Matagorda County Commissioners Courtroom to discuss the 2014 Matagorda County Budget, and to publish notice of the Public Hearing. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

**11. Consideration and possible action to set September 9, 2013 at 9:45 AM as the date and time to adopt the 2013 Proposed Maintenance and Operation tax rate of .31695, and the 2013 Proposed Interest and Sinking tax rate of .00404, making a total tax rate of .32099**

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Pustka and seconded by Commissioner Pollard, with all others concurring, to set September 9, 2013 at 9:45 AM as the date and time to adopt the 2013 Proposed Maintenance and Operation tax rate of .31695, and the 2013 Proposed Interest and Sinking tax rate of .00404, making a total tax rate of .32099 Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

**12. Consideration and possible action to approve the Companion Life Retiree Medicare Supplement Prescription Drug Renewal and authorize the County Judge to sign**

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Pollard and seconded by Commissioner Gibson, with all others concurring, to approve the Companion Life Retiree Medicare Supplement Prescription Drug Renewal and authorize the County Judge to sign. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

**13. Consideration and possible action to approve a waiver to the Matagorda County Burn Ban for Farmer's Gin in Palacios, Texas, to burn cotton hulls, tree limbs, wood, and paper at 3500 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Palacios, Texas, Precinct #3, Matagorda County, Texas between August 12, 2013 and August 29, 2013 with the Palacios Volunteer Fire Department standing by**

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Gibson and seconded by Commissioner Pollard, with all others concurring, to approve a waiver to the Matagorda County Burn Ban for Farmer's Gin in Palacios, Texas, to burn cotton hulls, tree limbs, wood, and paper at 3500 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Palacios, Texas, Precinct #3, Matagorda County, Texas between August 12, 2013 and August 29, 2013 with the Palacios Volunteer Fire Department standing by. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

**14. Consideration and possible action to approve Payment of Bills**

This being the next item for business, motion was duly made by Commissioner Pollard and seconded by Commissioner Pustka, with all others concurring, to approve Payment of Bills. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

**15. Public Comments**

This being the next item for business, no action required.

**16. Adjournment**

Motion was duly made at approximately 9:50 a.m. by Commissioner Pustka and seconded by Commissioner Woodson, with all others concurring, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Vote 5 ayes 0 nays

Approved in Open Court, this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2013.



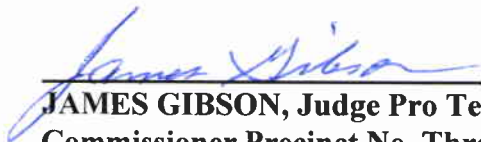
**NATE McDONALD,**  
**County Judge**



**DANIEL PUSTKA,**  
**Commissioner Precinct No. One**



**KENT POLLARD,**  
**Commissioner Precinct No. Two**




**JAMES GIBSON, Judge Pro Tem**  
**Commissioner Precinct No. Three**



**DAVID "WOODY" WOODSON,**  
**Commissioner Precinct No. Four**

ATTEST:

  
**Janet Hickl, County Clerk**