

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF COLLIN

COMMISSIONERS' COURT
SPECIAL SESSION MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 4, 2018

On Monday, September 4, 2018, the Commissioners' Court of Collin County, Texas, met in Special Session in the Commissioners' Courtroom, Jack Hatchell Collin County Administration Building, 4th Floor, 2300 Bloomdale Road, City of McKinney, Texas, with the following members present, and participating, to wit:

Judge Keith Self
Commissioner Susan Fletcher, Precinct 1
Commissioner Cheryl Williams, Precinct 2
Commissioner John Thomas, Precinct 3
Commissioner Duncan Webb, Precinct 4

Commissioner Thomas led the Invocation.
Commissioner Webb led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Judge Self led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

Judge Self called to order the Special Session meeting of the Collin County Commissioners' Court at 1:31 p.m.

President Self called to order the Special Session meeting of the Collin County Health Care Foundation at 1:30 p.m. and adjourned the meeting at 1:31 p.m.

FYI NOTIFICATION

1. AI-45372 P-Card Disbursements, Auditor.

2. **Public Comments.**

3. **Presentation/Recognition.**

4. **Consent agenda to approve:** Judge Self asked for comments on the consent agenda. Hearing no comments, a motion was made to approve the consent agenda. (Time: 1:31 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Duncan Webb
Second by: Commissioner Cheryl Williams
Vote: 5 – 0 Passed

a. AI-45377 Disbursements for the period ending August 28, 2018, Auditor.

COURT ORDER NO. 2018-717-09-04

b. AI-45378 Indigent Defense Disbursements, Auditor.

COURT ORDER NO. 2018-718-09-04

GENERAL DISCUSSION

5. FY 2019 Budget

a. AI-45354 Public Hearing – Proposed FY 2019 Tax Rate, Budget.

Monika Arris, Budget, briefed the Court on the proposed tax rate before the opening of the Public Hearing. The 2018 certified adjusted taxable value is \$136.4 billion which equates to a 10.7% increase over the 2017 tax year. Ms. Arris explained the truth-in-taxation calculations. The effective tax rate is a hypothetical property tax rate which would give the County the same amount of total revenue it had in the previous fiscal year on properties taxed in both years. This year's effective tax rate is \$0.180785. The operations effective tax rate is a hypothetical property tax rate that would give the County the same amount of operating revenue it had in the previous fiscal year based on properties that existed in both years. This gives the County the ability to set the debt service tax rate at the amount needed to meet financial obligations. This year's operations effective tax rate is \$0.130530. If appraised values go up, the effective tax rate goes down and vice versa.

The rollback rate is a calculation which splits the tax rate into two separate components – maximum operating rate and debt tax rate. The rollback rate allows the County to raise the same amount in operations as in the prior year plus an additional 8% allowed by law. The maximum operating tax rate of \$0.140972 added to the debt tax rate of \$0.053573 gives this year's total rollback rate of \$0.194545.

If the operations effective tax rate of \$0.130530 is added to the debt tax rate of \$0.053573 it will give a total operations effective tax rate of \$0.184103. This year's effective tax rate of \$0.127212, with the required debt service rate taken out, plus the debt tax rate of \$0.053573 would give an effective tax rate of \$0.180785.

The current tax rate is \$0.192246 per \$100 valuation and the proposed tax rate is \$0.180785 per \$100 valuation. If this tax rate is adopted it would be the twenty-sixth year without a tax rate increase. FY2019 will be the tenth year for the 5% Homestead Exemption. The average home value in Collin County for the 2018 tax year is \$363,040. With the effective tax rate and a 5% homestead exemption, the average homeowner will pay \$623.51 in county taxes for the 2018 tax year. The average homeowner will see a decrease of \$5.45.

The second tax rate public hearing will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, September 10, 2018, in the Jack Hatchell Administration Building, Commissioners' Courtroom. The proposed budget will be filed on Monday, September 10, 2018, and will be posted on the County's website.

On Monday, September 17, 2018, at 1:30 p.m. a public hearing will be held on the FY2019 proposed budget in the Jack Hatchell Administration Building, Commissioners' Courtroom. The adoption of the FY2019 budget, tax rate, Elected Official salaries, and fee schedule will occur at that time.

Because there is a Salary Grievance Committee meeting on the evening of September 10, 2018, Judge Self asked Ms. Arris to look into the timing, by law, on posting the proposed budget.

Judge Self opened the public hearing for the FY2019 Proposed Tax Rate at 2:13 p.m. and asked for comments. Hearing no comments, the Judge closed the public hearing at 2:13 p.m. (Time: 2:13 p.m.)

NO ACTION TAKEN

b. AI-45356 Consideration of Funding for Federally Qualified Health Center, Commissioner, Precinct 1.

Commissioner Fletcher revisited the consideration of funding for an FQHC (Federally Qualified Health Center) which was discussed during the FY2019 Budget Workshop. She said the County has a state mandated responsibility to fund indigent care. The Court has done a wonderful job working with Project Access and creating the system on how the healthcare needs of the indigent population is addressed. However, there are less than 50 people on the plan. As long as this population is presenting themselves somewhere to get care, whether that is with Project Access or not, she believes it is favorable. The County has a history of working with nonprofit organizations through the Health Care Foundation. No one wants to waste taxpayer money and the Court should look at this from a fiscally conservative perspective; however, there is the responsibility of funding indigent healthcare needs in the County.

The Commissioner invited James Tippett, Independent Bank, to come forward and explain how the County can benefit from being a community partner with the FQHC. Mr. Tippett shared a list of benefits the FQHC will provide the community, focusing on local access of care which includes: affordable pharmaceuticals; attracting, training and retaining healthcare professionals; and school based clinics. The FQHC will leverage resources to increase access to and quality of healthcare at a reduced cost. Mr. Tippett explained the FQHC is a self-sustaining model. There will not be the need to continually supply dollars to it. Also, the FQHC will provide County employees with at least a 25% discount on gross charges for services and provide access to the TodayCare Clinic for walk-in services.

Commissioner Fletcher said Commissioner Williams made a good point during the Budget Workshop regarding the inability of the current Court to bind future Courts to participate. Mr. Tippett understood and said the FQHC can provide reporting and reapply as needed.

Commissioner Williams asked if there is data on patients who fit the indigent definition or if the information is even used to qualify them as indigent. Mr. Tippet said all the information is taken in. The FQHC has to calculate and report where an individual is in qualification in terms of what benefits are offered. He will have that specific information prepared for the Court. There was a brief discussion on the willingness of Project Access to participate with the FQHC. Mr. Tippet said there could be space in the building for Project Access so that it is available on the east side of McKinney. The building itself can be used for multiple services. Commissioner Williams said it would be hard for her to move forward with this without an agreement with Project Access.

Commissioner Fletcher asked for clarification on the requested commitment from the County. She believed the commitment was for startup funding and initial building costs. Mr. Tippet confirmed and said the proposal was not for an ongoing structure, but an initial process to start it up. The ongoing discussion needs to be how to supplement and help Project Access achieve its goal.

Commissioner Webb said healthcare is provided for the indigent population at 100% and below the poverty line. FQHC serves around 5% - 8% of that population. He questions whether it is a good use of taxpayer dollars to fund the FQHC when the County's legal obligation is the indigent population. Commissioner Williams said it has to be tied back to what the County is obligated to do. The County could look at providing 5% - 8% of the startup cost. However, the County is not paying anyone else to provide these services. The County has funded Project Access and asked them to help get volunteers to provide the services. As soon as the County starts paying for a facility or per service it runs the risk of alienating those who have offered services for free.

Commissioner Fletcher asked Monika Arris, Budget, how much the County is contributing to Allen Community Outreach. Ms. Arris said the amount budgeted is \$35,025. Commissioner Webb said Allen Community Outreach and others the County is providing funds to have signed an agreement on where and how the money will be used.

Mr. Tippet said a broad range of County citizens will benefit from the FQHC. Medicaid and Medicare patients do not generally have good access to care in the County. This is an opportunity to provide care. By providing access to these patients, the FQHC can use it as leverage to provide for other individuals. Judge Self said the Court is very cognizant of taxpayer dollars. The state is not ungenerous for the working poor, but the County's task is the indigent population. He suggested Mr. Tippet contact the Collin County Business Alliance and broaden the focus beyond McKinney since the plan is to expand throughout the County.

Commissioner Williams asked what the unused dollar amount is for Project Access. Mr. Bilyeu said when Project Access gave a presentation to the Court, they still had over \$250,000. They have been very good stewards of the money. The County has not made payments to Project Access for over a year and possibly no payments will be made this year. The full amount has been budgeted in the FY2019 budget to cover all Project Access payments.

Commissioner Williams said if the FQHC could come to an agreement with Project Access she would be more inclined to working through this methodology. Commissioner Thomas said the FQHC is a great idea, but he is also struggling to see how it fits the mission the County has for the indigent population. He believes there can be a structure created to fit the mission and asked for more information on how that can be achieved. Discussion continued.

The Court would like to see how the money, if provided to the FQHC, will be used to treat Collin County citizens rather than building a building for a nonprofit. Mr. Tippett said they are happy to be flexible with the funding based on different needs of the partners. (Time: 2:03 p.m.)

NO ACTION TAKEN

6. Possible future agenda items by Commissioners Court without discussion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Court did not recess into Executive Session. There being no further business of the Court, Judge Self adjourned the meeting at 2:13 p.m.



Not Present

Keith Self, County Judge

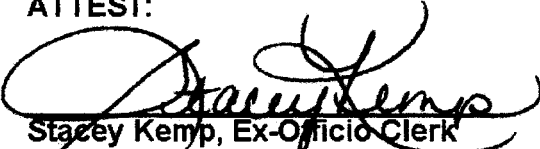

Susan Fletcher, Commissioner, Pct. 1


Cheryl Williams, Commissioner, Pct. 2


John D. Thomas, Commissioner, Pct. 3


Duncan Webb, Commissioner, Pct. 4

ATTEST:


Stacey Kemp, Ex-Officio Clerk
Commissioners Court
Collin County, T E X A S