



MINUTES

TARRANT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

Minutes of Commissioners Court, Special Term – REGULAR Meeting
Thursday, September 12, 2024

All items have been so ordered. Official documents on file with the County Clerk.

On Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 10:00 AM, the Honorable Commissioners Court of Tarrant County, Texas met for Special Term – Regular Meeting in the Commissioners Courtroom at the G.K. Maenius Administration Building in the City of Fort Worth.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Commissioners Court Clerk having called roll and a quorum being presented, Tim O'Hare, County Judge, called the meeting to order with members present:

PRESENT

Presiding - County Judge - Tim O'Hare
Commissioner Precinct 2 - Alisa Simmons
Commissioner Precinct 3 - Gary Fickes
Commissioner Precinct 4 Manny Ramirez

ABSENT

Commissioner Precinct 1 - Roy Brooks

and County Clerk Mary Louise Nicholson, represented by her duly appointed Deputy April Hanks, when the following orders were made.

Commissioner Simmons attended the meeting virtually.

II. INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Chaplain Wesley McDuffie from the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office.

III. PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES AND THE STATE OF TEXAS

IV. AGENDA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Item V, C3 – withdrawn.

V. REPORTS AND BUSINESS

A. Elections Administration (Clint Ludwig)

1. **Court Order Number: 143832 - Consideration of Early Voting Sites for the General Election on November 5, 2024**

Motion made by Commissioner Precinct 4 – Manny Ramirez and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 2 – Alisa Simmons to Approve the 51 voting sites that the Election Administrator recommended.
Passed 4-1 (Presiding - County Judge – Tim O'Hare); Abstain: (None); Absent: (None)

Commissioner Brooks entered the meeting virtually at 10:54 a.m. and stepped away from the meeting at 10:56 a.m.
Commissioner Simmons stepped away from the meeting at 11:13 a.m.
Commissioner Brooks and Commissioner Simmons returned to the meeting virtually at 2:04 p.m.

Sixty-nine public participants spoke regarding the early voting sites for the General Election. One hundred and eighty-seven public participants wished to have their comments regarding early voting sites.

Court recessed at 11:40 a.m. and reconvened at 11:50 a.m.

Court recessed at 1:15 p.m. and reconvened at 1:26 p.m.

Court recessed at 2:27 p.m. and reconvened at 2:35 p.m.

B. County Judge and Commissioners

1. Precinct 3 (Commissioner Fickes)

- a) **Court Order Number: 143833** - Consideration to Rescind Court Order #143828 Related to the Approval of the Amendment to Tarrant County Facilities Use Policy and Consideration of the Reinstatement of the Tarrant County Facilities Use Policy Approved by the Commissioners Court through Court Order #143472

Motion made by Commissioner Precinct 3 – Gary Fickes and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 4 – Manny Ramirez to Rescind Court Order #143828 Related to the Approval of the Amendment to Tarrant County Facilities Use Policy and Reinstatement the Tarrant County Facilities Use Policy Approved by the Commissioners Court through Court Order #143472
 Passed 3-2 (Commissioner Precinct 1 – Roy Brooks, Commissioner Precinct 2 – Alisa Simmons); Abstain: (None); Absent: (None)

Seven public participants spoke regarding the Tarrant County facilities use policy. Thirty-one public participants wished to have their comments read regarding the Tarrant County facilities use policy.

C. Facilities Management (Michael Amador)

- 1. **Court Order Number: 143834** - Consideration of Request from Battleground Texas Engagement Fund to Access Tarrant County Facilities to Register Voters

Motion made by Presiding - County Judge – Tim O'Hare and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 4 – Manny Ramirez to **Reject** Request from Battleground Texas Engagement Fund to Access Tarrant County Facilities to Register Voters
 Passed 4-1 (Commissioner Precinct 2 – Alisa Simmons); Abstain: (None); Absent: (None)

Eight public participants spoke on items C1, C2, and C3 regarding access to Tarrant County facilities to register voters.
 Sixty-one public participants wished to have their comments read regarding the items C1, C2, and C3 requesting access to Tarrant County facilities to register voters.

- 2. **Court Order Number: 143835** - Consideration of Request from Jolt Initiative to Access Tarrant County Facilities to Register Voters

Motion made by Presiding - County Judge – Tim O'Hare and seconded by Commissioner Precinct 4 – Manny Ramirez to **Reject** Request from Jolt Initiative to Access Tarrant County Facilities to Register Voters
 Passed 4-1 (Commissioner Precinct 2 – Alisa Simmons); Abstain: (None); Absent: (None)

- 3. Consideration of Request from Texas Freedom Network to Access Tarrant County Facilities to Register Voters

Item was withdrawn.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS

VII. CLOSED MEETING

A. Pending or Contemplated Litigation

B. Real Estate Matters

C. Personnel Matters

D. Advice of Counsel

1. Legal Advice Regarding Facilities Use Policy

2. Legal Advice Regarding Early Voting Locations for the General Election on November 5, 2024

E. Security Related Issues

F. Contract Deliberations

G. Economic Development Prospects

XVI. COMMISSIONERS COURT RECONVENED

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioners Court was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

APPROVED BY: _____
Tim O'Hare, County Judge

SUBMITTED BY: Mary Louise Nicholson, County Clerk

BY: _____
April Hanks, Deputy