

NOTICE OF MEETING - COMMISSIONERS COURT

RAINS COUNTY, TEXAS

FILED FOR RECORD
2025 SEP -5 PM 3:43

Notice is hereby given that a **REGULAR MEETING and PUBLIC HEARING** of the Rains County Commissioners Court will be held at **10:00am on September 11, 2025**, 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. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE JUNKIES, LLC.** The Commissioners Court will receive public comments on a Junkyard and Automotive Wrecking and Salvage Yard License Application, as submitted by Terry Wesson Weatherall, on the 4.97-acre tract of land located on the corner of County Road 1280 and State Highway 19.
- IV. PRESENTATIONS**
 1. Mike Ward, Auditor's Report
- V. 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. Departmental Reports.
 - a. Road and Bridge.
 - b. Environmental Enforcement and Emergency Management.
 - c. Veterans' Services.
 - d. AgriLife Extension.
 - e. Indigent Healthcare.
 - f. Public Library.
 - g. Grant Development.

2. Financial Reports.
 - a. Budget amendments.
 - b. Line item transfers.
 - c. Monthly financials.
 - d. Payroll and Personnel.
3. Sheriff's Report.
4. District Clerk's monthly report.
5. County Clerk's monthly report.
6. Justice of the Peace's monthly report.
7. Constable's monthly report.

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

1. Approval of accounts payable.
2. Approval of line-item transfers.
3. Approval of budget amendments.
4. Approval of payroll and personnel.
5. Discuss/Take Action on passing a resolution to apply for the Solid Waste grant(s) from ETCOG.
6. Discuss/Take Action on Lake Country Neighbors request to display memorabilia at the Annex.
7. Discuss/Take Action on quote from Leads Online software to be used for the Sheriff's Department.
8. Discuss/Take action regarding approval of Stockyard Farm Subdivision.
9. Discuss/Take Action on Sheriff and Constable fees for 2026.
10. Discuss/Take action regarding the timekeeping policy as requested by Stacy Parker.
11. Discuss/Take Action regarding the request for use of the courthouse square by the Westyn Mandrell Foundation October 18, 2025 for a booth for the 5K Run fundraiser.
12. Public hearing, consideration, and action on adopting, approving, and/or ratifying the proposed Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget that raises more property taxes than the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget, and all related issues - Judge Hilliard.

The Commissioners Court will receive public comments on the County's proposed ad valorem tax rate for the 2025 tax year. The proposed tax rate is \$0.524300 per \$100 valuation. The proposed budget is on the first page of the County's website at: www.co.rains.tx.us. The proposed tax rate exceeds the no-new-revenue tax rate of \$0.414431 per \$100 valuation but does not exceed the voter-approval rate of \$0.524316 per \$100 valuation. This hearing is required by Texas Tax Code §26.05(d) because the proposed rate exceeds the no-new-revenue rate. Taxpayers and interested persons may present oral or written comments regarding the proposed tax rate. This is a continuation of the Public Hearing set for September 2, 2025, and postponed at that meeting.

Taxpayer Impact Statement (required under Texas Government Code §551.043): The proposed budget and tax rate include an increase in the following property tax imposed on a residential property owner: Ad valorem property tax. The tax rate in 2024 was \$0.507700 per \$100 valuation, which equated to a total amount of \$1,032 on an average residence homestead. The proposed tax rate for 2025 is \$0.524300 per \$100 valuation, which would equate to a total amount of \$1,128 on an average residence homestead. The difference between those amounts is \$96, or a 9.3% increase. No other fees or property taxes imposed on residential property owners are proposed for increase at this meeting.

13. Consideration and action authorizing the ratification of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget that raises more property taxes than the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget - Judge Hilliard.
14. Public hearing, discussion, and action on adopting and/or approving the proposed Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Tax Rate of \$0.524300 per \$100 valuation, which exceeds the no-new-revenue tax rate of \$0.414431 per \$100 valuation but does not exceed the voter-approval tax rate of \$0.524316 per \$100 valuation, and all related issues, and record the vote - Judge Hilliard.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AS NEEDED

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

The Rains County Commissioners Court reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed in this agenda, in the order deemed appropriate, as authorized by Chapter 551, Open Meetings, Subchapter D, Texas Government Code, or to seek the advice of its attorney as permitted by: Texas Government Code §551.071 (1) and (2) (Consultation with Attorney) – hotel occupancy tax funding, §551.072 (Real Property), §551.073 (Prospective Gifts), §551.074 (Personnel Matters), §551.075 (Investments), and §551.076 (Security Devices / Audits).

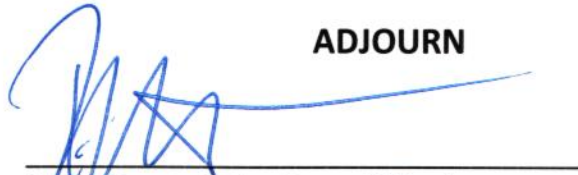
ADJOURN TO REGULAR SESSION

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

VIII. 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



Rains County Judge Brent Hilliard