

HAYS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT MINUTES



MAY 1, 2020

STATE OF TEXAS \*  
COUNTY OF HAYS \*

ON THIS THE 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF MAY A.D., 2020, IN THE HAYS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 111 E. SAN ANTONIO ST., SUITE 301, SAN MARCOS, TEXAS, THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF HAYS COUNTY, TEXAS, MET IN SPECIAL MEETING. THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT, TO-WIT:

RUBEN BECERRA	COUNTY JUDGE
DEBBIE GONZALES INGALSBE	COMMISSIONER, PCT. 1
MARK JONES	COMMISSIONER, PCT. 2
LON A. SHELL	COMMISSIONER, PCT. 3
WALT SMITH	COMMISSIONER, PCT. 4
ELAINE H. CÁRDENAS	COUNTY CLERK

**Clerk's Note: For complete transcript go to Hays County Website  
<https://hayscountytexas.com/commissioners-court/court-video/>  
Transcript can be translated into any language through Google.com.**

WITH ELAINE H. CÁRDENAS, COUNTY CLERK, BEING PRESENT THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCE THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, THAT IS:

Judge Becerra called the meeting to order.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No comments were made.

**35134      DECLARE AN EMERGENCY PURSUANT TO TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, CH. 111.010(C) FOR SMALL BUSINESS RETENTION PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 381 OF THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE TO ALLOCATE \$500,000 FROM THE GENERAL FUND RESERVES FOR A SMALL BUSINESS RETENTION PROGRAM TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE GREATER SAN MARCOS PARTNERSHIP ALONG WITH OTHERS OF OUR COMMUNITY AND AMEND THE BUDGET ACCORDINGLY.**

Commissioner Shell introduced the item by stating he and Judge Becerra had taken part of a task force that partnered with local Chambers of Commerce. The Greater San Marcos Partnership assisted with organizing surveys to understand the business community at this time and put together the guidelines for the program. Commissioner Shell proposed allocating funds for the proposed small business grant program, with the understanding to approve an agreement in court at a later date. The Commissioners discussed the economic impact Covid-19 has had on businesses. The Court discussed the options of using different funds to allocate towards the program. Marisol Villarreal-Alonzo, Auditor, took part in the discussion as to which account would be best to use for this program. Judge Becerra stated testing should be included along with funds to open businesses. The Court further discussed testing for businesses and the current qualifications by the CDC for someone to receive a test. Mark Kennedy, General Counsel, spoke to the court on the options available for this item to move forward. Commissioner Shell stated that this item was a way to show support to business owners. Judge Becerra spoke on several points in the program that he did not support. He made suggestions to the court for the final draft of the program. The Court is in support of Judge Becerra taking part in the committee to finalize the guidelines for the program. Commissioner Smith stated that he hopes that some of the community partners would create like-minded programs in support of business communities. **A motion was made by Commissioner Shell, seconded by Commissioner Smith to declare an emergency pursuant to Texas Local Government Code, Ch. 111.010(c) for Small Business retention pursuant to Chapter 381 of the Texas Local Government Code to allocate \$500,000 from the General Fund Reserves for a Small Business Retention Program to be administered by the Greater San Marcos Partnership along with others of our community and amend the budget accordingly, and we can come back to approve this agreement and to approve the payment of the funds to the Partnership once the Court has approved on an agreement. All present voted "Aye." MOTION PASSED.**

**35135      DECLARE AN EMERGENCY PURSUANT TO TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, CH. 111.010(C) RELATED TO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE FOLLOWING SOCIAL SERVICES ENTITIES AND THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS; CASA \$10,000, HAYS COUNTY CHILD PROTECTIVE BOARD \$10,000, GREATER SAN MARCOS YOUTH SHELTER \$20,000, SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY CENTER \$20,000, HAYS CALDWELL WOMEN'S**



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MAY 1, 2020

**CENTER \$20,000, AND COMMUNITY ACTION \$20,000, AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF A NEW FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH EACH OF THESE ENTITIES AS PRESENTED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION THE ABOVE MONEY SHALL COME FROM GENERAL FUND RESERVES AND THE BUDGET SHALL BE AMEND WHICH IS THE REASON FOR THE COURTS FINDING UNDER CHAPTER 111 OF THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE.**

The Commissioners and Judge thanked Commissioner Ingalsbe for her work to bring this item to court. Mark Kennedy noted that the County currently holds funding agreements with the mention entities, but will be revised to include the scope of Covid-19. Commissioner Ingalsbe spoke about her conversations with some of the groups. She stated that they were appreciative of additional funding. Some groups stated they are seeing a decline at the moment, but are anticipating a surge of services once schools open and people return to doctors' office for regular visits, as these are common referral sites. **A motion was made by Commissioner Ingalsbe, seconded by Commissioner Jones to declare an emergency pursuant to Texas Local Government Code, Ch. 111.010(c) related to financial assistance for the following Social Services entities and the following amounts; CASA \$10,000, Hays County Child Protective Board \$10,000, Greater San Marcos Youth Shelter \$20,000, Southside Community Center \$20,000, Hays Caldwell Women's Center \$20,000, and Community Action \$20,000, and authorize the execution of a new funding agreement with each of these entities as presented in Executive Session the above money shall come from General Fund Reserves and the budget shall be amend which is the reason for the courts finding under Chapter 111 of the Texas Local Government Code. All present voted "Aye." MOTION PASSED.**

**Clerk's Note:** Executive Session began at 3:33 p.m. and resumed back into open court at 3:50 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 551.071 AND 551.087 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE: CONSULTATION WITH COUNSEL AND DELIBERATION REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH PROJECT RECOIL. POSSIBLE DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION MAY FOLLOW IN OPEN COURT.**

No action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Judge Becerra, seconded by Commissioner Jones to adjourn court at 4:47 p.m.

I, ELAINE H. CÁRDENAS, COUNTY CLERK and EXOFFICIO CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT, do hereby certify that the foregoing contains a true and accurate record of the proceedings had by the Hays County Commissioners' Court on May 1, 2020.



*Elaine H. Cardenas*

ELAINE H. CÁRDENAS, COUNTY CLERK AND EXOFFICIO CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF HAYS COUNTY, TEXAS

