



OCTOBER 3, 2000

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STATE OF TEXAS □
COUNTY OF HAYS □

ON THIS THE 3RD DAY OF OCTOBER A.D., 2000, THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF HAYS COUNTY, TEXAS, MET IN REGULAR MEETING. THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT, TO-WIT:

**JAMES L. POWERS
H. S. "SUSIE" CARTER
WILLIAM "BILL" BURNETT
RUSS G. MOLENAAR
LEE CARLISLE**

**COUNTY JUDGE
COMMISSIONER, PCT. 2
COMMISSIONER, PCT. 3
COMMISSIONER, PCT. 4
COUNTY CLERK**

AND THE FOLLOWING MEMBER WAS ABSENT: DEBBIE INGALSBE GONZALES - COMMISSIONER PCT. 1

WHEN THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, THAT IS:

Judge Powers called the meeting to order and gave the invocation. Commissioner Burnett led the Court in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flags.

19021 ADOPT A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS "FAIR HOUSING MONTH," AS REQUIRED BY THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FOR ALL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE STATE OF TEXAS

Grants Administrator Richard Salmon advised that this proclamation has to be adopted by all grant recipients of the Texas Dept. of Housing & Community Affairs who receive either a community development or economic development grant. The Hays County Grants office currently has three TDHCA projects ongoing: \$350,000 FEMA Wimberley Flood Mitigation Project, \$250,000 TDHCA Cedar Oaks Mesa/Wimberley water project, \$250,000 TDHCA Driftwood water project. Hays County Grants Office has received over \$3,000,000 from TDHCA programs in the past 7 years. A motion was made by Judge Powers, seconded by Commissioner Burnett to adopt a Proclamation recognizing October as "Fair Housing Month" as required by the Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs for all Community Development and Economic Development Projects funded by the State of Texas. All present voting "Aye".

<p>PROCLAMATION OF OCTOBER AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH</p> <p>WHEREAS, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination in housing and declares it a national policy to provide, within constitutional limits, for fair housing in the United States; and WHEREAS, The principle of Fair Housing is not only national law and national policy, but a fundamental human concept and entitlement for all Americans; and WHEREAS, The anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law, during the month, provides an opportunity for all Americans to recognize that complete success in the goal of equal housing opportunity can only be accomplished with the help and cooperation of all Americans. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Commissioners' Court of Hays County, Texas that the month of</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OCTOBER be recognized as FAIR HOUSING MONTH in Hays County</p>
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and do hereby urge all its residents to become aware of and support Fair Housing.

PASSED AND APPROVED at a meeting of the Commissioners' Court of Hays County, Texas on the 3rd day of October, 2000.

19022 ADOPT A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS "NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH"

A motion was made by Judge Powers, seconded by Commissioner Molenaar to adopt a Proclamation recognizing October as "National Domestic Violence Awareness Month". All present voting "Aye".

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**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy and dignity, security and humanity, due to systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic control and/or abuse including abuse to children and the elderly; and

WHEREAS, the problems of domestic violence are not confined to any group or groups of people, but cut across all economic, racial and societal barriers, and are supported by societal indifferences; and

WHEREAS, the impact of domestic violence is wide ranging, directly affecting individuals and society as a whole, here in this community, throughout the United States and the world; and

WHEREAS, it is the survivors themselves who have been in the forefront of efforts to bring peace and equality to the home.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Hays County Commissioners' Court that in recognition of the important work done by domestic violence programs like the Hays-Caldwell Women's Center, we do hereby proclaim the month of October to be National Domestic Violence Awareness Month and urge all citizens to actively participate in the programs to work toward improving victim safety and holding perpetrators of domestic abuse accountable for their actions against individual survivors and our society as a whole.

WITNESS OUR HANDS SET HERE UNTO as evidenced by our signatures affixed hereto this the 3rd day of October, 2000.

19023 ADOPT A PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 1-7, 2000, AS "4-H WEEK"

County Extension Agent Richard Parrish introduced 4H members Kelly McClinton & Joshua Morris. Kelly McClinton and Joshua Morris spoke in support of 4H and how it has helped them. A motion was made by Judge Powers, seconded by Commissioner Carter to adopt a Proclamation declaring the week of October 1-7, 2000 as "4H Week". All present voting "Aye".

**PROCLAMATION OF THE HAYS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT
Declaring October 1-7, 2000 as "4-H Week"**

WHEREAS, the challenges young people face extend beyond the individual or community realm and impact the very future of our state and nation; and

WHEREAS, connecting young and adults to work together encourages diverse groups of youth to develop their unique skills and talents to the fullest potential; and

WHEREAS, we, the people of Texas, have a tradition of service and volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, more than 997,000 youth touch and enhance the lives of others throughout the year by practicing citizenship and leadership skills developed in 4-H to benefit their communities; and

WHEREAS, "learning by doing" through hands-on activities and community involvement empowers 4-H members to develop and strengthen life skills; and

WHEREAS, the 4-H program helps youth develop the competencies essential for adult success; and

WHEREAS, 4-H youth, volunteers, and The Texas Agricultural Extension Service faculty have joined to promote a week to focus on youth; and

WHEREAS, positive youth development is an investment in the future we all must share.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hays County Commissioners' Court proclaims the week of October 1-7, 2000, as:

4-H WEEK

in Hays County and urges all citizens to observe this week by connecting with youth, friends, fellow employees and relatives, and with school, community and civic groups to engage in recognizing 4-H members for learning, leading and serving in their communities.

Adopted this the 3rd day of October, 2000

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**PRESENTATION REGARDING PROGRAMMING ON CRITICAL ISSUES IN HAYS COUNTY
BY THE HAYS COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE**

County Extension Agent Billy Kniffen presented a packet which included issues developed by Participants of Action Planning Groups, Hays County Focus Forum. The critical issues of Hays County are as follows:

WATER

Goal Statement: Enough clean pure water for the needs of the population and ecosystem. Objectives: Gray water use. Reduction of consumption and increase conservation. Keep native existing plants. Public that is informed on characteristics of the Trinity Group Aquifer and how it recharges. Keep water as pure as possible (potable) Planned Action: Initiate, educate, construction, innovation, drip irrigation. Brush control, limiting impervious cover and constructing retention ponds, surface water runoff, and rainwater collection. Educate public on value of using native plants and xeriscaping. Use range water collection demonstration to educate public on aquifer recharge. Use brush-sculpting techniques to demonstrate water recharge improvement. Start water education in public schools. Have adult education programs. Initiate aquifer storage recovery programs. Revisit existing wells to insure

bad water is piped-off to prevent contamination of good water.

FUTURE LEADERS & CITIZENS:
SELF-DISCIPLINED, PRODUCTIVE,
SERVICE MINDED YOUTH

Goal Statement: Through positive youth group involvement school age youth will develop skills, knowledge and attitudes, which will enable them to become future contributing members of society. Planned Action: Network with other youth agencies and organizations to plan, implement and evaluate positive activities and educational events for school age youth, and to increase communications amongst them while striving to reduce duplication of efforts amongst agencies/organizations. Identify, recruit and train adult and teen volunteers to serve youth programs. Conduct leadership and other communications trainings/workshops for youth. Involve youth in the community service projects and activities. Establish at least one new mentorship program involving youth. Increase awareness of 4-H and other youth serving programs and organizations through promotional efforts, individual contacts, networking and other avenues. Develop county resource directory of youth serving agencies, organizations, etc. Develop web-site with links to youth agencies and organizations servicing Hays County residents to include education lessons of interest to 4-H and non 4-H youth.

YOUTH SELF-WORTH & SAFETY

Goal Statement: Kids will feel good about themselves, act and feel safe, and get along with others. Planned Action: Provide education program opportunities for youth, which will enhance their sense of self-worth and safety, their ability to get along with others and to develop leadership skills through positive actions. Development of a youth leadership program to involve 4-H and/or non 4-H youth. Identify, recruit and train adult and teen volunteers to serve youth programs. Conduct safety programs on topics including firearms, Hunter Safety, bicycle and other areas of concern. Development of 4-H web-site to include leadership topics and resources.

YOUTH WORKFORCE PREPARATION

Goal Statement: Youth will develop skills and knowledge to prepare them to become productive community minded adults. Planned Action: Incorporate career exploration into 4-H project instruction. Establish networks, which will enable youth to learn "on the job" training. Network to develop area reference listing of youth internship opportunities by county employers. Identify, train, and involve volunteers to teach financial resource management and consumerism skills to elementary to middle school age youth. Establish networks related to training of youth for the workforce and consider hosting youth related job fair/s as means of developing youths working relations with potential future employers. Inclusion of related information and/or sites on county 4-H web site.

SMALL LANDOWNERS STEWARDSHIP
EDUCATION ENVIRONMENT

Goal Statement: Health Environment – "Pass it on better than we found it". Planned Action: City and country landowners need to learn that care of their property will be different. Educate to achieve good land stewardship = Develop communities of small landowners to achieve goal of positive environment impact. Show people what they can do. Small landowners want advice on how to care for their property. This is an opportunity for Master Naturalist to step in and lead the way. Volunteer – begin after school clubs. Early education is the key. Student = parents = family education. Teach water conservation – drip irrigation, mulching, water collection, use plants that use less water. Housing developers will be required to provide adequate road and traffic management prior to obtaining county permit. Environment – help people become aware of their interrelatedness with the environment. Think of practical steps that anyone can take to introduce awareness into their lifestyles. Teach children where things come from and go. Create organizations so people can work together. Building developers will be required to show water availability prior to issue of county permit. Provide means of attitude adjustments. Think of results of actions.

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INFRASTRUCTURE

Goal Statement: To have good county roads. High quality subdivisions. Improve county traffic goal. Unified Health District. Countywide EMS and Volunteer Fire Department System. Develop a city/county growth plan. Planned Action: Accept no substandard roads. Example: subdivision inferior must be upgraded before being accepted by county commissioners. Aggressive pursuit of TXDOT funds. Pass bond issue to upgrade roads and create new ones. Control subdivision rules. Establish framework for unified health district. Form a working collation with Health Providers Agencies, Health Care Inter Subcommittee. All 911 operators answer phone with "region" name (in county, city, etc.) to reduce confusion from cell phone callers. Form a working coalition with all entities involved.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Goal Statement: More volunteer action. Zero tolerance of Drugs, Alcohol, Weapons. No teen (under 18 years) pregnancy. Provide accessible public adult education. Planned Action: More parental involvement in schools. Productive activities for teenagers. Senior citizens wisdom and skills put to productive use. Drug education for teenagers. Express support of issues to school board. Productive activities for teenagers. Establish mandatory parenting classes for teenagers and young parents. Hold parents responsible for youth actions. Enforce school discipline and have more teacher authority. Establish task force to promote activities involvement in school board issues and decisions affecting nurturing environment.

Billy Kniffen spoke in support of rainwater collection. Commissioner Burnett thanked Billy Kniffen for his input regarding rainwater collection.

19024 APPROVE THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2000

A motion was made by Commissioner Burnett, seconded by Commissioner Carter to approve the Commissioners' Court Minutes of September 26, 2000 as presented by the County Clerk. All present voting "Aye".

19025 APPROVE AMENDED MINUTES OF JULY 11, 2000, AND AUGUST 29, 2000

The following amendments were made to previously approved minutes (amendments are underlined):

July 11, 2000 Resolution # 18794 Vol. R Pg. 753

The vendor will re-film those records to refund all the money we have in the camera (\$5,000) at no cost to the county along with filming some additional records (total \$11,000 project) and provide a microfilm and CD version of the records and those records will be copied every 10 years. She requested up to \$6,000 for this project (\$11,000 project less \$5,000 f/camera

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She stated that charities should be freely chosen by the citizens rather than certain charities being forced upon the taxpayer by government.

A motion was made by Commissioner Burnett, seconded by Commissioner Carter to approve amended Minutes of July 11, 2000 and August 29, 2000 as proposed by the County Clerk. All present voting "Aye".

19026 APPROVE PAYMENT OF COUNTY INVOICES

A motion was made by Commissioner Burnett, seconded by Commissioner Carter to approve payment of county

invoices in the amount of \$423,183.10 as presented by the County Auditor. All present voting "Aye".

Public Safety Services	\$ 160.40	Fines	\$ 687.17	Auditors Office	\$ 51.04
Treasurers Office	\$ 353.34	Extension Office	\$ 1,461.48	Juvenile Probation	\$ 906.80
Election Administration	\$ 50.00	Community & Soc Svcs	\$ 157,251.34	Bldg Mtc. Dept.	\$ 15,982.08
Environ Health	\$ 539.38	Civic Center	\$ 2,692.27	Countywide Oper	\$ 51,364.59
Tax A/C	\$ 60.92	Sheriff's Office	\$ 4,142.79	Jail Operations	\$ 8,684.47
County Judge's Office	\$ 298.85	Co Court at Law 1	\$ 1,284.30	J.P. 1-1	\$ 113.91
J.P. 1-2	\$ 109.63	J.P. 2	\$ 58.80	J.P. 3	\$ 91.16
J.P. 4	\$ 248.76	J.P. 5	\$ 190.00	DPS	\$ 2,466.74
Constable 1	\$ 25.00	Constable 2	\$ 81.20	Constable 3	\$ 364.10
Constable 4	\$ 266.34	Constable 5	\$ 62.92	District Court Oper	\$ 4,309.88
Co & JP Court Oper	\$ 6,464.05	Veterans Admin	\$ 505.09	Computer Svcs	\$ 10,595.45
DPS/L&W	\$ 839.58	Fire Marshal/EMC	\$ 33.70	TJPC CCAP Grant	\$ 151.71
Historical Commission	\$ 3,145.22	Assoc Judge/Family Law	\$ 43.35	Truancy Ofcr Grant	\$ 147.30
Dam Site 5 Grant	\$ 21,868.51	General Fund Credit	<\$381.56>	R&B Operations	\$ 82,129.92
Precinct 1	\$ 35.68	Precinct 2	\$ 300.22	Precinct 3	\$ 388.52
Precinct 4	\$ 211.46	Road Reconstruction	\$ 15,562.12	R&B Gen Fund Credit	<\$3,585.46>
Road Bond '95 Constrct	\$ 5,600.00	Sheriffs Abandon Veh Fund	\$ 120.00	Anticip Notes '95 Proj	\$ 5,600.00
Health Svcs Grants	\$ 73.95	Law Library Fund	\$ 150.00	Historical Commission	\$ 207.15
Hays Co I&S Fund	\$ 2,500.00	Courthouse Security Fund	\$ 56.06	Sheriff's Drug Forf Fund	\$ 1,000.00
Family Health Svcs	\$ 8,602.42	Certif of Obligation Series '97	\$ 1,450.00	DOJ Eqpt & Tech 2000	\$ 5,000.00

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19027 AMEND FY99 BUDGET FOR GRANTS ADMINISTRATION TO TRANSFER ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO DEPARTMENT. (BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 00-40)

A motion was made by Commissioner Burnett, seconded by Commissioner Carter to approve Budget Amendment No. 00-40 amending the FY99 budget for Grants Administration to transfer additional funds to department. All present voting "Aye".

AMENDMENT NO. 00-40 FY 2000 BUDGET 10-03-00				
FUND NO. 01 FUND TITLE GENERAL FUND				
LINE ITEM - EXPENDITURES	APPROPRIATION BEFORE	AMENDMENT		APPROPRIATION AS
	AMENDMENT	INCREASES	DECREASES	AMENDED
GRANTS (404):				
01-404-5212 Postage	435	20		465
01-404-5211 Office Supply	1,050		(20)	1,030
01-404-5311 Travel	500	<u>130</u>	<u>(20)</u>	630
		<u>150</u>	<u>(20)</u>	
COUNTY-WIDE OPERATIONS (414):				
01-414-5711 Office Equipment	24,919		(130)	24,789
Transfer to allow additional budget funds from equipment purchase savings.				

Clerk's Note: There were no Utility Permits submitted for approval.

19028 AUTHORIZE COUNTY JUDGE TO SEND A LETTER TO THE CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT REGARDING HAYS COUNTY LIVESTOCK EXPOSITION, INC. PROPERTY ADJACENT TO THE HAYS COUNTY CIVIC CENTER

A letter was submitted from James Holt, President of the Hays County Livestock Expo Inc. as follows: *The purpose of this letter is to confirm that Hays County has had and may continue to have the use of the twenty (20) acres currently owned by the Hays County Youth Livestock Association. This acreage may be used for certain county purposes including the storage of equipment, materials or dirt, or for parking to accommodate events at the Civic Center. No construction is to take place on this land including roads, buildings, etc. by Hays County without written permission from the Board of Directors of the Livestock Association. This commitment was authorized by our Board of Directors at its meeting on Sept 26, 2000 and shall be effective until revoked by the Board of Directors.* A motion was made by Commissioner Burnett, seconded by Commissioner Carter to authorize the County Judge to send a letter to the Hays County Central Appraisal District regarding Hays County Livestock Exposition Inc. property adjacent to the Hays County Civic Center. All present voting "Aye".

TO:	Pete Islas, Chief Appraiser Hays County Appraisal District
FROM:	County Judge Jim Powers and Hays County Commissioners' Court
DATE:	September 27, 2000
SUBJECT:	R93209 20.59 acres

The above referenced property owned by Hays County Livestock Exposition Inc. is utilized by Hays County as an overflow parking area for events held at the Hays County Civic Center and has been used as such since the building of the center.

19029 AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF SURPLUS SHERIFF'S AUTOMOBILES AT AN AUCTION CONDUCTED BY A LICENSED AUCTIONEER

Vehicles to be auction are: **Unit 33**-1992 Jeep, **Unit 475**-1994 Ford Crown Victoria, **Unit 480**-1994 Ford Crown Victoria, **Unit 487**-1994 Ford Crown Victoria, **Unit 490**-1994 Ford Crown Victoria, **Unit 493**-1994 Ford Crown Victoria, **Unit 496**-1994 Ford Crown Victoria, **Unit 497**-1994 Ford Crown Victoria, **Unit 546**-1995 Ford Crown Victoria, & **Unit 559**-1995 Ford Crown Victoria. A motion was made by Commissioner Burnett, seconded by Commissioner Carter to authorize the sale of surplus Sheriff's automobiles at an auction conducted by a licensed auctioneer. All present voting "Aye".

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19030 APPROVE SPECIFICATIONS FOR RENTAL OF EMPLOYEE UNIFORMS AND AUTHORIZE PURCHASING TO SOLICIT BIDS

The Purchasing Department submitted the following bid specs for approval: Bid #20B037 Specifications for Rental of Employee Uniforms A motion was made by Commissioner Burnett, seconded by Commissioner Carter to approve specifications for rental of employee uniforms and authorize the Purchasing Department to solicit bids. All present voting "Aye".

**19031 SAWYER RANCH ESTATES RESUBDIVISION OF LOT 3 [00-4-109] * APPROVE
PRELIMINARY PLAT [T1-240]**

Environmental Health Director Allen Walther spoke of property owner (Robert Jasper) proposing to create 3 lots by re-subdividing Lot 3 of Sawyer Ranch Estates plus an additional 15 acre adjoining tract of land. He gave staff recommendation for approval of preliminary plat. A motion was made by Commissioner Molenaar, seconded by Commissioner Burnett to approve preliminary plat of "Sawyer Ranch Estates Resubdivision of Lot 3. All present voting "Aye".

19032 PEARCE BUSINESS PARK [00-1-079] * APPROVE FINAL PLAT [T1-263]

Environmental Health Director Allen Walther gave staff recommendation for final approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Molenaar, seconded by Judge Powers to approve final plat of "Pearce Business Park". All present voting "Aye".

**19033 PEABODY PLAZA SECTION 2 REPLAT OF LOTS 1 & 2 [00-4-108] * APPROVE FINAL
PLAT AND WAIVE PUBLIC NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS [T1-274]**

Environmental Health Director Allen Walther advised that no new lots are being created - the common lot line is being adjusted - staff recommends waiving public notification requirements. A motion was made by Commissioner Molenaar, seconded by Commissioner Burnett to approve final plat of "Peabody Plaza Section 2 Replat of Lots 1 & 2" and waive public notification requirements. All present voting "Aye".

**19034 AMEND BUDGET TO ADD INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR NEW SECRETARY FOR
CONSTABLE PCT. 2 [T1-289]**

County Auditor Bill Herzog advised that the part-time secretary that Constable Pct. 2 will be hiring currently works 20 hours per week for JP2 which will now make her a fulltime county employee eligible for insurance. Constable Pct. 2 does not have sufficient funds in his budget to cover the insurance premium. A motion was made by Judge Powers, seconded by Commissioner Molenaar to amend the FY2001 to add insurance coverage for new Constable Pct. 2 secretary. All present voting "Aye".

**19035 APPROVE A JOINT ELECTION AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF KYLE AND
AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY JUDGE TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT [T1-310]**

The City of Kyle has ordered a special municipal sales and use tax election to be held on November 7, 2000 and the County will also hold a regular election on that date. It would benefit Kyle, the County, and the citizens and voters to hold a joint election so that common polling places will be available to voters of the respective governmental entities. The County agrees to coordinate the election for Kyle and provide certain services related to the preparation and facilitation of the election. The City of Kyle agrees to reimburse the County for Kyle's share of reasonable expenses in conducting the joint election. A motion was made by Judge Powers, seconded by Commissioner Carter to approve a joint election agreement with the City of Kyle and authorize the County Judge to execute said agreement. All present voting "Aye". [See agreement in file]

**19036 ALLOW 4-H TO USE THE CIVIC CENTER FOR HORSE EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR
FREE ON MONDAY EVENINGS BEGINNING NOVEMBER 6, 2000, THROUGH APRIL,
2001 [T1-323]**

County Extension Agent Billy Kniffen spoke of 4H having used the civic center in past years for training purposes during the winter months for events they compete in later in the year. A motion was made by Commissioner Carter, seconded by Commissioner Molenaar to allow 4-H to use the Civic Center for horse education programs for free on Monday Evenings beginning November 6, 2000 through April 2001. All present voting "Aye".



19037 ADOPT A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF THE HAYS COUNTY RAINWATER COLLECTION INCENTIVE PROGRAM [T1-346]

Commissioner Burnett spoke of committee created to put together a tax incentive program to promote rainwater collection and reduce our reliance on groundwater. Hays County is the first county in the State to partake in this. The resolution will be provided to CAMPO and other counties that are looking at this. Environmental Health Director and Committee Member Allen Walther spoke of involvement by others and leadership role by Hays County. He believes we will all benefit by this program which protects and preserves the aquifers. They hope to be the primary resource for rainwater harvesting. Immediate benefits will be a \$100 fee reimbursement for new development, a property tax reduction (to be determined by CAD based on price information of system), and an opportunity for reduction in fire insurance rates (apprx 10-15%). Hays County is requesting the legislature to amend the tax code to exempt sales tax on rainwater collection systems equipment and supplies. They are also working to establish a Water Pollution Control Loan Fund Linked Deposit Program which would allow a lower interest rate (usually 2% below market) for loans financing rainwater collection system.

TYPICAL SAVINGS for a new system valued at \$10,000:	Permit fee rebate from Hays County	\$ 100
	\$10,000 system X \$2.30/\$100 evaluation	\$ 230
	Savings from sales tax 8.25%	\$ 825
	Savings from "Linked Deposit Program" (2% interest reduction on a 5 yr note)	<u>\$ 565</u>
	TOTAL SAVINGS	\$1,720

Allen Walther made a video presentation and spoke of rainwater collection system at the County Extension Office, Dripping Springs Library system, Sam Davis' personal rainwater system, Sunset Canyon Pottery system, and other rainwater systems throughout the county. Sam Davis spoke of his rainwater system which is used to water his horse, fish ponds, and landscaping. [T1-760] Mike Tessaro spoke of his personal rainwater system (sole source of his household use water) - he spoke of water being real clean - he currently has on hand 8,000 gallons (2 month supply). [T1-810] Nora Mullarkey (LCRA) spoke of meeting with Commissioner Burnett regarding rainwater harvesting - she has been impressed with his work on this program - she spoke of Hays County being on the leading edge of this and she commended the county regarding this. Commissioner Burnett spoke of LCRA offering to help sponsor a workshop to educate realtors, lenders, and installers so they can educate the populace about this type of program so that we can get more people on rainwater systems. Bailey Barton, Board of Directors of the Edwards Aquifer Conservation District and Committee Member, spoke of his initial concern being that this would keep recharge out of the Edwards aquifer but after discussions with technical people he is convinced that that is not the case. He stated that water that goes through recharge is not the most efficient way to get water into peoples homes – you lose a lot through runoff, evaporation, and evapo--transpiration. Mr. Barton spoke of economics of water is a very important concern of the Edwards Aquifer Authority and one of the issues that has come up time and time again on the board is whether or not we should have to pump water great distances to provide water to citizens in the most northern part of our region or whether we might have to pump water back into the aquifer in order to keep our springs flowing. They support the resolution. Commissioner Burnett spoke of seminar he attended regarding water conservation and he introduced an installer Jess Reich. [T1-910] Mr. Reich spoke of sources of water - he spoke of getting a cleaner form of water by rainwater collection – allows one less straw in the glass that we are all worried about - requires less energy than that required by a water well. He encouraged the incentive programs. Commissioner Burnett introduced Jeff Caldwell with a rainwater collection system. [T1-972] Jeff Caldwell spoke of it being a viable water system - he has had to have water hauled in (from Volunteer Fire Dept) because he has an A/C that uses water which he plans to change out. He advised that 1 inch of rain supplies him with 1 month of water. [T1-1005] Sam Davis read a letter in the Nat'l Geographic magazine regarding water problems throughout the world - he thanked the court for this resolution. [T1-1030] Elizabeth Sumter spoke of having talked with the CAD regarding evaluation of rainwater collection systems and they advised

that they do not value rainwater collection systems separately in terms of a home as a whole (no added value), therefore she feels like that valuation process is questionable. She stated that in terms of effective taxation, we can affect county taxes but we cannot affect school taxes or city taxes so that number is a little well blown because she does not feel the schools will allow that funding to disappear. She spoke of exemptions given to one population which would have to be paid by others and it seems like we already have an aggressive rainwater collection happening without an incentive program. Why go through the process of administering a program that probably isn't going to benefit us in any great way? Mrs. Sumter feels like there are other ways to protect our groundwater systems by funding the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District and supporting them in the legislature (it is currently a temporary district and needs to be made a permanent district through legislation). She does not feel like we have given them the kind of support they need – they have the ability to affect our groundwater quality and supply much more than this incentive program. [T1-1105] Commissioner Molenaar advised that the CAD does tax rainwater collection system at the value it adds to the home. He spoke of trying to get people on water wells to switch to rainwater collection or other water sources to relieve use of the aquifer. Allen Walther spoke of fee issue and he hopes the school districts will be receptive to this exemption – we need to develop sustainable water sources to make sure we protect the value of our property. Commissioner Burnett spoke of having discussed this with some members of the school districts and they are encouraged by this – how can you afford not to do this - we need to encourage conservation at every level. Judge Powers advised that he will be presenting this process to all the Mayors at their next meeting. [T1-1169] Morgan Little stated that he is absolutely in support of rainwater collection - he is not impressed with the incentive operation provided. He spoke of cost to retro-fit existing structures and need for more of an incentive (25-35% recovery would be needed).

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Commissioner Burnett spoke of limited authority by Senate Bill 1 – we are not like the City of Austin or City of San Marcos where we could rebate fees from water or wastewater. He stated that he would appreciate any input. [T1-1216] Sam Davis spoke of serious water conditions - residents could put some kind of rainwater collection system in and it would benefit everyone. He feels like it is a worthwhile incentive - this is a work in progress - it will ease the strain on our aquifer and will protect and secure our future. It is another management tool requiring little or no bureaucracy to implement. He sees no downside to this program and he would call this a “tax exemption” instead of a “tax rebate” and he fully supports it. Commissioner Burnett stated that this will benefit everyone - he read a quote from the Austin American Statesmen made by Senator Buster Brown (Chairman of the Senate Natural Resource Committee): The plan is what State Lawmakers had in mind when they drafted comprehensive order legislation” “The intention of this bill was to cause things to happen exactly like what’s going on in Hays County. We need people thinking and being creative about how to conserve water”. Commissioner Burnett stated that Buster Brown is the author of Senate Bill 1 and when something comes out of the Senate and is titled number 1, it is the number 1 priority in the State of Texas. It is retroactive to people who have already installed a system. Judge Powers spoke in support of rainwater collection and he commended those who were involved in preparing this program. Commissioner Molenaar spoke of rainwater collection systems incorporated in our subdivision rules in 1996 and our efforts to put this into Senate Bill 1. Allen Walther advised that applications and exemption forms will be available at the Environmental Heath and on the county website - they will supply a list of vendors and suppliers, as well as the Texas Water Development Board’s publication. A motion was made by Commissioner Burnett, seconded by Commissioner Molenaar to adopt resolution forming the Rainwater Collection Incentive Program, effective immediately, and to forward the resolution to CAPCO and ACOG and send similar resolutions to all municipalities and school districts within Hays County to follow our lead and create a blanket exemption package. All present voting “Aye”.

**A RESOLUTION OF HAYS COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS COURT FORMING THE
RAINWATER COLLECTION INCENTIVE PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, Hays County is one of the fastest growing counties in Texas and is witnessing ever increasing challenges to our limited water supplies; and

WHEREAS, Hays County Commissioners' Court recognizes that rainwater collection can provide a valuable and meaningful positive impact on long-term water availability for all county residents; and

WHEREAS, rainwater collection offers many benefits to users including: great tasting drinking water, reduced groundwater demands, savings in cost for water, electricity, and water softener expenses, reduced salt discharges into the soil, limiting runoff while reducing storm water pollution; fire protection, and peace of mind; and

WHEREAS, to ensure quantifiable results Hays County adopts the following "Qualification Criteria": Hays County Application Approval, Minimum storage capacity of 2,500 gallons, Annual application and approval for tax exemption, Sunlight restrictive design, and Insect proof construction; and

WHEREAS, Hays County Commissioners Court urges all other taxing entities to approve similar orders in recognition of universal concerns for protecting our natural resources and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Hays County requests the State Legislature amend the Tax Code to exempt from sales tax, rainwater collection equipment, and to allow for a five year review of rainwater collection equipment for property tax exemption.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED THAT HAYS COUNTY ADOPTS THE RAINWATER COLLECTION INCENTIVE PROGRAM PROVIDING A \$100 DEVELOPMENT FEE REBATE AND PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION EQUIVALENT TO 100% OF THE VALUE OF THE COLLECTION SYSTEM AS DETERMINED BY THE CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT.

ADOPTED BY THE HAYS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT ON THIS THE 3RD DAY OF OCTOBER, 2000.



HAYS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT MINUTES



OCTOBER 3, 2000

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DISCUSSION OF A PROGRAM USING INMATES OF COUNTY JAIL TO WORK ON THE COUNTY ROADS, BRIDGES, OR OTHER PROJECTS [T1-1390]

Commissioner Carter stated that with a sense of careful custodianship of public trust and funds, Hays County can offer opportunities to low risk jail inmates to work off some of their time, while helping society, learning skills, and being productive. Building self-worth by developing work ethic has helped in other counties to rehabilitate some

inmates, while improving the environment of the county and saving significant sums for the taxpayer. She spoke of other counties using this program to keep county roads clean. She spoke of inmate programs used to clean roadway, clean cars, remodel county buildings, and recycling. She recognized Suzanne Williams (Pct. 2 Office Administrator). Suzanne spoke of living in a county that has a successful inmate work program. She spoke of program she saw and how the inmates seemed to have pride in what they were doing. Some inmates refurbish old computers that are supplied to schools, saving school tax money. Comal County's recycling center, which is run by inmates, recycles leaves and branches into mulch. She feels like it is a win win situation. Commissioner Carter spoke of money that can be saved – Comal County has saved over \$200,000. Ray Hilburn spoke in support of such a program - he spoke of giving inmates skills that would allow them to better themselves. He spoke of study by TDC in support of inmate work programs. [T1-1565] Chief Deputy Sheriff Sherman Brodbeck spoke of Hays County having an inmate work program for quite some time - it is better seeing inmates doing something for the community and they are not opposed to that. They have utilized inmates in demolition and remodeling of county buildings and other projects. The programs they have in place in the jail have been very productive and rewarding (GED program, etc.). Commissioner Molenaar spoke of research he has done regarding inmates that have already saved the county over \$650,000 in various projects (renovating buildings & cleanup projects) since 1996. He has spoken with Ray Castillo (CSR Director) regarding use of CSR people (people on probation/Community Service Restitution) and he advised that they have provided cleanup services to the tune of \$61,917.61 just for FY2000. Commissioner Molenaar spoke of other organizations that have provided cleanup on roads in Hays County. He spoke of personnel needed to supervise the inmates (which requires funding) and he is not in favor of 1 man overseeing 8 inmates as is being done in Comal County. Commissioner Carter spoke of CSR people having jobs that make them unable to provide services during the week. She spoke of neighborhood programs providing cleanup services. Chief Deputy Sheriff Ramsay Garza spoke of small percentage of inmates that would be able to work and an even smaller amount that would volunteer for this work. Judge Powers stated that he appreciates Commissioner Carter's efforts and what the Sheriff's Dept. is currently doing. Commissioner Carter stated that other counties do not use Peace Officers to supervise inmates - the Road Dept. uses personnel that has received jailers education. Capt. Sam Williams (Hays County Sheriff's Dept.) spoke of State law that addresses these issues – he spoke of jail standards and commission on law enforcement – corrections officers must be commissioned through the Sheriff's Dept.

COURT WAS ADJOURNED.

MINUTES APPROVED IN OPEN COURT ON THE 10th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2000.

JAMES L. POWERS, COUNTY JUDGE
H A Y S COUNTY, TEXAS

LEE CARLISLE, COUNTY CLERK
H A Y S COUNTY, TEXAS

