

February 1, 2010

The Edwards County Board of Commissioners met with Mica Schnoebelen, Kenneth Dupree and LaVerne Wetzel present. Gina Schuette, County Clerk, was also in attendance.

Chairman Schnoebelen called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Mr. Dupree moved to approve the January 18, 2010 minutes as presented. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

At 9:05 AM, Mr. Dupree requested a 15 minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

The Board resumed at 9:20 AM with no action being taken.

Vouchers were approved and warrants were signed for the following:

County General	\$36,610.26
Road & Bridge	\$13,017.43
Noxious Weed	\$81.06
Employee Benefits	\$51,959.39
County Health	\$5,920.90
Economic Development	\$3,192.12
Special Machinery	\$9,500.00
911 Telephone Tax	\$60.00
911 Wireless Phone Tax	\$50.00
BIO / EPR Grant	\$225.08
Motor Vehicle Special	\$67.13
Total Voucher & Warrants:	\$120,683.37

Richard Neilson, County Works Director, and Bill McGovern, Foley Equipment Generator Sales Representative, joined the meeting.

At 9:30 AM, the Board of Commissioners recessed to the courthouse parking area to attend a demonstration of a portable Caterpillar Olympian Diesel 125 KW, multi voltage three phase Generator.

At 9:45 AM, the Edwards County Board of Commissioners reconvened. A discussion followed and the Board requested Mr. Neilson to obtain further information, therefore the generator issue was tabled and no action was taken at this time.

Mr. Neilson and Mr. McGovern left the meeting.

Connie Oliphant, Edwards County Economic Development Corporation (ECEDC) board member, and Linette Miller, Economic Development Director, joined the meeting.

Ms. Oliphant reported that it is estimated that by June or July of 2010, ECEDC will have exhausted the county's funding amount of \$40,000.00. At that time, ECEDC will have to begin reimbursing the County for the salary and employee benefits involved with the position of the economic development director. Ms. Oliphant advised that ECEDC does have a limited amount of reserve funding and it is their intention to have fund raising events to generate additional revenue.

A discussion followed and it was agreed that when the \$40,000.00 is depleted, at the beginning of each month thereafter, the county clerk's office will send to ECEDC a statement of the estimated payroll expenses for the month and ECEDC will reimburse the county on a monthly basis for the remainder of 2010.

At the request of the Board, Nora Schaller, Deputy County Treasurer, joined the meeting.

The Board inquired about a current update on the pending tax sale. Ms. Schaller responded that there are 17 properties left in the tax sale and if all the paperwork and publications are completed as scheduled, they are tentatively planning to hold the tax sale sometime towards the middle of April 2010.

Following a discussion, Ms. Schaller, Ms. Oliphant and Ms. Miller left the meeting.

Ann Zielinski, Edwards County Hospital Administrator, and Jenni Jones, CFO, joined the meeting.

Ms. Jones presented financial reports as of December 31, 2009 and other related reports. Ms. Jones reviewed the reports with Board and advised that they are continuing to improve in getting items billed out in a more timely manner. They are implementing policies to get things off of the books in a more timely fashion.

Ms. Zielinski and Ms. Jones left the meeting.

Andrea Wood, FACS Agent, and Melissa Schlegel, Agriculture Agent, and Pete Heinz, Extension Board Member, joined the meeting.

Ms. Wood and Ms. Schlegel presented monthly progress and financial reports for October, November and December 2009.

Ms. Wood gave a report on various projects and meetings attended. Some of the highlights included the 3rd Annual Women's Day Out which was attended by 50 participants and vendors. Ms. Wood reported that the ECLES (Edwards County Leadership Enhancement Series) participants traveled to Topeka last week and toured the Capitol, attended a senate session, met the Ag Secretary and KDOT Secretary.

Ms. Wood reported that eight teams signed up for the Community Meltdown Program which started last Monday.

Ms. Schlegel gave a report on various projects and meetings attended. Some of the highlights included the preparation and distribution of 79 food boxes to families for Thanksgiving and 85 food boxes were distributed for Christmas.

Ms. Schlegel presented information on a Cow / Calf Meeting and Trade Show to be held on Thursday, February 11, 2010 at the Fair Building. Ms. Schlegel added that there will also be a Soils 101 and PrePlant Summer Crops School to be held on Thursday, February 25, 2010, at the Trousdale Methodist Church.

Ms. Wood, Ms. Schlegel and Mr. Heinz left the meeting.

Mr. Neilson rejoined the meeting.

Mr. Neilson presented correspondence from the South Central Regional Council on Homeland Security authorizing grant funding for Edwards County to receive a portable Diesel 40 KW Generator with trailer. Mr.

Neilson added that the unit should arrive sometime in June 2010 and there is not a matching funds requirement.

Mr. Neilson gave a work in progress report and a discussion followed regarding a township request to dig out a ditch and in turn distribute the dirt back onto the road. The Board decided that no action would be taken by the County at this time, until further information is received.

Mr. Neilson reported that the road department employees were called in for snow removal last Friday and Saturday. A discussion followed regarding closing the courthouse on Friday due to the weather and payment of wages.

As per the Edwards County Employee Manual, all employees will be paid at an overtime rate for those hours physically worked above 40 hours for that week. Only those employees regularly scheduled to work on Friday will receive 8 hours of snow pay due to the closure of the courthouse by order of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Neilson left the meeting.

John Jay Riisoe joined the meeting.

Mr. Riisoe expressed deep concerns about the Board voting in favor of a wage increase for elected officials in 2010. Mr. Riisoe stated that due to the poor economy, he felt like the Board was making a large mistake in allowing a wage increase for elected officials. Mr. Riisoe added that during his tenure as county commissioner he did not recall ever receiving or voting in favor of wage increases for elected officials.

Mr. Dupree responded that it is important to allow elected officials increases to keep up with times and to attract and retain knowledgeable and reliable individuals for those positions. A discussion followed and Mr. Schnoebelen stated that research results of the wages paid during Mr. Riisoe's tenure revealed that the salaries for elected officials did increase each year. Further discussion followed and Mr. Riisoe restated that he still could not ever recall voting in favor of wage increases for elected officials.

Mr. Riisoe left the meeting.

Mr. Dupree moved to hold a special meeting on Thursday, February 4, 2010, at 8:30 AM, to conduct interviews for the open position of Noxious Weed Director. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:50 PM.

*Approved As Presented
2-8-10*