



THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Vern L. Lyssy
County Judge

John Martinez, Commissioner, Precinct 1

Ronald Best, Commissioner, Precinct 2

Joel Behrens, Commissioner, Precinct 3

Gary Reese, Commissioner, Precinct 4

MEETING MINUTES

The Commissioners Court of Calhoun County, Texas will meet on Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at 10:00 AM in the Commissioners' Courtroom in the County Courthouse at 211 S. Ann Street, Suite 104, Port Lavaca, Calhoun County, Texas 77979.

AGENDA

1. Call Meeting to Order.

Meeting was called to order by Judge Vern Lyssy at 10:00am

2. Invocation.

Commissioner Ronald Best

3. Pledge of Allegiance.

US Flag: Commissioner Reese

Texas Flag: Commissioner Behrens

4. Discussion of Public Matters and Public Participation.

Bill Cathey, introduced himself and explained he was running for Mayor in Seadrift.

Judge Lyssy thanked EMS for the plan they had in place to handle the freeze over the weekend. Dustin Jenkins gave a brief rundown on how they prepare to serve the public in the case of bad weather.

Judge Lyssy recognized Christy Tuazon for her years of service and thanked her for her work.

5. Approve Commissioner Court Minutes.
 - a. January 21, 2026 Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2026 Executive Session Minutes

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 1 John Martinez
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

6. Accept Reports from the following County Offices.
 - a. Justice of the Peace Pct 2 - December, 2025

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 4 Gary Reese
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

7. Consider and take necessary action on budget adjustments.

2025:

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 4 Gary Reese
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

2026:

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 4 Gary Reese
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

8. Approval of Bills and Payroll.

a. MMC Bills:

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 2 Ronald Best
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 4 Gary Reese
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

b. County Bills/Payroll:

2025:

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 2 Ronald Best
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 4 Gary Reese
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

2026:

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 2 Ronald Best
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 4 Gary Reese
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

9. Public Hearing regarding amending the 2025 and 2026 Calhoun County budgets.

Public Hearing opened at 10:10am

Demi Cabrera read the amendments.

Lucy Dio and Judge Lyssy explained the account change for SB22.

Public Hearing closed at 10:17

10. Consider and take necessary action to amend the 2025 and 2026 Calhoun County budgets.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 1 John Martinez
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

11. Hear a presentation from Brent Ortego regarding the 2025 Guadalupe River Delta - McFaddin Family Ranch bird count. (GDR)

Brent Ortego gave short presentation.

Steve Marwitz spoke about the birding festival and the Sea Turtle rescue during the freeze last week.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 2 Ronald Best
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

12. Consider and take necessary action to allow Alex Alvarez to explain the upcoming event, Bulls on the Bay, at the rodeo arena on September 16, 2026 and get permission to sell alcohol at the event. (RB)

The corrected date is September 19, 2026. Alex Alvarez explained the event and the selling of the Alcoholic Beverages.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 1 John Martinez
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

13. Receive and acknowledge the District Attorney's notification of amendments to the 2026 Forfeiture Fund budget pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, including an increase of \$10,500.00 to cover salary supplements and FICA for Christy Dunn, Arnold Hayden, William A. White, and Trevor A. Finster for the period of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, and an additional \$1,000.00 to cover expenditures related to civil citation fees and other qualifying asset-forfeiture expenses. (VLL)

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 4 Gary Reese
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 2 Ronald Best
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

14. Consider and take necessary action on Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust Contract No. 113 – Green Lake Breach Repair Supplement — and authorize the County Judge to sign. (GDR)

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 4 Gary Reese
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 2 Ronald Best
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

15. Consider and take necessary action on Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust Contract No. 123 – King Fisher Park Restroom Project — and authorize the County Judge to sign. (GDR)

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 4 Gary Reese
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 1 John Martinez
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

16. Consider and take necessary action on Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust Contract No. 133 – Bill Sanders Memorial Park Play Ground Addition — and authorize the County Judge to sign. (GDR)

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 4 Gary Reese
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

17. Consider and take necessary action to approve issuing a credit card in the amount of \$5,000.00 for Walter "Lee" Pearson, EMS Training Coordinator. (VLL)

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 2 Ronald Best
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

18. Consider and take necessary action to authorize Texas Water Safari to use Bill Sanders Memorial Park for the finish line for 2026 Texas Water Safari and authorize use of park facilities and overnight camping from June 14 – June 16, 2026. Postponement dates are June 26 – July 2, 2026 and July 10 – 16, 2026. (GDR)

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 2 Ronald Best
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

19. Consider and take necessary action to authorize Commissioner Behrens to sign the 2026 Maintenance Contract with Hurts Wastewater Management for the Precinct 3 septic system. (JMB)

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 4 Gary Reese
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

20. Consider and take necessary action on Enacting an Order Prohibiting Outdoor Burning (Burn Ban) in Calhoun County. (VLL)

pass

21. Consider and take necessary action on Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust Contract No. 125 – Little Chocolate Bayou Park Bridge — and authorize the County Judge to sign. (GDR)

Commissioner Martinez explained this was a project Commissioner David Hall started and he was happy to finish it out.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 2 Ronald Best
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

22. Consider and take necessary action to approve installing stop signs at the intersection of CR 314 and CR 317. CR 314 will have the right of way and CR 317 will be controlled by the stop signs on both sides of CR 314. (JMB)

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 2 Ronald Best
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

23. Consider and take necessary action to accept a donation of the building expansion to the Port O'Connor Library from the Friends of Port O'Connor Library. (GDR)

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 4 Gary Reese
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

24. Consider and take necessary action to appoint Commissioner Behrens as the Court's representative to the Memorial Medical Center Board of Manager's monthly meetings, replacing Commissioner Reese due to scheduling conflict with Commissioner Reese's appointment with the Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission. (GDR)

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 4 Gary Reese
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

25. Consider and take necessary action to authorize Commissioner Reese to sign a quote with Kraftsman Commercial Playground & Water Parks for playground equipment for the Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust Grant, Contract No. 133 - Bill Sanders Memorial Park Playground Addition. (GDR)

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 4 Gary Reese
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 2 Ronald Best
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

26. Accept the 2025 Certificate of Completion for Continuing Education Hours from the District Clerk, Teresa Garcia and enter into Official Records. (VLL)

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 1 John Martinez
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

27. Consider and take necessary action to approve Consulting and GASB 84 Services with StevenLCrain Consulting, LLC for fiscal year 2025 activity and authorize the County Auditor to sign the engagement letter.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 2 Ronald Best
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese

28. Adjourn.

Adjourned at 10:53am

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	County Commissioner Pct 3 Joel Behrens
SECONDER:	County Commissioner Pct 2 Ronald Best
AYES:	County Judge Lyssy, County Commissioner Pct 1 Martinez, County Commissioner Pct 2 Best, County Commissioner Pct 3 Behrens, County Commissioner Pct 4 Reese