

MINUTES OF THE

COMMISSIONERS' COURT

WORKSHOP MEETING - AUGUST 2, 2017

On the 2nd day of August, 2017, there was a Workshop Meeting of the Commissioners' Court in the Courthouse, Rockport, Aransas County, Texas, with the following members present: **C. H. "Burt" Mills, Jr.**, County Judge; **Jack Chaney**, Commissioner, Precinct 1; **Leslie "Bubba" Casterline**, Commissioner, Precinct 2; **Brian Olsen**, Commissioner, Precinct 3; **Betty Stiles**, Commissioner, Precinct 4; and **Valerie K. Amason**, County Clerk.

Other County Officers present were **Jeri Cox**, Tax Assessor-Collector; **Suzy Wallace**, Interim County Auditor; **Jacky Cockerham**, Assistant County Auditor; **Mike Geer**, Airport Manager; **Mike Gordon**, Fleet Maintenance Supervisor; **Richard Bianchi**, County Court at Law Judge; **Lee Zapata**, Communications Director; **David Reid**, Road Administrator, Stormwater Management Engineer & Building Codes; **Collin Jackson**, IT Director;

The Meeting was convened at **9:00 a.m.** WHEREUPON, the following proceedings were had and done to wit:

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DISCUSSION

Jeri Cox- Tax Assessor Collector

Jeri Cox: I think I'm just scheduled today for my particular budget 120-499. So far, you have been kind and it remains the same as what I've submitted. I just didn't know if you had any questions about it. **Commissioner Olsen:** Is that the right page? At the bottom it says Appraisal District. **Jeri Cox:** Yes, the section right above it is mine. The Appraisal District is the budget they will charge the county for their appraising and that's subject to change once the 2017 tax levy is actually created then they will reassess the percentages. **Commissioner Olsen:** And you have your steps that you brought a while back? **Jeri Cox:** Yes, I did. I have two more employees to do. One is still on the initial probation and the other one we're waiting on a counselling session we did - we wanted some time in between. So I think we're looking at September for doing that one, but it won't be more than a one-step increase for the two, and I'd still have money in the budget for this year to do those two steps. **Suzy Wallace:** If I may interject, any step increases that go into effect after the budget is adopted will go into 2018's want list, the

step and grade updates. **Jeri Cox:** Even if you have money in the current budget you're in? **Suzy Wallace:** Yes, because when you update that salary, it automatically updates it for 2018 and the 2018 budget if it's adopted at a lower rate of a salary unless we know what the salary is that she wants to propose, and then we can put it in the 2018 budget. But you have money from attrition too, is what you're saying? **Jeri Cox:** Yes, I have attrition money. **Suzy Wallace:** But what I'm trying to say is if you have an employee that's at, let's say, \$20,000 today, and you want to bump him up to \$21,000, but the budget has already been adopted at \$20,000, so you're going to have a higher paid employee in 2017 than what was budgeted in 2018. So we need to add that increase to the 2018 budget. **Commissioner Chaney:** That increase is an ongoing increase. **Jeri Cox:** So I should do it in August then. And I'm in August. **Suzy Wallace:** Sorry. **Jeri Cox:** It's okay I was just waiting and I think that it will be close on the one that's still under probation. She was hired in May so next week will be three months, so I'm ok. **Commissioner Casterline:** Why don't you just do it and make it effective for that time since you still have to do the review and everything? **Jeri Cox:** Yes, but that's okay. I can get it done. **Suzy Wallace:** Because on that salary spreadsheet, once the budget is adopted, no more changes happens to that spreadsheet. It's frozen at that time. **Jeri Cox:** I appreciate the explanation. So that's all I have going on in my salary right now. **Commissioner Olsen:** And the majority of the other increase in payroll is earned, you've got \$375 in professional services, telephones over \$1,000, and repair and maintenance is \$100. **Commissioner Stiles:** Of your professional services, Jeri, what does that entail? **Jeri Cox:** Professional services is the part that includes the cost of printing. I send my tax roll to a print vendor and they print the statements and mail them. So that charge is in that line, but the big money amount is to the Appraisal District to cover my share of the annual maintenance for the property tax software I use. It's actually written out and paid by the Appraisal District so the Appraisal District bills me, and I give them the money to pay for it. **Commissioner Stiles:** It's just not at all clear. **Jeri Cox:** Somewhere close by I do have a breakdown on that. Here we go, I'm going to pay them \$15,475 for the annual maintenance support that will actually go to Harris Govern, but I pay it through the Appraisal District. I think the \$22,000 is the last payment of mine for the servers we purchased five years ago - the new equipment. **Commissioner Stiles:** So equipment rental, that wouldn't go under?

Jeri Cox: I don't know, I guess we'd put it into professional services and then I just break it down on my worksheet. Like I said, this is the last year, it's been five years since we switched from Tyler Technologies to Harris Govern, and the \$22,000 is a hardware payment. Now if you'll notice on the next line, I wrote "Appraisal District checking on the cost of Cloud Server" to replace the server because now we're getting to the end of the life of the new server. I think the Appraisal District is going to switch to a cloud server. They built the cost into the Appraisal District budget and didn't charge me anything for this year. Or for next year. But, when our \$22,000 goes away, then I'll have to pay a portion of that cloud server. But we've looked at it, and for the disaster preparedness, I think I put in there that if my building was wiped out, or the Appraisal District building, and the servers are gone, then we can't do anything until new servers are ordered and placed in a building for us to operate in. I can't collect any taxes. Whereas, if we use the cloud server, supposedly we can access that online once we have internet service re-established. Say a hurricane came before I could get the tax statement information to a print vendor, I could go somewhere and work on that, and still get that ready to go in the mail.

Commissioner Stiles: You were also concerned, last year I think with security in your building, have you budgeted anything for that? **Jeri Cox:** Security, we've talked in the past about glass windows, protection from the customers, but I don't know, no, I haven't put any glass or anything in there. It would make it hard to serve the customer to our best ability just because with that barrier and hardly any room in our lobby area I just don't think it would work. **Commissioner Stiles:** Do you have cameras? **Jeri Cox:** Oh, we have cameras. That's all been upgraded this year through Collin's IT budget. We also have a new back door because it was coming off of the frame. Now we've got a very solid door, and they're looking at replacing our front doors.

Commissioner Casterline: Do you ever have irate customers? **Jeri Cox:** Yes! I had a lady the other day that was, I was in my office, which is in the back, and she was screaming at my employee, but I could hear every word she was saying and I was immediately there. We get loud customers, but we don't usually get ones screaming at the top of their lungs. **Commissioner**

Casterline: What problem did she have? **Cox:** She couldn't get registration, she didn't have the proper paperwork, or it wasn't matching what was in the computer or something, and she just went off. Somebody was with her and kind

of, guided her out. One of my employees asked if that was a situation where we should have pushed the button? I don't know, she wasn't hitting.

Commissioner Olsen: Have you ever had to call law enforcement? **Jeri Cox:** We haven't in a while, but we have had to in the past. I remember a situation where somebody threw their license plate, so yeah, there are always security concerns, but that happens wherever you are. **Commissioner Olsen:** Jeri, on the Appraisal District, these numbers were just given to us by the Appraisal District... **Jeri Cox:** The bottom part, they were provided in a budget meeting of the Appraisal District Board of Directors. I am a non-voting member so I attend the meetings, so I have that information and I shared it with the Auditor's office. **Commissioner Olsen:** Okay, we're up by \$9,000 right now. Is that part of the new program you're talking about? **Jeri Cox:** Yes, it's part of it. **Commissioner Chaney:** Yeah, they had quite a few things come in with the Legislature. **Jeri Cox:** Yes, and there are some salary adjustments in there, I think they provided the judge with the actual budget. **Commissioner Stiles:** I think they've been working on it by remote. **Jeri Cox:** Since back in June, the end of June, maybe. We will be sending a letter out in August to the entities that we will be voting on that proposed budget at the end of August. **Judge Mills:** Okay, does anyone else have any questions for Jeri? **Commissioner Chaney:** No, but as always, you do a great job. **Commissioner Stiles:** Will we see you tomorrow? **Jeri Cox:** I'll be back in case you have something you want me to project or today, if you want. **Commissioner Stiles:** Does the court want to look at half a penny or a penny and a half, perhaps. **Judge Mills:** A penny, I think. **Jeri Cox:** I did put a penny above the effective rate on this sheet. **Commissioner Stiles:** What would a penny and a half do? **Jackie Cockerham:** From what you have on your sheet that would bring it down to... **Jeri Cox:** Well, a penny and a half is so very close to the 2016 adopted tax rate, if you look that's the effective rate plus .0166 which would be a penny and just over a half a penny. **Commissioner Casterline:** Well the penny is about \$180,000 and we are almost 5 million on the surplus, to me if you go more than that, I don't see any problem with the penny and a half. **Jeri Cox:** Probably the penny and a half, ok, I can do that. **Commissioner Olsen:** Jeri, thank you very much. **Jeri Cox:** You're welcome, and I hope your day goes by fast.

Mike Geer - Airport Manager

Judge Mills: Ok, I don't see anything out of the ordinary. **Commissioner Stiles:** We lost revenue with the Navy. **Mike Geer:** We did lose revenue with the Navy, and that's going to hurt us a little bit, but the good news over all, of all the revenues that we've lost, we're still selling more airplane fuel than we've sold in the past. That number keeps picking up, and I'm comparing it to the last couple of years, not necessarily month to month, but two or three years ago in the same month. We're grossing more and making more profit on fuel, total gallons. **Commissioner Chaney:** Why do you anticipate going down on rentals? **Mike Geer:** On the rental auto storage? That was \$2,000, we're just down a couple of customers there and that's \$75 a month. Most of the people that have cars in there are in the process of building houses here. So they'll fly in and get their car, go check on their house, then fly out. So as those people rotate out, there's a couple houses that just got completed this year, and hopefully we can replace those. I've told the judge that DPS, and I think Commissioner Stiles was there for that meeting, that DPS is leaving August 31st. That doesn't hurt us, necessarily, in hangar rental or lease rental, because they're a sub-lease for Mr. Mike Burris. Now, Mike Burris has indicated that when DPS leaves, he also wants out of his lease, which comes up for auto renew in January and that was for another 5 year hitch. I would just as soon let him opt out of that, because I think we can find better tenants for there. We know that hangar is worth more money than we were getting for it. **Commissioner Chaney:** Are we marketing the airport to Exxon Mobil? **Mike Geer:** I am. **Commissioner Chaney:** I believe that, I don't know what you think about anything, but they have so many of these meetings and stuff, I really think we need to have an airport person at most of these meetings and functions that they have, because that is a potentially huge market. **Mike Geer:** It really is, and the chief of their aviation fleet, I have his number, I've had one conversation with him and I've also reached out to him again, because I haven't heard back from him right away, we are in direct competition with McCampbell Airport for that. McCampbell has equal facilities, obviously we have a new hangar coming in and potentially we have a hangar that would work for their corporate jets with the DPS hangar. I'd probably have to do something with the door on that hangar, but if we put a good, new hydraulic door on there, there's no reason they wouldn't want it. **Commissioner Chaney:** Right, now I think we're right at the beginning in order

to become a major player. **Mike Geer:** Absolutely, our runways are in terrific shape. **Commissioner Chaney:** But we need to have some sort of big function coming up. We need to have somebody that has Aransas County... **Judge Mills:** Are you volunteering? Will you sponsor it? **Commissioner Chaney:** Oh, I will. **Mike Geer:** I'd be happy to go to that and try to sell our airport. **Commissioner Chaney:** I think that, and I don't know if he has money in the budget, but I really do believe that we would get many times return on that. If we get just one or two of those major players, bringing planes in here, leaving planes, storing cars... **Mike Geer:** Absolutely, we sold 450 gallons this morning to a challenger jet that stayed overnight, that's a huge sale for us, if we could do that a couple times a week, we wouldn't have any problems. **Commissioner Chaney:** I honestly believe that we ought to allow Mike, or encourage Mike, and one of us to attend a lot of those functions. **Mike Geer:** I put a budget in, we have a budget for conference association and dues, that covers me going to the aviation conference and staying in a hotel a few days and there's a little left over in that. I think we're talking about in some cases going out of state for these NBAA meetings and 4-A meetings. That might get a little costly, but if it's a way for us to market, especially if we have someone that we're targeting at that particular function. With Exxon Mobil, I will try to get more involved with where they're having their meetings, but I want to touch back on one other thing about our competition being McCampbell, you know they had that horrible accident there a few weeks back, luckily no one was seriously injured, but that's a black eye on that airport and I don't think we're being vultures to take advantage of that. I think what we can say, is that's the sort of thing that we mitigate at our airport. There's a reason why we don't pick up hay right next to the runway, and there's a reason why everybody that comes to our airport has a briefing on how to drive on an airfield and even a demonstration. That wasn't the case there, and that's what happened. That's the last thing that Exxon would need, is to destroy a \$30,000,000 jet because some guy decided to drive across the runway with a tractor. **Commissioner Chaney:** We are, and I've said this for a long time, we need to be very proactive. **Mike Geer:** I definitely reach out locally, and I'd like to expand that base a little bit, I go to the Kingsville and San Patricio airports. **Commissioner Chaney:** Yeah, but whenever you go there, the thing that I'm getting at, is whenever you go to these airport meetings here, all the other airport managers are there too, I'm

talking about is being the only one in the room. **Mike Geer:** Right, Cheniere is another example of that, they have several corporate jets and I've reached out to their government liaison, the gentleman that came here and spoke. The problem with that is that it's so darn convenient for them to fly into McCampbell, take a car five minutes down the road, look at what they need to look at, jump back into their plane, and take off. We're at an eleven mile disadvantage to that. **Commissioner Casterline:** I think your advantage here is that once they get going, you'll probably have some executives live over here. **Mike Geer:** Correct, it would be a lot easier for them to drive to Rockport, hop in a plane in a hangar and take off, you're exactly right about that, and that would put us more at the advantage. **Commissioner Casterline:** You know, the guy that is the supervisor over the new bridge in Corpus, he lives here. **Mike Geer:** That's another windfall that we've received for years, was the Williams Brothers. When they flew in on their challenger or falcon, we always got a fuel sale out of that, and they came in several times a month. Now Lure Brothers comes in a lot, and Lure Brothers does coastal shoreline management. They're rip rap people. They build jetties, they put the rip rap on shorelines. They have a jet they fly in, it's a G5, then we get a pretty good chunk of fuel sale whenever that happens. They're probably not ever going to base here, but it's nice when there's industry going on here. Their interest, at the time that they landed, was over at Indian Point, so they landed in Rockport to go all the way to the other side of Portland. So that was nice, and the reason was, and they told me afterward, that their chief of security said it was a no-brainer, you guys have instrument approaches directly to the runway, and you've got plenty of runway length. I know our FBO is top-notch compared to other FBO's in the area and it doesn't take you long to go to some of these other south Texas airports and see that we really do have a flagship, and there's things we can do to improve that, that I would eventually like to work on. Eventually, I'd like to talk to everybody about re-branding our airport so that we're not Aransas County Airport Services, maybe we're Copano Bay Airport Services or something where we give ourselves another name. They did it at Sugarland, the city owns the FBO in Sugarland, but it's called Global Express FBO, so you wouldn't know that's a city owned FBO. And the reason that's important is because anytime you have government employees involved, city, county, or state, there's a mindset that you're not going to give them the service that a private FBO

would, someone that's more dependent on that money, so Sugarland has noticed an increase in sales because of that, it's just smoke and mirrors, but at the same time it's drawing people in. **Commissioner Chaney:** Lots of problems are solved by just smoke and mirrors. I don't know what the court thinks, but I would encourage you to go do this one-on-one, it's not going to do any good to go into a room full of people that all want the exact same thing as you. Where you make your mark is to get well known within the organization around us, oh yeah, I know that guy at the airport and he has a nice little airport.

Judge Mills: Okay, we've got some guys waiting. **Commissioner Stiles:** I have one question for you, if I may, the DPS hangar, if in fact we do put new doors on it, would that be rentable? **Mike Geer:** It would be, yes ma'am,

absolutely. Now that's a good question because that hangar has been used for things, other than aviation purposes for a little while now, so it's something that, ethically, I had a problem with using any grant money for that hangar. If the State found out about that, it could potentially be a black eye for us, so I didn't use any grant money on it. But going forward, if we did put somebody, aviation-related, in there, we can absolutely use any grant money we get for that. **Judge Mills:** All right, no more questions for Mike? **Commissioner Stiles:** You do a great job, thank you very much. **Mike Geer:** Thank you very much.

Mike Gordon - Fleet Maintenance Supervisor:

Commissioner Stiles: Wow, well you've got a big difference in your budget.

Mike Gordon: Yes, I lost an employee and I don't think we've budgeted something this year, like we did last year, so it changed out. **Commissioner**

Stiles: You're going down on office supplies? **Mike Gordon:** I think most of them stayed the same. **Commissioner Stiles:** You were talking last time we met, about a month or so ago, about bringing someone in to replace you at some point. **Mike Gordon:** Yes, we've got time, I think Commissioner Chaney wanted to make sure we get someone in here early enough to train. **Commissioner**

Stiles: Did you have someone in mind? **Mike Gordon:** Well, I don't know, it's going to be difficult, you know we've always tried to promote from within,

but I don't know if that's always possible. **Commissioner Olsen:** No, it's not.

Commissioner Chaney: Sometimes it's good to change it, too. **Mike Gordon:** Yes.

Commissioner Stiles: Okay, we're just looking at salaries. **Mike Gordon:** Yes, my goal is another two years and ten months, or seven months, December 19th.

Commissioner Olsen: Mike, I have to admit, this is one of the best budgets that we've seen. **Mike Gordon:** Actually, if you'll pull the returns on mine for the last four or five years and look at what we actually spend, it's pretty close to what it is. If something breaks down, we spend more money, if tires go up, we spend more money, fuel costs are always an issue, oil prices, etc. **Commissioner Olsen:** If you can save, you save. **Mike Gordon:** Yes, it's one of those things, I had to increase our Citrasolv because it's gone up so much, I'm going to try to buy a barrel in November or December if I have enough money. I keep being told the price is going to go down and that's one of the very few products we can use on the street for cleaning our equipment, there in the yard and the wash rack, that's approved by everybody and its biodegradable. That product has gone up just since the last time I bought it, by about \$5.00 a gallon, we buy it by a 55 gallon drum so if the citrus crop is good, I'm hoping the price will go back down. Usually I buy about two drums a year and if I can get it for \$12.00 a gallon, I may try to get three drums, same thing with gas. But everything else is going pretty good. **Commissioner Stiles:** Well you do a great job. **Commissioner Olsen:** Thank you for everything you do. **Mike Gordon:** Thank you.

Richard Bianchi, County Court at Law Judge:

Judge Bianchi: If you remember from our first meeting, the changes are pennies, except in one area, I asked for an extra day worth of pay for a court reporter. Now I'll tell you the good and bad news since we met last. Court reporters are in high demand right now, and short supply, and the salaries that they're getting paid are pretty darn good. In fact, you may remember, it was only a few months ago in Corpus they had to shut down courts because they had no court reporters. So the idea that I can go out and find somebody to work one extra day is optimistic at best, I'm willing to try, but in the meantime, the court reporter I have has said that she'd like to add that extra day onto her work, and she's experience with excellent skills. I would like to do that. That means she may now qualify for benefits, and I don't know what that does to what you have in front of you, but it's an expense that might be involved here. I don't have much choice. **Suzy Wallace:** So, instead of the additional court reporter, you just want to add an additional day onto Katrina? **Judge Bianchi:** I do. **Judge Mills:** And would that put her in the area where we have to pay burdens? **Suzy Wallace:** Yes, I

believe it will, I'll double check on that, but I believe she's right at the border right now. **Commissioner Casterline:** You're not talking about the one that we had already put in there? **Suzy Wallace:** No, we are talking about increasing Katrina. **Judge Bianchi:** What she's charging us, I assure you, is what any court reporter would be getting in other areas. **Judge Mills:** She's good. **Judge Bianchi:** Yes. **Commissioner Olsen:** And we've already discussed the attorney's fees. **Commissioner Casterline:** And he doesn't have any funds to rob anymore. **Judge Bianchi:** No. **Judge Mills:** He took all he could.

Commissioner Olsen: I don't have any other questions for the judge. **Judge Bianchi:** Not to delay with this, because you all have other matters, but cases are increasing dramatically, and our courthouse has stood there as it is for many years now as originally established with one Judge, one Administrator, which is fine, but it's not that we're asking for or needing anything, it's just that it will come to a point in the future where we have to address the case load or the courtroom availability where everyone is always scrambling. I'm happiest when I'm in the courtroom, so I don't care if we're in court five days a week, that's great, but we don't have a court reporter and courtroom five days a week available to us. That, of course, involves more bailiff, more court reporter, and not to mention the clerk's office, because they're going to be in there as well. Just want to mention it for something to worry about in the future. **Commissioner Chaney:** Because of the increase, can you give us an update about every six months or so, where we are, so we can have a heads up way ahead of time. **Judge Bianchi:** Sure. Do you want a case breakdown? The types of cases? **Commissioner Chaney:** Whatever you think is reasonable. **Judge Bianchi:** We get monthly reports from the clerk's office anyways, so it'll be easy to do that. One thing I would caution about, and we were trying to figure out the best way to give you real numbers, but we carry a substantial number of cases that are effectively inactive. They may be ten years old on a \$30 hot check case and we have no clue where those people are, but it's still on the records as a case. So we're working for a way to have more realistic numbers. It may look like we have 700 active cases when in fact it's 300 or 400. I'll be glad to give you a report. **Commissioner Chaney:** I was thinking, anything like this where it's constantly changing, it's going to be affected by population and I think that's going to make a big difference. **Judge Bianchi:** Well, as much as

anything it's affected by drugs. **Commissioner Chaney:** Yes, population and drugs.

Judge Mills: Okay, thank you, judge. **Commissioner Stiles:** Thank you.

Lee Zapata, Communications Director:

Commissioner Olsen: Another great budget we like it. **Lee Zapata:** Great, thank you, the numbers are different actually, we have a couple of changes and that's why I wanted to visit with you briefly. I did update our calls for service, Commissioner Casterline, you had asked when we met in June to give an update and we do have an increase in calls for service for Aransas County, so the percentages will change slightly. For the City of Rockport, the percentage is about 51.4, for the County its 44.5, and for the Town of Fulton 4%. So with the increase in calls for service for the County, and also an increase in our insurance, there's an increase in the personnel side of the budget, so we need to adjust that to meet that amount. **Judge Mills:** What kind of adjusting? **Lee Zapata:** Well, I believe our proposed budget was about \$298,000 and we need to adjust it to \$330,619. **Judge Mills:** It is what it is. **Lee Zapata:** We did continue to keep the PTS solutions, I did noticed that PTS solutions agreement is also in my budget and that's \$11,000. That's the annual contract cost for the software that we use with the city, county, and communications, of course. **Chaney:** You are doing a great job. **Lee Zapata:** Thank you, we appreciate the support.

David Reid, Road Administrator, Stormwater Management Engineer & Building Codes:

Commissioner Casterline: What was the piece of machinery you wanted, that I think we cut out? **David Reid:** Well I don't know what you cut out, but you cut out \$100,000. **Commissioner Casterline:** What was it that you were going to buy? **David Reid:** What I had on my list was a small excavator, a hydro-seeder, an F-150 pickup, an F-350 pickup, and a transport trailer. The transport trailer was going to be used and that was going to be \$180,000, I really thought that maybe there was a typo when you marked \$100,000 off.

Commissioner Casterline: Do we know what it was? Or was it just across the board? **Jackie Cockerham:** It was just across the board, I think, in visiting with David, he said some of his stuff he didn't have to have, it was a like to have. **Commissioner Casterline:** Well, if you were going to go through the

list and rate them, which ones would you like to have? **David Reid:** The first thing I would scratch off is the transport trailer, we can get by with what we have. The small excavator, we don't have a small excavator and we do often wind up in places where we need something smaller than that big track hoe or a back hoe. We haven't had it up till now, we could certainly not have it, but it is handy and would be nice to have. The seeder is also something we don't have. **Judge Mills:** What is a seeder? **David Reid:** Well, you know the hydro mulch you'll see out at construction, they'll spray and the seeds stay on the sides, right now, currently we throw seeds out and they stick to the bottom of the ditch, you don't get that uniform vegetation. **Commissioner Chaney:** How much is a seeder? **David Reid:** It's about \$26,000. The f-150 pickup is to replace Ramey's, he's got over 100,000 miles on it, he drives a lot of miles in a year's time. We were actually going to do it last year and it got bumped. **Judge Mills:** Does that truck go anywhere else? Is it ready for surplus? **David Reid:** We would keep it and pass it down to Eddie getting back and forth to track hoes and stuff like that, but it's a F-150, so it's kind of limited on what we can use it for. **Commissioner Chaney:** Is it four wheel drive? **Commissioner Reid:** It is four wheel drive, but it can't carry as much as a crew truck would. The F-350 is to replace our sign truck, our sign truck is currently an F-250, and it's really kind of overloaded. We would still keep that and pass it down, it's really kind of a multi-functional truck. **Judge Mills:** You keep saying "F" for Ford, are you stuck on Fords? **David Reid:** I'm not, Mike has suggested this, but there's a Chevrolet version and there's a Dodge version, I'm sure. **Commissioner Casterline:** That would be like a 3500 to Dodge. **David Reid:** Yeah. **Commissioner Chaney:** We might be able to get a good deal. **Commissioner Olsen:** Are we getting deals through Allen Samuels? **David Reid:** Yes, Mike is good at finding the best deals, and I'm sure that he will find you the best deal if we do go this route. **Judge Mills:** He shops locally. **David Reid:** Yes, he shops buy board and everything else, he finds the best deals. **Judge Mills:** Allen Samuels has told me that they'll beat anybody on price. **David Reid:** Okay. **Judge Mills:** The Sheriff's trying it right now, and so far it's been... **Suzy Wallace:** Let's put it this way, it took us two months to get the paperwork to pay the invoice for the sheriff's Dodge truck and that one Charger we got. **Commissioner Casterline:** That means we've gotten to keep money for that one. **Judge Mills:** That's right. **Suzy Wallace:** And the third Charger that was on order, we still haven't seen it

yet. **Commissioner Chaney:** And that's from Allen-Samuels? **Suzy Wallace:** They're not real good at paperwork, but that's good for us. **Commissioner Casterline:** Did we get the car even though we haven't paid for it? **Commissioner Chaney:** They must trust us. **Suzy Wallace:** We finally paid for it, but we haven't received the third Charger yet. **Commissioner Casterline:** The ones we have, we had, before we had to pay for them? **Suzy Wallace:** For two months. **Judge Mills:** Do you have Airport Road on here? **David Reid:** It is not, is it my road? **Judge Mills:** I believe, because the swimming pool belongs to the City of Rockport as far as we're concerned. **Commissioner Olsen:** Yes, it does now. **David Reid:** All right, I had done a cost for that, I don't recall what it was. **Commissioner Styles:** It was eighty-one, eighty-two. **David Reid:** Yeah, something like that, well, let me just go over what roads... Oh, I do have that here, almost \$84,000 for that. Okay, let me talk about what projects I want to get done this year and how we pay for that. Maybe there's a potential to save some money to put back into my equipment. Going down my lists of jobs to do, the road grading system, I have Monkey Road, Post Oak Road, and Hammer Road on that list. Those are around about \$200,000, which is what I budget for special projects. Also, what I would like to do, is Rattlesnake Point Road and Adolfo Road, using the alternative standard for Adolfo Road, just put in a lot of cement and a little bit of limestone. It's a very sandy road, and I think that will work really well and it's hard to get down there, even in a four wheel truck it's hard to get down there. There's quite a few people that live there, so I think it's worthwhile to do. Now that's a total of \$535,000. Also, which isn't reflected in any of this, is the million dollars in CO's that was designated to build roads. So I could use half of that right there, take the special projects \$200,000 off the board and maybe add that other \$100,000 back into my equipment. **Commissioner Casterline:** You've actually done some that you might have been able to use that bond money. **David Reid:** Yes, and I do need to go back through that when I get Lucy replaced. **Commissioner Casterline:** I think you probably need to sit down with them and see, because it's kind of a strange deal the way money comes into your department and you're actually reimbursing money that you had already budgeted for labor, so you might be able to come up with some more money to go towards that equipment. **David Reid:** True, possibly. **Commissioner Casterline:** Like I said, you've actually already done some of the roads that were covered by the bond, but you just haven't got the money yet. **David Reid:**

Yeah, probably not a half a million or anywhere near where we're posted at, but I'm sure I have. So, anyway, I thought that was a reasonable approach to use more of the bond money and less of the tax money, and get the roads done that I want to get done. **Commissioner Casterline:** How do you determine which roads you used alternative methods if it cost half as much to do more of them? **David Reid:** If you recall the maintenance policy that was approved recently, we went through this and there was some criteria for it. Monkey Road fits in the "we don't have the right of way to put in a real road."

Commissioner Casterline: We have a lot of them, it costs half as much to build a road like that, and we have a lot of them, I would think that would qualify, so I assume that you're already thinking that way, that we can do a lot more of them. **David Reid:** Certainly, I want to get as many roads done as we can, I'm not suggesting that this alternative standard is a comparable to our county standard, we have a good standard road and we need to keep using it. But there are some cases, you know lack of right of way, or whatever, that alternate standard is appropriate for. I'll certainly try to look at that in every road that comes up, if it makes sense. **Commissioner Stiles:**

Well I think, what's the name of the road we just did in your district?

Commissioner Chaney: Fort Worth. **Judge Mills:** It's a great road. **Commissioner**

Stiles: Yes, it's a great road. **David Reid:** Well, it is today, and we'll have to see in five years if it still is, that's really the thing, I don't want to get too far ahead of it. I'm okay with continuing to use it, but I really don't know the life expectancy. **Commissioner Chaney:** Monkey will be a real test. **David Reid:** Monkey will be. **Commissioner Chaney:** Monkey will probably

be as big a test as we can get, it gets a lot of water. **David Reid:** And a lot of traffic, and no drainage. And I think the alternative standard is going to hold up to longer periods of water on the road than our regular standard will, just because of the cement we'll have in there. **Commissioner Chaney:**

And putting tube seal over the top of it really does seal it up. **David Reid:** Yes. **Commissioner Chaney:** I think it would be really interesting, I wish they were all in my precinct, Adolfo is number one in my precinct. But Monkey gets a hundred times more traffic than any of the other roads that are on the

other side of Rattlesnake. **Commissioner Stiles:** Rattlesnake is definitely a safety issue, a huge safety issue. **David Reid:** I think so, yes. **Commissioner**

Stiles: We've had a lot of conversations with constituents. **Commissioner Olsen:** And there's three commissioners worth of roads. **Commissioner Stiles:**

That's right, all three of us. **Commissioner Casterline:** Honestly, to me, there are people on that list that are much more... honestly, I wouldn't put Rattlesnake Point on that list, because there are people that don't have any road. I know that they're hollering and all that, but there are people on that list that are going down a dirt road and having a hard time getting to their house and the people on Rattlesnake Road are worrying about that they don't know where their side of the road is unless there's a stripe. To me, that's a big difference. **David Reid:** I understand what you're saying, and I certainly don't disagree, but I do think there is a safety issue with Rattlesnake Point Road and it is a heavily traveled road. One of these days we're going to have a head on. **Commissioner Chaney:** You know, if this alternative road works out, the majority of my roads are deep sand and that seems to be one that this works well on, but I don't think I have any roads except maybe, Nell, and Adolfo will be an excellent place. **David Reid:** Yeah, I think that will be a real good test for it, and also Monkey Road would be a good test for it. Although we have put a lot of clay in Monkey Road, which, in hindsight... **Commissioner Casterline:** I think it's better than what it used to be. **David Reid:** Yeah, I know before we put that clay in there, there was so much sand that you really would bog down, much like Adolfo. **Commissioner Chaney:** Well, one of the things that I think we need to keep in mind is in areas that will ultimately become city, I would like to spend a lot more of our money in areas away from where the city will be in the next 5 or 10 years. **David Reid:** Well, you may be right, my thought was, we need to fix those up better and maybe the city will annex them quicker and get them off our books. **Commissioner Chaney:** They're already backing off a lot of those annexes now. **David Reid:** Yeah. **Commissioner Stiles:** Well, I don't know, I'm just thinking for myself, but John Wendell is definitely a priority. **David Reid:** Well you, just tell me that's our road and we'll do it, we're talking, what did I say, \$38,000? We could figure that in there. **Commissioner Olsen:** Now, the big question is, do we put money back into the equipment line? We took \$100,000 out, do we really need to take the \$100,000 out? **Judge Mills:** Well, even with the CO's, what are we talking about? **Commissioner Casterline:** Well about the, I know that you've taken the money out of flood, do you charge them enough for your equipment? **David Reid:** Yes, Flood Control pays the same rate to Road and Bridge that the City of Rockport pays to Road and Bridge, it's just like an entity. **Commissioner Chaney:** With Cedar, who

comes out better? Road and Bridge or Flood Control? **David Reid:** Yeah, you could certainly make a case for some of the equipment to be strictly in the Flood Control budget. I don't have that line item in that budget, so I've always operated that like you're hiring Road and Bridge to do these things.

Commissioner Chaney: I think your cost of Flood Control is going to constantly go up, so I would suggest that you make the changes in the budget line item so that they better reflect what actually goes in. **David Reid:** Well you could certainly make the case for the hydro-seeder to be Flood Control and the excavator to be Flood Control, it's really drainage related.

Commissioner Casterline: To me, it doesn't seem like we're charging Flood Control the same, in the City you have the argument that those people are paying county taxes too, but everybody pays the Flood Control. I can see the argument for giving the City the rate that we're giving them, but I'm not so sure that we should be charging Flood Control the same. If you didn't have them, then your equipment would last a whole lot longer. **David Reid:** Yeah, and it's a big improvement to what it used to be, it used to be that Flood Control was paying Road and Bridge more than the City was, so I'm tickled just to get it on an even playing ground. **Commissioner Casterline:** Like I said, my deal is it just seems that since you're doing Flood Control, you're essentially wearing out your equipment faster than normal, so maybe you're not getting... we've always done about the same amount of roads for the City, but Flood Control has had a pretty drastic increase in machinery use. **David Reid:** And we pay Road and Bridge for it. **Judge Mills:** As you find money, we need to start using the CO's so that when you find money, you can put it back into machinery that you'd like to have. **David Reid:** I don't mind taking the money out of one pocket and putting in the other pocket. **Commissioner**

Casterline: That's essentially what you're doing. **David Reid:** It is what I'm doing. **Judge Mills:** With the CO money for the roads. **David Reid:** But I know the CO money needs to be used in a specified time frame, and it just seemed like that was a good way to get it used quicker and get it back into buying some equipment that we needed and taking care of Airport Road too. **Judge Mills:** And machinery. **David Reid:** Yeah, also I really hadn't thought about salary increases for Road and Bridge staff, and that doesn't reflect in this unless you made some sort of assumption. I didn't know if this was the time, but I do anticipate people will deserve raises next year. **Commissioner Chaney:** How that you're going to put in for replacing Lucy, I know you're

talking about expanding duties. **David Reid:** It's not that we're expanding the duties, it's just that Lucy's job description didn't really reflect what she was doing, so now she's at a higher rate and step, but Lucy had been here so long actually, that the person we bring in will probably be making less than Lucy is making now. **Commissioner Casterline:** Are you getting closer to finding a replacement? **David Reid:** We have quite a few applications and some that look pretty promising, we're still going through them. I want to get input from Mike, Ramey, and Diana also, and we'll start lining up interviews at the end of the week and into next week. **Commissioner Casterline:** Have you gone through the step process for your people, for an increase? **David Reid:** I try to take care of that on their anniversary of employment, so I spread it out over a longer period of time as opposed to trying to do 24 of them in December, I just couldn't get that done. I'm probably behind, but I'm still doing that. **Commissioner Casterline:** I think you need to try to stay on top of it, because you might be getting ready to do it and there might not be any money left in the fund. **David Reid:** Well that certainly factors into it also. **Commissioner Casterline:** I don't think we're having that problem right now. **Judge Mills:** All right, any other questions for David? **David Reid:** Did you want to talk about drainage? The drainage is a little more cut and dried, I have so much money that I spend what I can spend and I put the rest into the fund balance to be used for maintenance of what we've been doing. That's the way it's been going for quite a few years, and that's how I anticipate that it will continue going. We had a CO for the drainage, the 2011 CO for the drainage projects, which was underfunded from the beginning, so that fund balance kind of makes up for that. **Commissioner Casterline:** I think there's many places that were probably underfunded for their expectations. **David Reid:** Well, maybe so, but we had an estimate of \$8,500,000, and then we had a fund of \$5,500,000, so we were behind. Of course, construction estimates, when you try to estimate construction, it's hard anyway. When you have detailed plans, it's a little easier, but it's still hard. From our estimate, it was pie in the sky, what's it going to take to do this? It's a crapshoot, I say we were \$3,000,000 underfunded, we might be \$5,000,000 underfunded. **Commissioner Casterline:** And you're finished with Poinciana? **David Reid:** Substantially, there's a few odds and ends that still need to be taken care of, but we do have the ditch in, you know, the fence. **Commissioner Chaney:** All we need now is a good rain to make sure we're heroes. **David Reid:** Yeah,

and we are currently cleaning out the ditches upstream of the big ditch, I don't want the rain to come today, but soon. **Commissioner Chaney:** Do you have 900,000, almost a million dollars in reserves? **David Reid:** Right.

Commissioner Chaney: All right, on a big piece of equipment like the Grader that you have, that would last ten years or more, would you be interested in taking it out of your reserves? **David Reid:** The Road and Bridge reserve is kind of there for that emergency that... **Commissioner Chaney:** A hurricane.

David Reid: Yeah. **Commissioner Chaney:** Okay, I just didn't know if you felt like you were funded enough. **Commissioner Casterline:** It's actually underfunded. **Commissioner Chaney:** Okay, then that answered my question. **David Reid:** Yeah, I'd be a little worried to get that fund balance too low.

Commissioner Chaney: So it's not an excessive fund balance by any means.

David Reid: No. **Commissioner Casterline:** What was the number that we'd gone over, was it 1.2? **Jackie Cockerham:** 1.2 is what David and I talked about, that's where they like to keep it right now. **Commissioner Chaney:** Oh, that's the target right now? Normally it's \$700,000. **David Reid:** Yeah, that's enough to keep us going if we do get that hurricane, which I hope we don't have.

Commissioner Chaney: All right, that's what I was asking. **David Reid:** Okay.

Judge Mills: All right, anymore questions? **Commissioner Chaney:** How are we doing on Market? **David Reid:** It is out to bid. **Commissioner Chaney:** We are going to be doing that section, right? **David Reid:** We're going to delay the bid opening a couple of weeks because we're having some contractors that couldn't get a bid in time, and we did want to make sure we got some good bids for it. **Commissioner Chaney:** Awesome, what are we thinking the time frame is? Do you think we'll have it done by November? **David Reid:** Yeah, we'll have it done this year for sure. **Judge Mills:** All right, thank you. **Reid:** Thank you. **Stiles:** Thanks, David.

Collin Jackson, IT Director:

Judge Mills: Here we go, first question, and it's been asked several times, why is each department paying so much for telephones? **Collin Jackson:** Every department went up on their telephones, the biggest thing is, in comparing apples to oranges, the old way of doing billing and phones are paying for an individual call path, so you had your 790-0101, 0128, these numbers were your office's numbers, and you could only have those phone calls going out at once. In the new way of doing things, voice-over IP, you pay per phone

because every phone in your office is a call path, as many phones as you have in your office, you can receive a phone call on. Now, we currently have unlimited minutes, meaning we can make and receive phone calls pretty much anywhere in the U.S. and we pay one flat fee. Whereas before, we would pay if you made a long distance call, you paid for however long you were on that call, sometimes it was a long call, sometimes it was a short call, so the bill would vary. So the biggest thing now is we're paying a single flat rate per phone, in each office. **Commissioner Casterline:** Would you have the potential to lower that fee? **Collin Jackson:** If we re-evaluate it, and I've sat down with Russ and I've started pulling metrics so that we can try to reduce that and see if we can't find ones where we can put them on a per minute type plan, where they're not used all the time. **Commissioner Casterline:** It's a big difference from what it used to be, it's huge. **Collin Jackson:** It is a big difference, and a lot of that is because we're no longer paying a per minute rate. We're paying a flat fee for "here's your phone and you can make as many calls as you want." **Commissioner Casterline:** Can you make it per minute? **Collin Jackson:** We can, I believe, it's something that I have Russ working on. From the first time you all asked us, we started pulling metrics to figure out what rates we could, on average, go into without worrying too much about having "Okay, are they going to have enough without going over that rate?", like for some reason they sit on a phone call for hours on end. **Commissioner Chaney:** How, in that amount, do we have constant equipment charges? **Collin Jackson:** We do not pay for any equipment, we own the equipment. The flat rate basically covers your calling features. So, your caller ID, your inbound/outbound call, and our connection to the outside world, to cover, to make that call. **Commissioner Chaney:** So right now it's universal, everyone can call one hundred hours if they want to, for one fee. **Collin Jackson:** Correct. **Commissioner Chaney:** So, whenever you do metrics, you'll be able to say, "Well this call rarely goes out." **Collin Jackson:** Right, and that's part of the thing we started from the first time you all asked us, we started pulling how many calls each number and each extension are making, so we can figure out how these collective offices use their phones or if they receive a ton of phone calls or they're average per minute call is five minutes, or something. **Commissioner Chaney:** Now, do they charge us for incoming calls and outgoing calls? **Collin Jackson:** They do not charge us anything for a call right now. **Commissioner Chaney:** So it's just a

flat fee? **Collins Jackson:** It's just a flat fee. **Commissioner Chaney:** So this number is just calling fees. **Collin Jackson:** Correct, it'll stay that way for as long as we have this number of phones. **Commissioner Casterline:** Is there any way where you can reconfigure an office to where you would only have a certain amount of lines, basically? Like in the old day, say, if the Auditor's Office had three lines, now it sounds like they're unlimited.

Collin Jackson: Right, and they are. Right now, they could have as many people on hold as they felt like taking. Currently, we've pretty much configured everyone to have a soft max, there isn't really a hard max in the system, it's as much as we can support. **Commissioner Casterline:** Is there anyone out there that you'd consider a professional who already knows how to redo this?

Collin Jackson: In the voice over IP world, it's not something that's done. It's "here's your phone, and as long as you have the bandwidth on your internet connection, you can have as many calls as you want."

Commissioner Chaney: That's one of the real advantages, in one way, is the old IP. **Collin Jackson:** Yeah, the technology has changed. Through software we can limit the amount of incoming calls and outgoing calls, but it's only as much as we can control in the software. That's just a limitation we imposed because, as humans, we don't want to try to handle 100 phone calls on our phone. **Commissioner Casterline:** If you have it in your home, it's cheap. I've got it at my house for \$10 a month. The old land line was costing me about \$50. **Collin Jackson:** Right, but it doesn't have all the features of..

Commissioner Casterline: Yeah, but all the people in the offices are no different than me, we don't need all that stuff, we got the Ferrari, or whatever, and we need a Chevrolet. **Collin Jackson:** And that is something we're looking at, the offices that aren't using the voicemail and stuff, we're looking at if we can't have them build us a lower rate skew, or a lower rate plan, either per minute or an unlimited plan that counts for "well, they don't need the voicemail features, they don't want the voicemail." So, now everyone has every feature that's available in the phone system, but people are coming back and saying "well, we're not going to use those features." So now we're looking at "Okay, you're not going to use those features, so let's look at lowering the rate in those offices to remove those features."

Commissioner Casterline: It's almost like every single office could have their own internet line cheaper than what the phone cost. **Collin Jackson:** Not necessarily, an individual office line, if we did one for each office, would

be about \$100 a month per office so, they would still have to pay that, plus their phones, to have their phones in there. **Judge Mills:** All right, let's go on to something else. **Commissioner Olsen:** Collin, the maintenance agreements of \$47,000? **Collin Jackson:** Correct, we increased that maintenance line to account for additional software that we've added into Odyssey. We're paying for the e-signature maintenance now. We added some more voter equipment, and that should have been moved out to Elections Administration. Then we started adding some software that the County Attorney wants for Laserfiche and we added some additional Laserfiche licenses. So that increased those maintenance lines, between Valerie's office and other offices that use Laserfiche. So we've accounted for some of the increases of our maintenance lines that were in there. **Commissioner Olsen:** Okay, and then the big savings in office furniture and equipment? **Collin Jackson:** The big savings there is, we didn't really have any major projects that were brought to my attention from other offices. I didn't have anything that I needed that was pressing. **Commissioner Stiles:** Valerie needs a new computer. **Valerie Amason:** Yes, we are going to need another new computer, the Court is giving me an additional person. **Collin Jackson:** I've accounted for purchasing 15 new work stations next year. **Commissioner Olsen:** And that's your normal. **Collin Jackson:** That's our normal rotation, so we'll go ahead and factor one to be assigned to a new user. As we go through, we'll roll out and replace machines as well. **Commissioner Olsen:** Perfect. **Commissioner Chaney:** Valerie needs hers before the end of the year. **Collin Jackson:** Oh, I have machines on hand already from the current rotation that I can use. We had already placed the order for this year, so we do have machines on hand in our inventory that we can rotate out. But the biggest thing for next year is that most of my stuff, we've kind of caught up to where we need to be on a lot of things, so we don't really have any big projects in store. The only one that's kind of going would be a security project for doors and electronic locks and stuff. **Judge Mills:** I just learned a lot about that this past week. **Collin Jackson:** Yeah, and some scary things about how easy it is to unlock some of these doors. **Commissioner Casterline:** Before we see it on each office, what is the total phone bill? **Collin Jackson:** The total phone bill for Aransas County currently sits at... \$5,000? **Jackie Cockerham:** About \$5,000. **Collin Jackson:** About \$5,000. On average, the previous bill was between \$3,000 and \$4,000 with AT&T per month. And long distance was a separate bill. **Commissioner Chaney:** So we're about

where we were. **Collin Jackson:** We're a little bit more expensive on it, but it's more divided out and individual offices are now seeing an increase in their telephone line. I don't know how it was being spread out before. Other offices were paying more because they had more phones. **Commissioner Casterline:** It seems way more of a difference than the dollars we see on here than that. **Commissioner Olsen:** Yeah, we're seeing departments that are a \$1,000 over. **Commissioner Casterline:** And that's all of them, not just one or two. **Collin Jackson:** Right. **Jackie Cockerham:** And they're being charged by the phone now, where in the past they might not have had a lot of long distance and they were charged by the phone number and if the office only had one phone number... **Commissioner Casterline:** Yeah, but what we're saying, what our old bill was and what our new bill is doesn't seem to jive to me. What we're seeing on individual departments is way more than \$1,500 a month more, it seems like. **Collin Jackson:** And I've never been able to figure out how, why the two bills don't compare. We did pull year by year, we pulled several years and on average we were getting anywhere from \$3000 to \$4000 a month on AT&T. **Commissioner Olsen:** But it looks like you're still fine tuning. **Collin Jackson:** We are definitely still tweaking. We want to, especially since you asked at the last budget hearing, we've started looking at the metrics to see if we can, we do know there are offices that just want to be able to pick up the phone, they don't need voicemail, they don't want voicemail. **Judge Mills:** I've got two people answering my phone, I don't need voicemail. **Collin Jackson:** Yeah, so the offices that don't need, don't use, aren't going to take advantage of voicemail and some of those features, we're looking at removing the voicemail functions from those offices. **Commissioner Chaney:** But, it looks like we could look at the last three years of the phone bills and the long distance and see what the monthly is, and then see what we're anticipating on a monthly basis. And I have a question on 455, you budgeted \$30,870 last year, and the same this year, yet you've only used \$1,478. **Collin Jackson:** That line item, I have not fully, and I do plan to use it, we are still, here we are here in July, I will be... **Commissioner Chaney:** You're going to use that much in repair and maintenance? **Collin Jackson:** I do have, we spend probably \$1000 or so a month on ordering new UPS's and back up battery units that we replaced around the county. Most of that includes replacing hard drives and equipment. And we also use it to buy individual components within computers that are not... **Commissioner Chaney:** So what

you're saying is, you're probably going to have some major purchases that will get us back up there? **Collin Jackson:** I am anticipating some, yes.

Commissioner Chaney: So it's a hidey hole. **Collin Jackson:** Yes, it's hard to account for what goes into that line. **Commissioner Chaney:** I understand, I

was just surprised at the amount of difference between where we are and

what's budgeted. **Collin Jackson:** Yes sir. **Commissioner Chaney:** Same thing straight down in miscellaneous and general. On 455, Mr. Jackson, is that a

good label? Seems to me like, just like Commissioner Stiles said something about she hates the word miscellaneous. Does this have to be miscellaneous?

Collin Jackson: That's something that Leslie and I had previously talked about, the names of my line items really don't match what I'm spending it on.

Commissioner Casterline: It would be for computers, desks, stuff like that.

Collin Jackson: Right. **Jackie Cockerham:** We could change it to equipment

repairs and maintenance. **Commissioner Chaney:** Well it just seemed to me like that was between 455 and 470. **Jackson:** Yes, 455 and 470 were two lines we

were thinking about combining and eliminating one of them. **Commissioner**

Casterline: It looks like 310 and 313 are both the same thing. **Collin**

Jackson: 313 and 310 could be combined into one line item as well.

Commissioner Chaney: Well, if you're going to do computer repairs and maintenance out of 455, you ought to call it systems repairs and maintenance, not just not miscellaneous. In other words, you're not going to buy a chair out of this line item, but you will buy an additional computer. **Collin**

Jackson: I could buy an additional computer out of it, I can buy battery units for them, keyboards, mouse', things like that, hard drive. And then my office supply / miscellaneous supply, basically, those are things we buy like CD's, DVD's, USB sticks, cable management supplies, so they pretty much could be combined into a supply line. **Commissioner Stiles:** A supply line, of

course. **Collin Jackson:** We also buy mounting screws, drill bits, and things

like that out of it. **Commissioner Stiles:** There is a system we looked at several years ago too where you have kind of a gist system, in other words you could hit that and know exactly what is underlined, what invoices, and just what you can see. **Collin Jackson:** Right. **Commissioner Stiles:** And so,

just your number on a piece of paper doesn't always tell you everything.

Collin Jackson: Right, and that's always been my biggest thing, some of these line items, when I start buying stuff, I'm like, "Well, it's not really a major thing, let me stick it in miscellaneous, I guess." **Commissioner Olsen:**

And then Betty and I freak out. **Collin Jackson:** Yeah, my line items have never really made sense to me, I've always looked at them like, "Well, it doesn't really fit that category." **Commissioner Chaney:** Well today is a new day, next year, I just... **Commissioner Olsen:** It makes more trouble for the auditors, move this here, move this there. **Stiles:** Yeah, that's the least of their problems, changing the titles. **Mills:** I don't think we'll have as many line item transfers this next year as we have in the past. **Jackson:** I've got a couple. **Casterline:** It needs to be when the line gets empty, you're done. **Mills:** Next year, yeah. **Valerie Amason:** I would like to discuss the Laserfiche thing. We have four full users... **Jackson:** I believe that is correct, four read only? **Amason:** And four read only, and that's just for my stuff. **Jackson:** That is currently your office and I believe we had gotten an additional license for... **Valerie Amason:** And an additional quote for Kristen. **Collin Jackson:** Yes. **Valerie Amason:** Okay, I want to ask, who are the four full users? **Collin Jackson:** That I couldn't tell you off the top of my head, we did that originally with Peggy and I don't remember that far back, I could look it up and let you know. **Valerie Amason:** Okay, because I think the full users need to be us. **Collin Jackson:** Right. **Valerie Amason:** I don't care who reads them. **Collin Jackson:** Correct, and I'll definitely look that up and let you know, and we'll make sure all of your users that should have it, have it. **Collin Jackson:** It should also be on Christy's machine as well as at least three others in there, we'll find out and make sure it's right. That is something we can definitely find out, and we'll make it right. **Valerie Amason:** Thank you. **Collin Jackson:** No problem. **Valerie Amason:** It's not good if I'm the only one who can access something and I'm not there. **Commissioner Casterline:** Anything else? **Collin Jackson:** Do you want me to hand you this? **Jackie Cockerham:** What is it? **Collin Jackson:** That's what should have been moved in... **Jackie Cockerham:** Oh, this is the list you were talking about? **Collin Jackson:** Yes. **Judge Mills:** How much is that? **Collin Jackson:** It comes out to about to a hundred and... **Commissioner Casterline:** Stuff that should have been moved to other people's budgets? **Collin Jackson:** Yes. **Suzy Wallace:** But, if it wasn't, we're going to research and make sure that it wasn't moved. If it wasn't moved then it still should be in Collin's budget for 2017. **Collin Jackson:** It's not, my totals match my requests. It was subtracted out of my budget, but it never got added to the other people's budgets. **Jackie Cockerham:** Well then, they don't have it. **Commissioner Olsen:**

For 2017? **Collin Jackson:** For 2017 and it's about \$131,000. **Judge Mills:** God almighty. **Collin Jackson:** The sheriff has been the first one so far to notice it because he wants to buy his stuff, and he's like... **Judge Mills:** "Where's my \$42,000?" **Collin Jackson:** Yeah, "Where's my \$42,000?" **Commissioner Olsen:** Where could it be? **Suzy Wallace:** I don't know, we'll have to pull the budget stuff from last year and see what happened. **Collin Jackson:** \$136,000, one hundred and... **Commissioner Casterline:** But is all that money in this budget? For next year? **Jackie Cockerham:** For 2018? No sir, this is all 2017. **Collin Jackson:** This is all the 2017 things that... **Commissioner Casterline:** Well I know, but 2018, anything and everything that they want, that's is in the budget. **Jackie Cockerham:** Yes. **Collin Jackson:** Do we want to add this total to that? Because I don't think it's been added to it if it's not... **Suzy Wallace:** Well we need to double check and make sure, to see what happened to this. **Judge Mills:** That's a hell of a hidey hole if we can find it. **Collin Jackson:** It'll just get dumped in general fund and not actually moved into their budgets. **Commissioner Stiles:** Yeah, and that's what she said... **Jackie Cockerham:** Yeah. **Commissioner Casterline:** I think we're pretty far through the year, so maybe we'll look at this year's budget and see if they really need, or see what they were after, and see what the sheriff was going to do with his \$42,000. **Suzy Wallace:** He was looking to buy equipment. **Collin Jackson:** Yeah, he was going to buy new body cameras and some new in-car computers for some of his new vehicles. The other items, the other \$94,000 that's there, is all maintenance items. The Elections software, the Elections equipment, Edoc for County and District Clerk offices... **Valerie Amason:** I already put Edoc in mine. **Judge Mills:** Elections equipment, how much was that line? **Collin Jackson:** The elections equipment was \$11,000. **Jackie Cockerham:** There you go... **Judge Mills:** There's our money. **Collin Jackson:** Ten, three... Okay, so there's three different ones for elections, there's \$10,000, \$3000, and \$1000. One's the equipment, one's the software, and one's the warranty. **Judge Mills:** It's somewhere. **Jackie Cockerham:** It's somewhere in there. **Commissioner Casterline:** It's in the general fund, if it's not put into somebody else's budget... **Judge Mills:** Then it went into the general fund. **Jackie Cockerham:** It went into the fund balance. **Collin Jackson:** Yes, and it looks like it's about \$14,000 in elections that apparently didn't get moved to her budget. Her maintenance comes due, and she may have already paid it, but her maintenance, I believe, comes due in the end of August, maybe

September, so that's when she'll start looking for it. **Jackie Cockerham:** Now she's got \$15,000 in maintenance agreements. It's budgeted at \$17,000 and she hasn't spent \$14,000 of it. **Jackson:** It may be, hers may have gotten moved, then. **Jackie Cockerham:** Maybe just parts of it got moved. **Valerie Amason:** And I have Edoc included in mine. **Collin Jackson:** So your \$17,000 is in there for Edoc? **Valerie Amason:** I don't have \$17,000, mine is only \$12,500. Plus the guy that comes in to do the reader in the back, and that's only like \$950 or something. **Collin Jackson:** Yes, your Edoc should be about \$12,000 and something. **Valerie Amason:** Yes, \$12,500, so mine is in there. **Jackie Cockerham:** You must have already paid that for this year, Valerie? **Valerie Amason:** I don't know if it's paid, but I put it in my budget. **Jackie Cockerham:** Okay, because I'm showing year to date of \$12,500 in your maintenance agreements for your Edoc and all that. **Valerie Amason:** This page you gave me has \$13,450. **Commissioner Stiles:** That's the proposed. **Jackie Cockerham:** That's the proposed for 2018. **Valerie Amason:** Right. **Collin Jackson:** Right. **Jackie Cockerham:** And your year to date for 2017 show's \$12,500. **Valerie Amason:** Oh, okay. **Collin Jackson:** So she's paid Edoc, so she does have... So it looks like the \$94,000 in maintenance line items got moved. It looks like maybe the Sheriff just didn't get his part. **Commissioner Chaney:** Maybe it was there and he wasn't looking at it properly. **Jackie Cockerham:** Okay, so it's not \$130,000? **Collin Jackson:** No, it might just be \$42,000. **Jackie Cockerham:** We'll look, we'll pull it and see. **Commissioner Casterline:** Might be a transfer. **Valerie Amason:** So this variance right here is a positive, right? Not a negative? **Collin Jackson:** Yes, that's a positive. **Valerie Amason:** Good. **Collin Jackson:** That one there is a negative. **Valerie Amason:** Okay. **Judge Mills:** Okay, what else? **Commissioner Casterline:** No more sheets you've got to pull out or anything? **Collin Jackson:** No, other than that looking at doing step and salary work on everybody. Do some employee reviews. I know one of them, at least, that needs a step increase. One of them I'm going to have to talk to. **Commissioner Casterline:** What we were talking about in the public safety center and all that stuff, there's all the projects you had going on there. **Collin Jackson:** Most of the projects for this year, we're still working on some of them. One of them is in the works currently for replacing our wireless equipment throughout the county. **Commissioner Casterline:** The courtroom would be a good spot to do some upgrades. **Collin Jackson:** The courtroom is one we're looking at. So those are

my outstanding projects. But, the public safety center, we are still looking at additional internet connectivity for fail over. That project is underway, we're working with CVW to build out that proposal for emergency fail over.

Casterline: Where are we at on the tower... **Mills:** Well, after the city found out they were going to have to pay \$100,000 for that tower - now they've got a contingency fund that rolls on every year into it. They may be taking that back out this year. All right, I can't remember the question I had for you, but I'll see you after lunch and see if I remember it. **Collin Jackson:** Okay.

Valerie Amason: Sir, are we still meeting tomorrow for the sheriff?

(Interruption) **Commissioner Chaney:** Is the sheriff here? **Collin Jackson:** He's

out till tomorrow. **Valerie Amason:** No, I mean tomorrow, are we still meeting for him? **Judge Mills:** We're not meeting with him tomorrow, unless someone has

any questions for him. He might have questions for us, like, "Where's my \$42,000?" (Laughter) **Commissioner Casterline:** Good reason for us not to be

here. (Laughter) **Jackie Cockerham:** This is his up here on the board right now, the biggest change is in training. **Commissioner Olsen:** And we can't

touch that. **Commissioner Casterline:** That's mandated. That's less than what we expected. **Commissioner Olsen:** How many chairs does Ricky want? **Judge**

Mills: He wants 20. **Commissioner Olsen:** 20, no, that's not it. (Laughter)

Commissioner Olsen: You can't get 20 chairs for that much. **Commissioner**

Casterline: How much are the chairs? **Olsen:** Those are filing cabinets and

stuff they needed for evidence. **Commissioner Casterline:** The chairs, did the city pay for half of the chairs? **Jackie Cockerham:** Yes, they would.

Commissioner Casterline: What budget are they in? **Judge Mills:** They're not

anywhere. **Commissioner Casterline:** And how much do they cost? **Judge Mills:**

I'm thinking right at \$100 apiece. **Commissioner Casterline:** I bet those chairs cost a couple hundred, maybe even \$300... **Jackie Cockerham:** Yes, like

\$300 apiece. **Judge Mills:** \$300? **Jackie Cockerham:** I think. **Commissioner**

Stiles: But you told him yesterday, Judge, no chairs. **Jackie Cockerham:** Yeah,

you told him no chairs. **Mills:** I know, well it's no skin off his nose, he's only in there for storms. His chair is a pickup. (Laughter) **Judge Mills:** All

right, Sheriff's going to be here to talk about his office and detention.

Commissioner Olsen: Yes. **Commissioner Stiles:** We should have the number, it's right behind page 40. **Olsen:** We've zeroed out license and weight. **Judge**

Mills: What was that, for a year, until he thinks he can break even? **Olsen:**

Yes, I mean, if he starts it up anytime during the year, then that's fine.

It'll bring in some revenue and he'll have some expense. **Commissioner Chaney:** In the detention center, what's the \$70,000 for small improvement? **Judge Mills:** It's for that damn recorder he has to have to make DVDs for lawyers. **Commissioner Olsen:** And that he has to have. **Commissioner Chaney:** That's mandatory? **Collin Jackson:** Yes, the Brady Act. **Commissioner Olsen:** Yes, that's mandatory, we can't get rid of that one. **Commissioner Casterline:** And we don't have the ability to charge him for it? **Collin Jackson:** Nope. **Commissioner Casterline:** What's the difference than doing an open records request? **Judge Mills:** This is completely different, I don't know. **Collin Jackson:** It's mandated by the Brady Act that they provide all copies of... **Commissioner Chaney:** Send out all of everything to everybody. **Judge Mills:** Yes, everything that they can. When their client doesn't bill, then we'll see. **Commissioner Chaney:** Well, if you take that out, it's only going to be a normal increase, I'd say the Detention Center is fine. **Commissioner Olsen:** And thank you for moving that, ladies. **Jackie Cockerham:** Oh, yes, got rid of that miscellaneous. **Commissioner Chaney:** And the training on the sheriff's, that's the mandated thing, right? **Commissioner Olsen:** Yes. **Commissioner Chaney:** Looks to me like he's fine. **Commissioner Olsen:** Yes, there's nothing outrageous. **Commissioner Casterline:** Normally, he comes up with some money left, so I think he can find that \$42,000. I think we can sweep to the end. **Judge Mills:** You know, he normally wants to talk to us, but I don't know if he is this year or not. I think he's run out of gas on trying to get his own storage building, he's spending a lot of money on storage barns. And he has, in the past, wanted to build his own barn out at the airport. **Commissioner Casterline:** Maybe he needs to think, does he really need what he has in the barn? **Collin Jackson:** It's all evidence, seized property, recovered property, etc. **Judge Mills:** He's talking about an airboat. **Jackie Cockerham:** Two airboats, a trailer, 2 ATVs. **Collin Jackson:** Those were bought with grant money. **Commissioner Casterline:** Yeah, but he can give them to the Parks and Wildlife or something. They can transfer it to somebody else that was in their grant system. **Suzy Wallace:** You can, but Parks and Wildlife, I'm sorry, but they're having their own issues, they're giving money back to us at the last minute and making us scramble to get the records all straightened out to spend it. **Commissioner Casterline:** But what I'm saying, is, say if we would give them the airboat, and when we needed one, we call them on the phone, and they send us a driver and everything for it, and we don't have a barn to pay

and keep it in, and all that kind of good stuff, but I know he isn't going to want to do that, but... **Judge Mills:** He actually didn't even want to bid on it, but the Government says, if you don't spend this money, then you're going to lose it. **Commissioner Casterline:** Well, and he could only get it for something that you applied for, the reason we got it was because at some point in time they had put it on a wish list, and that's all you could get it for. **Suzy Wallace:** Yes, because you have to spend 50% in equipment and 50% in overtime. **Commissioner Casterline:** Has there been any differences in the numbers you gave us when we came in and while we've been here? **Suzy Wallace:** Well we updated Lee Zapata's numbers, I put Katrina Gentry's burdens in, and also HR's part-time to full, so those have all been updated. **Commissioner Olsen:** Well, did it make it any better? **Suzy Wallace:** It didn't make that much of a dent. **Commissioner Casterline:** Well, are we ready to jump off on this? On COLA? **Olsen:** It made it worse. **Jackie Cockerham:** We're looking at \$30,000. **Commissioner Stiles:** \$30,000 dollars. **Collin Jackson:** The city has that stipend program where they really get some dramatic increases in their pay and especially when we're having to pay half of some of the people over there, it jacks up our... **Commissioner Chaney:** Now, we left the private labs in there? **Jackie Cockerham:** Yes. **Judge Mills:** We ought to seriously think about this. The City of Rockport employees get pay raises for getting better educated. If they get a certificate they get more money, right? **Suzy Wallace:** And we are giving a stipend to our sheriff's and jail only. **Commissioner Casterline:** Did we get anything, I mean, it makes it bad when they do stuff for dispatch, like when they order new chairs and just tell us what our part is. **Judge Mills:** Well, the Sheriff sits on the board. **Commissioner Casterline:** So what do y'all think about COLAs? We're getting down to the wire, we've got to get it out on the table. **Commissioner Stiles:** Well, you know the things for our budget, I mean we haven't talked about our budget, and I would like to see, maybe a cell phone allowance added, I mean, my cell phone number is given out from the courthouse, all the time. **Commissioner Casterline:** Don't we already have an allowance for that? **Commissioner Stiles:** I don't think we do. **Commissioner Olsen:** I thought we did. **Commissioner Casterline:** You don't get a cell phone, but you get some sort of allowance. **Jackie Cockerham:** You get a travel... **Commissioner Stiles:** I get a travel allowance. **Commissioner Casterline:** You get a travel allowance, but you get a car allowance, and all that kind of stuff. **Commissioner Stiles:** I just threw

it out there... because I'm not going to go broke if I don't get it, I just kind of threw it out there. **Suzy Wallace:** Do you want to add a travel allowance to Katrina since she's going to be taking on another day, and burdens? She's going to be traveling back and forth and turning in mileage anyway. **Judge Mills:** I think that she's probably already figured out which way she wants it, what's better for her. **Suzy Wallace:** The mileage would definitely be good for her, so just leave it alone? **Judge Mills:** I'll talk to Bianchi and see what he thinks. What would the requirements be? **Jackie Cockerham:** Well, the average travel allowance can be anywhere from \$3,700, which is the highest paid per year, down to whatever you want. **Judge Mills:** We've got her driving back and forth from Calallen every week. **Jackie Cockerham:** Okay, I'll go ahead and put a question mark by that. **Commissioner Casterline:** Anyone want to talk about COLA? **Judge Mills:** That's the third time you've said that. (Laughter) **Commissioner Casterline:** Well we're here. **Judge Mills:** All right. **Commissioner Casterline:** Time to get plugged in. **Collin Jackson:** Is that my cue to vacate? **Commissioner Casterline:** Yeah. **Suzy Wallace:** Well, and we've made a few adjustments, these are hard numbers. So, we've made a few adjustments to change those numbers, we might tweak them a little bit. **Commissioner Olsen:** Thank you, Collin. **Collin Jackson:** Thank you. **Commissioner Casterline:** I think we should scratch off the three and think about a two. **Commissioner Stiles:** Well, we are in competition with the City of Rockport, as far as salaries and that sort of thing. **Judge Mills:** Their IT men work only in the police department building and they make more than Collin does. **Commissioner Olsen:** Right, you've mentioned that. **Commissioner Casterline:** How many IT people do they have? **Judge Mills:** They have three. **Suzy Wallace:** Well, did you want to change Collin? **Commissioner Stiles:** Well, we've got him in there, he put himself in for a step increase. **Judge Mills:** Did he? **Suzy Wallace:** Well, he put himself in as a two... **Judge Mills:** As a two-step? Is it in there? **Suzy Wallace:** Yes, as a three-step, excuse me, a three-step increase. **Judge Mills:** And that's in there? **Suzy Wallace:** Yes, it's in the step portion, which comes out of the \$50,000, it's not in the actual budget, so... I mean, we can change it in the budget if you want. **Commissioner Chaney:** Well, Collin has taken on a lot more projects since he took it over. **Judge Mills:** Well, that's another thing I've been talking about, we can't fix it this year, but we need to be thinking about it. **Commissioner Casterline:** I think if you've got three steps in there that you

should leave it there instead of putting it... **Judge Mills:** Just leave it in the steps. **Suzy Wallace:** I'm sorry? **Judge Mills:** Just leave it in steps. **Suzy Wallace:** Just leave it in steps, okay. **Judge Mills:** And also, I think he put in for Russ? **Cockerham:** Yes, he did, he put a three in for Russ, a three for himself, and a two for Dave. **Judge Mills:** Yeah, I think the two you might question mark that. **Suzy Wallace:** Down to one, or just altogether? **Judge Mills:** Just put a question mark and see about that later. **Suzy Wallace:** Okay. **Commissioner Casterline:** How many does the step program, doesn't it permit you to one? What's the process to go over that? **Suzy Wallace:** No, if you're doing a review and a step increase mid-year, and you go one step, it's okay. And you can hire somebody in at a level three before it has to go to Commissioner's Court. If you take it more than two steps, then it has to go to Commissioner's Court. **Commissioner Casterline:** So what they're talking about doing doesn't need to go to us on a separate... **Suzy Wallace:** Yes, it will need to go to the Commissioner's Court because it's more than a two-step increase. **Commissioner Casterline:** So what do you think about the COLA's? This is the fourth time today. **Commissioner Olsen:** Did you want us to look at COLA? **Commissioner Casterline:** I think this is a good time. **Jackie Cockerham:** You want to plug in a two? **Commissioner Casterline:** I think we're on a pretty good roll this year. **Judge Mills:** Yeah, plug in a two and see what happens. **Commissioner Chaney:** I love this program. **Jackie Cockerham:** \$136,947 end of fund balance. **Commissioner Chaney:** I say two. **Jackie Cockerham:** It still leaves your projected fund balance at 4.7, almost 4.8. **Commissioner Casterline:** Okay, we plugged in the... **Jackie Cockerham:** But this does not include going to one and a half cents, this still has 2016's tax rate in it. **Commissioner Chaney:** Can you adjust that? **Commissioner Casterline:** I thought y'all put it in at the 4.9... **Jackie Cockerham:** I do, well it's at 4.9 or whatever. **Commissioner Casterline:** 4.6, that's uh... **Commissioner Chaney:** Let's just do a ratio. **Jackie Cockerham:** It's not that easy. **Commissioner Chaney:** Do the current budget, multiply that, then find out what the proposed budget is. **Jackie Cockerham:** It's probably not going to make but about a \$50,000 difference, if even that, I mean, it's going to be very small, because you've got your effective plus the penny is 8,000,510, and your... **Commissioner Casterline:** Well that's about a, the difference between adopted 2016 and effective plus a penny appears to be about \$170,000. **Jackie Cockerham:** Yeah, but you're looking at the total, I'm looking at just the county M&O. Because

the county M&O is 8.611, and then its 8.510, so there's \$100,000. So if you look at that, another half cent, but it's a half cent on the...

Commissioner Chaney: Jackie, what numbers are you using? **Jackie Cockerham:** Well, I was

going to use the effective plus... **Commissioner Chaney:** Yeah, what is the current amount of money that effective brings in? **Jackie Cockerham:** The current amount of money that effective would bring in is \$8,236,757.

Commissioner Chaney: And that's at what tax rate? **Jackie Cockerham:** 0.388315.

Commissioner Stiles: That's the effective rate. **Jackie Cockerham:** That's the effective rate. **Commissioner Chaney:** And if we go to the effective plus one?

What would that make it? **Jackie Cockerham:** Effective plus one penny is \$8,510,606. **Commissioner Chaney:** Okay, the current amount of money that's

being brought in is how much... I hit the wrong button, Eight million... **Jackie**

Cockerham: For the effective rate? **Commissioner Chaney:** The current is \$8,236... **Jackie Cockerham:** \$8,236,757. **Commissioner Chaney:** And that is at,

what? **Jackie Cockerham:** That is at 0.388315. **Commissioner Chaney:** Okay, now, if we do the proposed, how much would that be? I can't see the numbers.

Jackie Cockerham: Are you looking at the plus one penny? **Commissioner Chaney:** Yes. **Jackie Cockerham:** Plus one penny is 0.398315, but that's one penny.

Commissioner Chaney: That takes it to \$8,448,872, is that what you've got?

Jackie Cockerham: Well, it's \$8,510,606. **Commissioner Casterline:** Okay, but you're the on the one that was at the 2016 adopted rate. **Jackie Cockerham:**

Yes, and if you look at... **Commissioner Casterline:** Which could be very

different from... **Jackie Cockerham:** It's not going to be any different, there's not going to be any substantial change at all, because if you take your effective rate plus one and a half cents, you're at 0.403315. **Commissioner**

Casterline: I wasn't thinking about one and a half, I'd be more inclined..

Jackie Cockerham: Which is less than half of a penny. **Commissioner Stiles:**

Well, we've got to be careful going over four because we don't know what the legislature is going to do. **Jackie Cockerham:** It's not, according to everything we're hearing, it's not going to affect us this year at all.

Commissioner Stiles: No, not this year. **Commissioner Chaney:** So that makes it real important that we get a reasonable tax rate this year, because

everything from now on is going to be based on that percentage from the 2017. So, it's real important that we don't over tax, but it's real important that we don't under tax either. That's the rate that we're going to be stuck with.

Commissioner Casterline: But would the number we have in there be... **Jackie**

Cockerham: The number we have in there right now is... **Commissioner Casterline:** Plus one? **Cockerham:** Less than, no, it's this year's current rate, and that is less than half of a cent different than the effective rate plus one and a half. I mean, it's so close that it's not going to make a big difference on your revenues. **Commissioner Casterline:** You still don't have a COLA plugged in on that number? **Jackie Cockerham:** Yes. **Commissioner Casterline:** So you plug in two and that brings us to 4.7. **Jackie Cockerham:** Yes. **Commissioner Chaney:** Can we change the, can you change the color on the three? Because... **Suzy Wallace.** Well, we're not even, don't even look at those numbers. **Commissioner Chaney:** Okay. **Suzy Wallace:** Are you talking about the black to red right there? **Commissioner Chaney:** No. **Suzy Wallace:** The 136? **Commissioner Chaney:** No, down on the bottom. **Jackie Cockerham:** This would be with the COLA, and this is going to be be your projected end in fund balance, which is \$201,000... **Commissioner Casterline:** So you're still \$201,000 over what we had in the past considering what we should keep our... We don't want it any lower than 4.5. **Commissioner Chaney:** So, if we do two, and we do it to a penny and a half, what's the net effect to the fund balance? **Suzy Wallace:** If we do two to a penny and a half, then the net effect on the fund balance, well that's what you have, right? **Jackie Cockerham:** Yes. **Suzy Wallace:** Then that's it. **Commissioner Chaney:** \$136,947, okay so, if we make these changes, we're going to reduce our fund balance by \$137,000. **Jackie Cockerham.** Yes. **Commissioner Chaney:** I think that's a deal, I think that's a good deal. What do you think? **Judge Mills:** I don't see how we can do anything else, but I'm really afraid of what the City of Rockport is doing, and I don't know what it is, might even go to their budget workshop. **Suzy Wallace:** We can do a 2.5 if you want to see what that looks like, and not just a flat two. **Judge Mills:** Let's see how that looks. **Suzy Wallace:** What were you going to ask me? I did do what? **Commissioner Casterline:** The calculation that you're putting in on COLA, is that elected and non-elected? **Suzy Wallace:** That's everybody. **Commissioner Stiles:** That's a \$40,000 difference in a 2.2 and a 2.0. **Judge Mills:** 2.5. **Commissioner Stiles:** Yes, 2.5. **Suzy Wallace:** And that's only if you opt to do that across the board, that's why in that salary spreadsheet there's a percentage above each one of the columns. You could do elected officials separate from appointed, to regular employees. **Commissioner Chaney:** Well, with the 2% COLA across the board, and a 1 and a half cent increase, we're looking at a 176... **Jackie Cockerham:** No, that's at a 2.5% COLA. **Commissioner**

Chaney: I'm sorry? **Jackie Cockerham:** A 2.5% COLA, two and a half percent COLA. **Commissioner Casterline:** Oh, that number is? **Commissioner Olsen:** Yes, across the board. **Commissioner Stiles:** Yes. **Commissioner Chaney:** I think that's good. **Commissioner Casterline:** To me, I think we need to drop the effective tax rate a little. **Jackie Cockerham:** Well, Jeri is going to bring it tomorrow with the other. **Commissioner Olsen:** At a penny and a half? **Jackie Cockerham:** Yes sir, it's not going to make much difference because, like I said, you're just within fractions of a penny. **Commissioner Olsen:** Yeah. **Jackie Cockerham:** On what our current is and one and a half cents is. **Commissioner Casterline:** It's about \$100,000. **Judge Mills:** How can we find out what the city is up to? **Commissioner Olsen:** I can't go over there. **Commissioner Stiles:** I can't either. **Commissioner Casterline:** I wouldn't worry about the city, you just need to do what you think is right and get it done. **Suzy Wallace:** Now the only elected official that this percent calculation does not affect, is Judge Bianchi because his is a supplement. And also, Kristen Barnebey and the Juvenile Board, that all stays the same. **Commissioner Casterline:** What was the deal with the match contest that one year? **Commissioner Stiles:** Well that was, you cannot make more than a district judge can make, that was the difference. **Commissioner Casterline:** He was maxed out. **Commissioner Stiles:** He was maxed out, yeah. **Suzy Wallace:** And the district judges did not receive any salary increase, so, that's the law. **Commissioner Olsen:** We learned that, Bubba and I did, in Corpus. **Judge Mills:** Okay, I think we're finally done. **Suzy Wallace:** So we're going to stick with the 2.5%? And then whatever Jeri comes back with? **Commissioner Stiles:** And if you don't think that's... you said \$100,000? **Jackie Cockerham:** Well no, I mean... **Commissioner Casterline:** That's what it appears to be, looking at business, because I was looking at the screen a while ago and its \$8,611,000 versus \$8,510,000. **Jackie Cockerham:** But that's at a penny, so you've got to, there's another half cent on that one that you're looking at, to go to one and a half cents. **Commissioner Casterline:** The one I'm looking at is the one you had there, 0.40946. **Jackie Cockerham:** Right, that's this year's adopted rate, and that is very, very close. **Commissioner Casterline:** Wait a minute, here, you're talking about, your separating Road and Bridge when you're doing this, so actually it's, we're looking at 0.279389 and 0.275698, but that shows to be about \$100,000. **Commissioner Chaney:** I think that's a good use of our funds, it doesn't kill us in any way. **Commissioner Olsen:** Okay Judge,

we're done. **Judge Mills:** Thanks. **Suzy Wallace:** Okay, so the only one we're going to meet with is Jeri first thing in the morning, and then the sheriff. **Judge Mills:** When he gets here. **Suzy Wallace:** Yes. **Commissioner Casterline:** What are we going to meet with Jeri about? **Commissioner Stiles:** That penny and a half. **Suzy Wallace:** The penny and a half. **Commissioner Stiles:** And the numbers, that's all.

Court adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

C. H. "BURT" MILLS, JR., COUNTY JUDGE

VALERIE K. AMASON,
EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE
COMMISSIONERS' COURT