

COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES
110 S Main St. 2nd Floor, Lockhart, Texas
Commissioners Court April 9, 2026, 9:00 AM



Hoppy Haden	County Judge	B.J. Westmoreland	Commissioner, Pct. 1
Teresa Rodriguez	County Clerk	Rusty Horne	Commissioner, Pct. 2
		Ed Theriot	Commissioner, Pct. 3
		Dyral Thomas	Commissioner, Pct. 4

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Judge Haden called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

B. INVOCATION

Pastor Jodi Fischer of Old Lytton Springs Church opened the meeting with a prayer.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. AND TEXAS FLAGS:

(Texas Pledge: Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.)

Judge Haden led the pledge to all flags.

D. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Items or comments from Court members or staff.

Judge Haden announced that the “50 Lions That Can Cook” event, hosted by the Lockhart Education Foundation, will take place this Friday, with all proceeds benefiting teacher scholarships.

Ezzy Chan, Executive Assistant, provided the monthly cybersecurity training update, reporting that 182 of 226 enrollees have completed the training, and noting that reminder emails will be sent for completion by July 1.

E. CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

At this time any person may speak to Commissioners Court if they have filled out a Caldwell County Commissioners Court Participation Form. Comments will be limited to four (4) minutes per person. No action will be taken on these items and no discussion will be had between the speaker(s) and members of the Court. The Court does retain the right to correct factual inaccuracies made by the speakers. (If longer than 30 minutes, then the balance of comments will continue as the last agenda item of the day.) Citizens' Comments may be submitted to the Court by using the form found at: <https://www.co.caldwell.tx.us/page/CommissionersCourtForm>

Pastor Jodi Fischer of Lytton Church expressed appreciation to the Precinct 4 Constables, Constable Art Villareal, EMC Chief Hector Rangel, Commissioner Thomas, and Deputy Mary Teague for their donations, dedication, and contributions to the success of the Lytton Springs Park Association Annual Easter Egg Hunt held on March 28. She also announced that the Fourth of July fireworks planning meeting will be held Sunday at 6:00 p.m. at the Dale Community Center.

Mark McLaughlin, Luling City Manager, introduced himself and addressed concerns regarding ESD No. 5 placing a 1.5% tax increase on the ballot.

Andrew McClish, a Prairie Lea resident, provided a history of the installation of stop signs in his neighborhood and the handling of the issue, and requested that the matter be placed on a future agenda for open discussion and possible action.

F. CONSENT AGENDA:

(The following consent items may be acted upon in one motion.)

- F.1. To approve payment of County Invoices and Purchase Orders in the amount of \$704,142.92.**
- F.2. To approve County Payroll payment in the amount of \$527,373.01 (03/08/2026 through 03/21/2026).**
- F.3. To approve County Payroll Tax payment in the amount of \$155,381.69 (03/08/2026 through 03/21/2026).**
- F.4. To accept the February 2026 Young Farmers Assessment Fee payment to the Texas Agricultural Finance Authority totaling \$250.00.**
- F.5. To accept February 2026 DMV payment to Caldwell County in the amount of \$213,722.47.**
- F.6. To accept February 2026 DMV Remittance in the amount of \$205,354.40.**
- F.7. To accept February 2026 Comptroller payment in the amount of \$320,579.19.**
- F.8. To ratify immediate check request to Lockhart Partners 1 L.P for \$2,119.92.**
- F.9. To ratify immediate check request to Lockhart Farms LP for \$2,763.60.**
- F.10. To ratify immediate check request to Rush Automotive LLC for \$1,791.85.**
- F.11. To ratify immediate check request to Performance Auto & Transmissions for \$2,160.00.**
- F.12. To ratify immediate check request to Toshiba America Business Solutions for \$8,709.01.**
- F.13. To ratify immediate check request to Century Construction Group, Inc. for \$421,491.60.**
- F.14. To ratify immediate check to City of Luling in the amount of \$23,743.76.**
- F.15. To ratify immediate check to Law Office of Richard E. Wetzel in the amount of \$10,000.00.**
- F.16. To accept the March 2026 Indigent Burial Report.**

Motion made by Commissioner Horne, seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland to Approve . All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

- F.1 To approve payment of County Invoices and Purchase Orders in the amount of \$704,142.92.
4 9 2026 AP Expense Approval Register.pdf
Payment Register 04.09.2026.pdf
- F.2 To approve County Payroll payment in the amount of \$527,373.01 (03/08/2026 through 03/21/2026).
Payroll 03082026 thru 03212026.pdf
- F.3 To approve County Payroll Tax payment in the amount of \$155,381.69 (03/08/2026 through 03/21/2026).
Payroll Tax 03082026 thru 03212026.pdf
- F.4 To accept the February 2026 Young Farmers Assessment Fee payment to the Texas Agricultural Finance Authority totaling \$250.00.
Young Farmers Feb 2026.pdf
- F.5 To accept February 2026 DMV payment to Caldwell County in the amount of \$213,722.47. County DMV Payments Feb 2026 .pdf
- F.6 To accept February 2026 DMV Remittance in the amount of \$205,354.40.
DMV Payments Feb 2026.pdf
- F.7 To accept February 2026 Comptroller payment in the amount of \$320,579.19.
Comptroller Feb 2026.pdf

- F.8 To ratify immediate check request to Lockhart Partners 1 L.P for \$2,119.92.
3.26.26 Emergency Check for Lockhart Partners 1 L.P.pdf
- F.9 To ratify immediate check request to Lockhart Farms LP for \$2,763.60.
3.26.26 Emergency Check Lockhart Farms LP.pdf
- F.10 To ratify immediate check request to Rush Automotive LLC for \$1,791.85.
3.26.26 Emergency Check for Rush Auto.pdf
- F.11 To ratify immediate check request to Performance Auto & Transmissions for \$2,160.00.
3.26.26 Emergency Check for Performance Auto.pdf
- F.12 To ratify immediate check request to Toshiba America Business Solutions for \$8,709.01.
3.27.26 Toshiba Emergency Check.pdf
- F.13 To ratify immediate check request to Century Construction Group, Inc. for \$421,491.60.
3.31.26 Emergency Check for Century Construction.pdf
- F.14 To ratify immediate check to City of Luling in the amount of \$23,743.76.
Immediate Check City of Luling.pdf
- F.15 To ratify immediate check to Law Office of Richard E. Wetzel in the amount of \$10,000.00. Immediate Check Richard Wetzel.pdf
- F.16 To accept the March 2026 Indigent Burial Report.
March 2026 Indigent Burial Report.pdf

G. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

- G.1 To discuss and take possible action regarding the approval of the Minutes for the March 26, 2026, regular meeting. Speaker: Judge Haden/Teresa Rodriguez; Backup: 11; Cost: \$0.00
03_26_2026 Agenda.pdf
03_26_2026 Commissioner Court Minutes.pdf

Motion made by Commissioner Horne, seconded by Commissioner Theriot to Approve . All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

- G.2 To discuss and take possible action regarding the Development Agreement for EDC Austin, LLC pertaining to 127.328 acres located in Caldwell County, Texas (Phase I). Speaker: Commissioner Theriot/Kasi Miles/Tracy Bratton/Bill Greenwood; Backup: 15; Cost: \$0.00
EDC Austin LLC Development Agreement (Phase i)

Motion made by Commissioner Theriot, seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland to Approve.
All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

- G.3 To discuss and take possible action regarding the Development Agreement for EDC Austin LandCo, LLC pertaining to 192.608 acres located in Caldwell County, Texas (Phase II). Speaker: Commissioner Theriot/Kasi Miles/Tracy Bratton/Bill Greenwood; Backup: 12; Cost: \$0.00
EDC Austin LLC Development Agreement (Phase II)

Motion made by Commissioner Theriot, seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland to Approve.
All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

- G.4 To discuss and take possible action regarding the Development Agreement for Texas Land Development Partners I, LLC, Bar H Ranch Partnership LTD, and The Estate of Janice Lee Tipton Harrison, deceased pertaining to 155.227 acres located in Caldwell County, Texas. Speaker: Commissioner Westmoreland/Richard Sitton/Kasi Miles; Backup: 18; Cost: \$0.00
Development Agreement for Caldwell Heights

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland, seconded by Commissioner Theriot to Approve.
All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

- G.5 To discuss and take possible action regarding a variance request to allow one-flag lot for a three-lot Short Form Plat on approximately 10.16 acres located on Barth Road. Speaker: Commissioner Thomas/Kasi Miles/Nicole Stephens; Backup: 3; Cost: \$0.00
Variance - J. Garza.pdf

Motion made by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Horne to Approve . All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

- G.6 To discuss and take possible action regarding a variance request to allow a family member in the third degree (1st cousin) to convey a 2.09-acre tract through a Family Land Grant located at 3381 FM 1984 in Maxwell, Texas. Speaker: Commissioner Theriot/Kasi Miles/Gene Bagwell; Backup: 7; Cost: \$0.00
Variance request for Gene Bagwell

Motion made by Commissioner Theriot, seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland to Approve.
All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

- G.7 To discuss and take possible action on a Proclamation designating April 26 -May 3, 2026, as Caldwell-Travis Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) Stewardship Week. Speaker: Judge Haden/Kathy Hutto/Rodney Purswell; Backup: 2; Cost: \$0.00

Proclamation designating April 26-May3, 2026, as Caldwell-Travis Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) Stewardship Week.
Stewardship Week - Request.pdf
2026 Stewardship Week Proclamation.pdf

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland, seconded by Commissioner Horne to Approve . All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

- G.8 To discuss and take possible action regarding a Proclamation recognizing April 2026 as Caldwell County Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month. Speaker: Judge Haden/Ashley Rios/Sandy Gonzales; Backup: 1; Cost: \$0.00

Proclamation is read recognizing April 2026 as Caldwell County Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month.
4.9.26 Proclamation - CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH APRIL 2026.pdf

Motion made by Commissioner Horne, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to Approve . All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

- G.9 To discuss and take possible action regarding a Proclamation recognizing April 2026 as Caldwell County Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. Speaker: Judge Haden/Ashley Rios/Sandy Gonzales; Backup: 1; Cost: \$0.00

Proclamation is read recognizing April 2026 Caldwell County Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

Sandra Gonzales, Legal Advocate with CWC, informed the court of the services provided and expressed gratitude for the county's support.

4.9.26 Proclamation - SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH APRIL 2026.pdf

Motion made by Commissioner Horne, seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland to Approve . All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

- G.10 To discuss and take possible action regarding a Proclamation recognizing April 6-10, 2026, as National Community Development Week. Speaker: Judge Haden; Backup: 3; Cost: \$ 0.00

Proclamation is read recognizing April 6-10th as National Community Development Week. Public Safety Telecommunicators and Community Development Week - Request.pdf 4.9.26 Proclamation - Community Development Week.pdf

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland, seconded by Commissioner Theriot to Approve. All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

- G.11 To discuss and take possible action regarding a Proclamation recognizing April 12-18, 2026, as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. Speaker: Judge Haden; Backup: 3; Cost: \$0.00

Proclamation is read recognizing April 12-18, 2026, as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

Public Safety Telecommunicators and Community Development Week - Request.pdf 4.9.26 Proclamation - Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.pdf

Motion made by Commissioner Theriot, seconded by Commissioner Horne to Approve . All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

- G.12 To discuss and take possible action regarding a Caldwell County Burn Ban. Speaker: Judge Haden/Hector Rangel; Backup: 2; Cost: \$0.00

Hector Rangel, Chief EMC, recommends keeping the burn ban on. Burn Ban Order 4.9.26.pdf

Motion made by Commissioner Horne, seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland to Approve . All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

- G.13 To discuss and take possible action regarding the Caldwell County Financial Audit Report for FY 2025. Speaker: Judge Haden/Danie Teltow; Backup: 116; Cost: \$0.00

Karl Goering, CPA with Armstrong, Vaughan & Associates P.C., provided a slideshow presentation of Caldwell County's annual financial report and financial highlights. Caldwell County 2025 Annual Financial Report.pdf

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland, seconded by Commissioner Horne to Approve. All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

G.14 To discuss and take possible action regarding Budget Amendment 07-2026, moving \$38,332.58 from Contingency (001-6510-4860) to Other Expenses (010-5000-4851) to cover Grant funding repayment. Speaker: Judge Haden/ Danie Teltow; Backup: 4; Cost: \$38,332.58
4.9.26 BA 07-2026.pdf
DR-4332 CC PW4904 State Receivable Letter - First Notice.pdf

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to Approve . All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

G.15 To discuss and take possible action on payment to the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) with the approval of Budget Amendment 07 -2026 in the amount of \$38,332.58. Speaker: Judge Haden/Danie Teltow/Amber Quinley; Backup: 3; Cost: \$38,332.58
TDEM notice DR-4332.pdf

Motion made by Commissioner Horne, seconded by Commissioner Theriot to Approve. All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

G.16 To discuss and take possible action to approve donation to the Hays Caldwell County Child Protective Board. Speaker: Judge Haden/Danie Teltow; Backup: 1; Cost: \$30,000.00

Mary Cauble, Treasurer of the Hays County Child Protection Board, thanked the county for its donation and continued support for children in Caldwell County.
Request for Funds - Agenda Backup.pdf

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland, seconded by Commissioner Theriot to Approve. All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

G.17 To discuss and take possible action regarding Budget Amendment 08- 2026 moving \$30,000.00 from Contingency (001-6510-4860) into Donations (001-6510-3200). Speaker: Judge Haden/Danie Teltow; Backup: 1; Cost: \$30,000.00
BA 08-2026 Contingency to Donation.pdf

Motion made by Commissioner Horne, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to Approve. All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

G.18 To discuss and take possible action on payment to Hays Caldwell County Child Protective Board in the amount of \$30,000.00. Speaker: Judge Haden/Danie Teltow; Backup: 1; Cost: \$30,000.00
Request for Funds - Agenda Backup.pdf

Motion made by Commissioner Theriot, seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland to Approve. All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

G.19 To discuss and take possible action regarding a 3-year Kologik agreement to interface with the JP's case management system. Speaker: Judge Haden/Danie Teltow; Backup: 17; Cost: \$13,500.00

Caldwell County Justice of the Peace Conglomerate (TX) - New Deal (1).pdf

Motion made by Commissioner Horne, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to Approve. All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

G.20 To discuss and take possible action regarding Resolution 24-2026 authorizing Caldwell County to apply for the USDOT FY26 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant funding. Speaker: Commissioner Theriot/Amber Quinley; Backup: 84; Cost: \$0.00

Amber Quinley, Grants Administrator, provided the court with handouts outlining suggested road projects for consideration under the USDOT FY26 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant funding, with an application deadline of May 26. She requested approval of a resolution expressing the county's intent to apply and to continue working with HNTB. Resolution 24-2026.pdf

SS4A-FY26-NOFO.pdf

Motion made by Commissioner Theriot, seconded by Commissioner Horne to Approve. All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

G.21 To discuss and take possible action on appointing a committee to review and recommend the selection of a pre-procured engineering firm to provide engineering services and grant-related support for the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Outdoor Warning Siren Grant. Speaker: Judge Haden/Amber Quinley; Backup: 2; Cost: \$0.00

Amber Quinley, Grants Administrator, recommended appointing a committee for the TWDB Outdoor Warning Siren Grant consisting of Hector Rangel, Chief EMC Danie Teltow, Auditor Dominique Esquivel, Purchasing Administrative Assistant Amber Quinley, Grants Administrator, and Judge Hoppy Haden.

Bid Tabulation Sheet RFQ 22CCP01Q.pdf

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland, seconded by Commissioner Horne to Approve. All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

H. DISCUSSION ONLY:

H.1 Discussion regarding a proposal between Caldwell County and Unified Strategic Resources for development of the Caldwell County 5-Year Strategic and Operational Plan (2026-2030). Speaker: Judge Haden; Cost: \$0.00

Judge Haden spoke on a proposal to develop a five-year Strategic and Operational Plan with Unified Strategic Resources, LLC for Caldwell County (2026–2030) to guide the county's investment in economic development. All commissioners agreed with the plan.

Caldwell County - SOW 5-Year Strategic Operational Plan 2026 - 2028.pdf

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Executive Session opens at 10:07 a.m. and closes at 10:32 a.m.

I.1 Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087, the discussion of deliberation regarding economic development negotiations associated with Project Mockingbird. Possible action may follow in open court.
No discussion will follow in open court.

G.22 To discuss and take possible action regarding updates on Project Mockingbird economic development negotiations. Commissioners Court may provide further instruction or take necessary action as appropriate. Speaker: Judge Haden/Commissioner Theriot; Backup: 0; Cost: TBD Motion to table.

Motion made by Commissioner Theriot, seconded by Commissioner Horne to Postpone. All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

J. ADJOURNMENT:


Court adjourns at 10:33 a.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Horne, seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland to Adjourn. All voting "Aye."

MOTION APPROVED.

I, TERESA RODRIGUEZ, COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT do hereby certify that the foregoing contains a true and accurate record of the proceedings held by the Caldwell County Commissioners' Court on April 9, 2026.





TERESA RODRIGUEZ, COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF CALDWELL COUNTY, TEXAS.