

MINUTES OF THE

COMMISSIONERS' COURT

WORKSHOP MEETING - MARCH 27, 2017

On the 27th day of March, 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 **Kristen Barnebey**, County Attorney; **Alma Cartwright**, Treasurer; **Lezlie Kirk**, County Auditor; **Bill Mills**, Sheriff; **Michele Bennett**, Elections Administrator; **Linda Garcia**, Executive Assistant to the County Judge; **Suzy Wallace**; 1st Assistant County Auditor; **David Reid**, Road Administrator/Drainage Engineer/Stormwater Management Engineer; **Michelle Ganem**; Chief Deputy County Treasurer; **Jacky Cockerham**; Assistant County Auditor; **Collin Jackson**, IT Director; **Pat Rousseau**, Human Resources Director; **Carrie Arrington**, Office & Contracts Manager for the County Attorney's Office; **Michael Geer**, Airport Manager; **Valerie Gonzalez**, Interim Environmental Health Director; **John Strothman**, Pathways Project Manager; **Iris Sanchez**, Library Director; **Rene Butler**, Maintenance Supervisor; and **Mike Kuertz**, Veterans Service Officer;

Members of Local City Government, Community Groups and other Interested Parties present:

Mike Probst, Editor and Publisher of the Rockport Pilot Newspaper;

The Meeting was convened at **10:31 a.m.** with a quorum present. WHEREUPON, the following proceedings were had and done to wit:

ITEMS FOR DELIBERATION AND/OR ACTION

Discussion and comments from Elected Officials and Department Heads regarding changes in this year's budget process from previous year.

Lezlie Kirk, County Auditor explained that the budget will be sent to department heads in Excel form this year via e-mail by April 4th. Each department will then enter figures and note their special requests in comment column. They will then return them to the Auditor, via e-mail by May 19th. She and Judge Mills will review each budget in early June and note where shortages and differences may be. Typically the General Fund will be over budgeted on expenditures and over the estimated revenues. Changes can and will be made in real time. New figures will be sent out to the departments about the third week in June and when we get together for the workshop you'll be able to ask questions. The idea is to have laptops for the court during the workshops. Michelle Bennett stated that she has eight extra laptops since elections has moved to tablets and she will get these to Collin.

Commissioner Casterline pointed out that all entities that receive money from the county need to be notified and scheduled the same as elected officials and department heads. He also

suggested that the hotel/motel tax agencies should also be notified.

Commissioner Stiles stated that Senate Bill 2 relating to Ad Valorem Taxation, if it goes through, will tremendously affect revenues and reductions.

Lezlie agreed, it's going to push all dates up.

Jeri Cox stated different sections affect 2017, 2018 and 2019 and Legislation will be pushing our calendar up in all aspects, but that part of the bill, there's no way that it can go into effect for this season.

Commissioner Chaney suggested that an extra budget workshop should be set up for just showing people how to use the additional lines for department requests.

No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 11:45 a.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Chaney.

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

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