

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF GAINES
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THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF GAINES COUNTY MET IN A REGULAR MEETING ON AUGUST 13, 2025 AT 9:00 A.M. THE COUNTY JUDGE CINDY THERWHANGER PRESIDING AND THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE COURT IN ATTENDANCE.

BRIAN ROSSEN	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #1
JOSH ELDER	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #2
DAVID MURPHREE	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #3
<u>BIZ HOUSTON</u>	<u>COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #4</u>

<u>TERRI BERRY</u>	<u>COUNTY CLERK</u>
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Regular Meeting:

Call to Order - Judge Cindy Therwhanger

Invocation

Pledge - United States and Texas

1. Public Comment: Anyone wishing to address the Court during Public Comments is required to register your name on the registry prior to the meeting. Speakers may only address items listed on the current agenda and are limited to three (3) minutes speaking time. The Court cannot deliberate or act on matters not listed on the agenda.

None

2. To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action on routine administrative items:
- a. Minutes from last month's meetings:
 - i. July 2, 2025, July 16, 2025, and July 30, 2025
 - b. Payroll payables
 - c. Accounts payable, fund transfers and budget amendments
 - d. Transfer, sale or destruction of Gaines County Surplus under Local Government Code §263.152.
 - e. Contract Renewals:
 - i. HG Creative LLC - \$2,400 – Golf Course website (Mitch Shain).
(this item was tabled)

Commissioner Rosson made a motion to approve the routine administrative items as presented. Commissioner Houston seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

3. Update on status of project at the Gaines County Golf Course.
Scott Nichols, Golf Course Superintendent, stated the irrigation system has been installed, Sod should be in and ready to be laid on the 25th and would need 4 installers and help from each precinct. He stated he would purchase a starter fertilizer at an approximate cost of \$1,200-\$1,400. He stated the progress with all the projects is good.
4. Meet with Chamber of Commerce Director Shawntay Pettyjohn to report on Freedom Fest.

Shawntay Pettyjohn, Chamber of Commerce Director stated the Freedom Fest was a success and stated there needs to be better communication with 1st responders and vendors next year and the need for a 2nd sound system. She stated the delay in the fireworks and the veterans ceremony and the band performance not happening was due to the rain. She thanked the commissioners for all their support.

5. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on requests from the Chamber of Commerce for Fall & Winter events.

Commissioner Houston made a motion to approve the use of the Courthouse square and grounds for the Fall event, October 11th and Jingle Mingle, December 6th to be held by the Chamber of Commerce. Commissioner Murphree seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

6. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on a request from Justice of the Peace 1 for use of technology funds account.

Commissioner Houston made a motion to approve a request from Justice of the Peace 1 for the use of the technology funds for upgrades, keyboards, mouse, part time clerk computer, IPAD, 3 scanners, colored printer, 4 monitors, 3 headsets at a cost of \$6,569.16. Commissioner Rosson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Quarterly Interest Update report presented by Michael Lord, Treasurer.

Michael Lord, Treasurer presented the quarterly Interest report, stating the interest earned at the end of the 3rd quarter was \$1,488,261.23.

8. Update on Blue Cross Blue Shield and Covenant discussions.

Michael Lord, Treasurer stated the agreement between BCBS and Covenant was still in place with no changes and the Wellness bus would be here September 3rd and 4th.

9. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on adding an E-Tickets system for the Gaines County Sheriff's Office.

Joe Vest, Sheriff did a presentation regarding the need for adding an E-Ticket system for the Sheriff's Office, stating this would cut down on process time and cost. He presented 3 different companies that offer this. Sheriff Vest stated he thought Peace Maker would suit the needs at a cost of \$11,000 with a 4 year subscription and at that time they would replace the equipment. This item was table until Sheriff Vest gathers more information and presents to the court for approval.

10. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on the purchase of the program ERAD Financial Crimes Investigative Solution for the Gaines County Sheriff's Office.

Commissioner Elder made a motion to approve the purchase of the ERAD program for the Sheriff's office as presented by Joe Vest, Sheriff. Commissioner Rosson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

11. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action to Order of Election for the November General Election for County Officers.

Commissioner Elder made a motion to approve the order of Elections, with 11 propositions for November 4th. Commissioner Houston seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

12. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on optional fees for calendar year 2026 for the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.

Commissioner Houston made a motion to approve no changes to the optional fees for calendar year 2026 for the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles as presented. Commissioner Rosson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

13. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on the Gaines County Courthouse Emergency Preparedness Plan.

Commissioner Houston made a motion to approve the changes in the Gaines County Courthouse Emergency Preparedness Plan as presented. Commissioner Elder seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

14. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on authorizing the County Judge to sign a request for consent for Operating ROW and Easement Agreement due to a sale of Sabinaw Energy Operating, LLC.

Commissioner Murphee made a motion to deny signing the request for consent for operating ROW and Easement Agreement due to the sale of Sabinaw Energy Operating, LLC. Commissioner Rosson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

15. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on entering into an agreement for Opioids Settlement.

Commissioner Elder made a motion to approve an agreement for Opioids Settlement with Alvogen, Amneal, Apotex, Hikma, Indivior, Mylan, Sun and Zydus, and authorizing Esmeralda Felan, Auditor to set up an open opioid fund line. Commissioner Rosson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

16. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on individual contracts for juvenile residential services.

- a. Garza County Regional Juvenile Center (Cornerstone)
- b. Grayson County
- c. Taylor County
- d. Pegasus Schools
- e. El Paso County
- f. Canyon State Academy (Rite of Passage)
- g. Rockdale Youth Academy – Short-term
- h. Rockdale Youth Academy – Long-term
- i. Hays County

Commissioner Rosson made a motion to approve the contracts for juvenile probation residential services for the following:

- a. Garza County Regional Juvenile Center (Cornerstone)
- b. Grayson County
- c. Taylor County
- d. Pegasus Schools
- e. El Paso County
- f. Canyon State Academy (Rite of Passage)
- g. Rockdale Youth Academy – Short-term
- h. Rockdale Youth Academy – Long-term
- i. Hays County

Commissioner Houston seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

17. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on individual contracts for juvenile counseling services.

- i. Nikki Russell Counseling Services
- j. Rise Up Counseling Services (Shalea Addison)
- k. Matthew M. Davis, PLLC

Commissioner Elder made a motion to approve the contracts for juvenile counseling services for the following:

- a. Nikki Russell Counseling Services
- b. Rise Up Counseling Services (Shalea Addison)
- c. Matthew M. Davis, PLLC

Commissioner Houston seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

18. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on Resolution 25-005, for TxDOT to represent Gaines County Airport in preparing an Airport Layout Plan (ALP) Update with Narrative.

- a. Letter of Intent
- b. Resolution 25-005
- c. Designation of Sponsor's Authorized Representative
- d. Certification of Project Funds

Commissioner Rosson made a motion to approve TxDot representing Gaines County on a Resolution 25-005, Letter of Intent, Designation of Sponsor's Authorized Representative and Certification of Project Funds in preparing an Airport Layout Plan (ALP) at a cost of \$3,340.00. Commissioner Houston seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

19. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on authorizing the County Judge to sign a warranty deed for land in Precinct 3.

Commissioner Rosson made a motion to authorize Judge Therwhanger to sign a Warranty Deed for 1.02 acre tract of land out of the N part of Sec 18 Blk. C-44 PSL in Precinct 3. Commissioner Houston seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

20. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on a quote from B-C Company, Inc. for replacing the Beacon at the Gaines County Airport. Total Cost: \$26,123.90

Commissioner Elder made a motion to approve a quote from B-C Company, Inc. for replacing the Beacon at the Gaines County Airport at a cost of \$26,123.90. Commissioner Houston seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

21. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on a quote from KW Construction for repairs and upgrades to the Gaines County Airport fence. Total Cost: \$49,260.00

Commissioner Elder made a motion to approve a quote from KW Construction for repairs and upgrades to the Gaines County Airport fence at a cost of \$49,260.00. Commissioner Rosson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

22. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action to go out for bids for FY 2026 contracts for road building / repair materials, including but not necessarily limited to sand, gravel, caliche, rock (all sizes), and asphalt (all types and grades), as well as prices for hauling said materials to storage locations in the County, set a date of September 24, 2025 for opening bids.

Commissioner Rosson made a motion to go out for bids for FY 2026 contracts for road building/repair materials and prices for hauling materials to storage locations with bids turned in by September 23rd and opened September 24th. Commissioner Murphree seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

23. To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action on subdivision application(s), take note of known exceptions, consider any requests for variances.

None

24. To consider, discuss, and take any action on current road crossing request(s).

None

25. Discuss any other items pertaining to County Business; for information purposes only, no action may be taken on these items except to schedule them for a future agenda.

Judge Therwhanger

First draft of Proposed Budget-August 15th

4-H Live stock Horse Show-Aug 16th

Veterans Trade Days-Civic Center-August 16th

TAC Legislative Conference-August 27-29

Seagraves health Department Health Clinic-September 5th

IT Department

All phones are installed and numbers are forwarded with caller ID being an issue on some. Needing to update some computers to Windows 11

Cyber Security online course is due August 30th

Auditor

The contract for county credit cards is with City Bank however, it is being cancelled and we are now going to use US Bank effective September 1st. He and her staff will collect old credit cards and provide replacement cards to everyone.

Commissioner Rosson

Jeannie Marrow will be preparing a deed with 5 acres of land the county owns to be sold. Caroline McKinney contacted him stated she is resigning and would get him a resignation letter and he recommended Charla Scott to replace her. He stated paving is completed and is getting ready to patch.

Commissioner Elder

He stated paving has been completed and doing routine maintenance.

Commissioner Houston

Getting ready for the horse show and doing routine maintenance.

26. Budget workshop – the following item(s) provide a framework for discussions but should not be considered to limit discussions on other budget issues that may arise.

a. Review of EMS Financials

Carly French, EMS Director presented a spreadsheet and current status of the EMS funds. Judge Therwhanger stated the \$350,000.00 requested had previously been approved in budget. (see attached)

b. Fire Department Report / City budget request

D A Dagley, Fire Chief presented status of expenses, staffing and budget items. Commissioner Houston made a motion to approve a new administrative assistant position in the amount of \$7,404.00, with the County paying half the cost at \$3,702.00. Commissioner Murphree seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

c. District Attorney budget request

The budget is at a \$26,406.16 deficit from last year and was approved.

d. Salary Review / Stipends / Supplement Increases

Esmeralda Felan, Auditor stated after reviewing funds and no new revenue that there were appropriate funds to allow a 2.5% raise for all full time and part time employees, longevity would increase each year with a 30 year cap, stipends would not increase and there would be supplement increases.

e. Proposed Budget Review

No new revenue

f. Discuss the proposed tax rates to fund the Tax Year 2025/FY 2026 General Fund (GF) and Flood Control / Lateral Road (FC/LR) budgets.

No revenue rate is .52355 which is a decrease from last year. No action taken

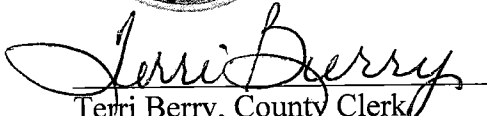
27. Adjourn;

Commissioner Rosson made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. Commissioner Elder seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55a.m.

I, Terri Berry, Gaines County Clerk, attest that the foregoing is a true and accurate accounting of the Commissioners Court's authorized proceedings for August 13 , 2025.




Terri Berry, County Clerk
Clerk of Commissioner's Court
Gaines County, Texas



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THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS’ COURT OF GAINES COUNTY MET IN A REGULAR MEETING ON AUGUST 25,2025 AT 9:00 A.M. THE COUNTY JUDGE CINDY THERWHANGER PRESIDING AND THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE COURT IN ATTENDANCE.

BRIAN ROSSEN	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #1
JOSH ELDER	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #2
DAVID MURPHREE	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #3
BIZ HOUSTON	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #4

<u>TERRI BERRY</u>	<u>COUNTY CLERK</u>
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9:00 am **Regular Meeting:**

Call to Order-Judge Cindy Therwhanger

Invocation

Pledge-United States and Texas

1. Public Comment: Anyone wishing to address the Court during Public Comments is required to register your name on the registry prior to the meeting. Speakers may only address items listed on the current agenda and are limited to three (3) minutes speaking time. The Court cannot deliberate or act on matters not listed on the agenda.

Marlin Cater, stated the need to approve having fireworks at the end of Home Football Games with Randy and Rikki Jones donating the fireworks.
2. To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action on routine administrative items:
 - a. Payroll payables
 - b. Accounts payable, fund transfers and budget amendments
 - c. Transfer, sale or destruction of Gaines County Surplus property under Local Government Code §263.152:
 - d. Contract Renewals:
 - i. Control Consultants & Services, Inc. - \$2,255.00 annually – Jail web preventative maintenance services

Commissioner Rosson made a motion to approve the routine administrative items and the contract with Control Consultants & Services, Inc. for the jail web preventative maintenance services in the amount of \$2,255.00 monthly. Commissioner Houston seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)
3. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on requests for golf tournaments.

No action taken as some tournaments have been cancelled
4. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on a request from the Athletic Booster Club to have fireworks at home football games.

Commissioner Murphree made a motion to approve the Athletic Booster Club to have fireworks at home football games. Commissioner Rosson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
5. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on approving a contract for inmate housing services with Garza County.

Commissioner Houston made a motion to approve a contract for inmate housing with Garza County as presented. Commissioner Rosson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)
6. Introduce the appointed Republican Chair for Gaines County.

Stacie Via has been appointed by the state to serve as the Republican Chair for Gaines County. No action taken

7. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on the following election items:

- a. To consider the appointment of the Election Judge of the Central Count Station for a two-year term.
- b. Early Voting Ballot Board Judges for a two-year term
- c. Signature Verification Board Judges for a two-year term
- d. Vote Center Judges for a two-year term

Commissioner Houston made a motion to approve a two year term for the Election Judge of the Central Count Station, Early Voting Ballot Board Judges, Signature Verification Board Judges and Vote Center Judges as presented. Commissioner Elder seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

8. To consider, discuss, or take any necessary action on resolution for acceptance of the Indigent Defense Grant in the amount of \$24,910.

Commissioner Rosson made a motion to approve a resolution for acceptance of the Indigent Defense Grant in the amount of \$24,910.00. Commissioner Elder seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

9. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on individual contracts for juvenile residential services.

- a. Randall County Youth Center of the High Plains - detention and residential services
- b. Bell County

Commissioner Elder made a motion to approve individual contracts for juvenile residential services with Bell County and residential and detention services with Randall County Youth Center of High Plains. Commissioner Houston seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (see attached)

10. To consider, discuss and take any necessary action on accepting a donation from the Veterans Trade Days event. Total donation: \$275.00

Commissioner Elder made a motion to accept a donation from the Veterans Trade Days event in the amount of \$275.00. Commissioner Rosson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

11. To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action on subdivision application(s), take note of known exceptions, consider any requests for variances.

None

12. To consider, discuss, and take any action on current road crossing request(s).

None

13. Discuss any other items pertaining to County Business; for information purposes only, no action may be taken on these items except to schedule them for a future agenda,

Judge Therwhanger

TAC Legislative Conference-August 27-29

Cut-off for payables-August 29th, Last day to take Cyber Security Training-August 30

The Courthouse will be closed Monday, September 1st for labor Day

County Wellness Testing-September 3rd & 4th

September 10th meeting: Adopt Budget/Tax Rate, Elected Official Salary Hearing, Public Hearing on Proposed Budget

September 11th at 8:00-911 Remembrance Ceremony

TxDot Update-Should have report end of September or beginning of October and set up meeting regarding issues the county has presented.

Providing an office space for Deborah Haiduk, Substance Abuse Counselor, needs to be placed on the upcoming agenda for approval.

The next regular meeting is Wednesday, September 10th and the deadline for agenda items is Wednesday, September 3rd.

Commissioner Rosson

Routine maintenance

Commissioner Elder

Routine maintenance and the Sod for the Golf Course will be in tomorrow and he needs the hands from each precinct to help at 8:00a.m.

Commissioner Murphree

Routine maintenance

Commissioner Houston

Routine maintenance and getting ready for the rodeo

14. Budget Workshop: the following item(s) provide a framework for discussions but should not be considered to limit discussions on other budget issues that may arise.

- a. Discuss the proposed tax rates to fund the Tax Year 2025/Fiscal Year 2026 General and Flood Control/Lateral Road Maintenance and Operation budgets; take action as necessary.

Esmeralda Felan, Auditor proposed accepting the below no new revenue tax rate of .523555. All Commissioners voted to accept the no new revenue tax rate of .523555 to fund the Tax Year 2025/Fiscal year 2026 General and Flood Control /Lateral Road Maintenance and Operation budgets. This will be approved at the September 10th Commissioners Court Budget meeting.

- b. Consider and adopt any necessary policy changes to be included in the final Budget book.

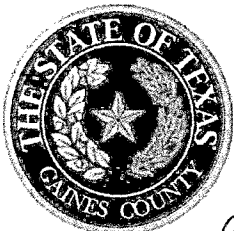
Esmeralda Felan, Auditor stated this item is not ready to be presented and would be presented and approved at the September 10th Commissioners Court Budget meeting.

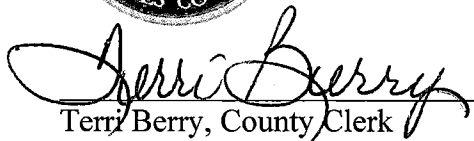
15. Adjourn;

Commissioner Rosson made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. Commissioner Elder seconded the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:27a.m.

I, Terri Berry, Gaines County Clerk, attest that the foregoing is a true and accurate accounting of the Commissioners Court's authorized proceedings for August 25, 2025.




Terri Berry, County Clerk
Clerk of Commissioner's Court
Gaines County, Texas

