

NOTICE OF MEETING - COMMISSIONERS COURT

RAINS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that a Regular meeting of the Rains County Commissioners Court will be held at 10:00am on January 8, 2026, in the Rains County Courthouse Courtroom. Commissioner's Court is open to the public. The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as follows:

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER, PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION

II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY – Citizens are invited to address the Commissioners Court on topics not already scheduled for a Public Hearing. Speakers are limited to 5 minutes and should conduct themselves in a civil manner. The Commissioners Court cannot take action on items not listed on the agenda in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. Concerns may be addressed by County Staff, and may be placed on a future agenda or addressed by some other course of response.

III. PRESENTATIONS

1. None

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. CONSENT CALENDAR – All items listed are considered to be routine by the Commissioner's Court and will be enacted by one motion.

1. Approval of accounts payable.
2. Approval of line-item transfers.
3. Approval of budget amendments.
4. Approval of payroll and personnel.
5. New service established through Texas New Mexico Power Company at 335 Wells Street in Emory.
6. Departmental reports.
 - a. Road and Bridge
 - b. Environmental Enforcement and Emergency Management
 - c. Veterans' Services
 - d. AgriLife Extension
 - e. Indigent Healthcare

FILED FOR RECORD
2026 JAN -2 PM 3:44
M. Ferguson

- f. Public Library
- g. Grant Development
- 7. District Clerk's monthly report
- 8. County Clerk's monthly report
- 9. Justice of the Peace's monthly report
- 10. Constable's monthly report
- 11. Sheriff's report
- 12. These nominees have been elected to serve a two year term on the Rains County Appraisal Board of Directors beginning Jan. 1, 2026 - Harold Chandler, Todd Moore, Ken Player, Candice West, Robert Worley.

B. ACTION ITEMS – Discuss and possibly take action on the following:

- 1. Discuss/Take action on recommendations for the appointments to the Library Advisory Board. – Bernadette Thompson
- 2. Discuss/Take action regarding a possible nomination for the 2026 County Best Practices Awards Program which recognizes the efforts of county leaders in creating new, efficient, and effective solutions to challenges facing local government.
- 3. Discuss/Take action to accept on record six credit hours for Judge Brent Hilliard.
- 4. Discuss/Take action regarding the Hotel Occupancy Tax exemption for counties which would exempt county governments, their officials, and employees from the State hotel occupancy tax when traveling on official business and allow for the submittal of a Texas Hotel Occupancy Tax Exemption Certificate to waive the 6% state hotel occupancy-tax.
- 5. Discuss/Take action regarding a grant through the East Texas Council of Governments that will allow services for youth in Rains County referred to juvenile probation departments.
- 6. Discuss/Take action to acknowledge the changes to the Congressional District map which affects Rains County, Texas among other counties.
- 7. Discuss/Take action to revise Tiny Home regulations. – Lori Northcutt

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AS NEEDED

V. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

1. As permitted by Texas Government Code §551.071 (1) and (2), Consultation with Attorney; §551.072, Real Property; §551.073, Prospective Gifts; §551.074, Personnel Matters; §551.075, Investments; and §551.076, Security Devices / Audits.

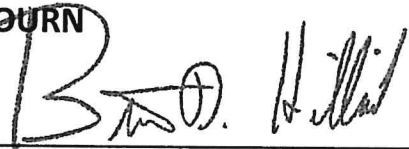
ADJOURN TO REGULAR SESSION

VI. TAKE ANY ACTION ON ANY ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION AS NEEDED.

VII. COURT DISCUSSION / PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

(Commissioners may discuss items on the agenda or suggest items for future agendas. Proposed agenda items may only be discussed by Commissioners if the Commissioners do so to propose that those items be placed on a future agenda). Items not appearing on the agenda may not be deliberated and no votes may be taken during this portion of the agenda. In response to comments from the public, Council may seek a statement of specific factual information or a recitation of existing policy from County Staff pursuant to Section 551.042 of the Texas Open Meetings Act).

ADJOURN

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent D. Hilliard", is written over a horizontal line.

Rains County Judge Brent D. Hilliard