

COPY



POLK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

January 1, 2021

(Special Session)

Polk County Courthouse, 3rd floor

10:30 a.m.

Livingston, Texas

NOTICE is hereby given that a Special meeting of the Polk County Commissioners Court will be held on the date stated above, at which time the following subjects will be discussed:

Agenda Topics

(Persons wishing to provide Public Comment must complete and submit a Public Participation Form to the County Clerk prior to the Call To Order)

** Please turn off (or mute) all cell phones and devices **

1. CALL TO ORDER. * INVOCATION * PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE
2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

In an effort to minimize the spread of the coronavirus in Polk County, available seating in the Commissioners Courtroom will be limited to essential personnel. Commissioners Court will be live-streamed on the Polk County Commissioners Court YouTube channel at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7RSenHb7OBTPuqSuMzU5ZA>. We ask that public comments be limited to essential items only while the Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency in Polk County remains in place. Members of the public wishing to comment may be allowed to enter the courtroom to address the Court one at a time. Upon entering the courthouse, we ask all employees and members of the public to maintain a safe social distance of at least 6 feet from all other persons as much as possible.

Members of the public wishing to address the Court will be invited to do so. Comments must pertain to topics related to the business of the County and are limited to a 3-minute maximum for each person or group represented. This is the only portion of the meeting during which public comments will be accepted. Under the Open Meetings Act, the Court may only answer a rhetorical question posed by the public and may not hold any discussion of an item presented, other than to place such item on a future agenda for discussion if a specific action is not clearly listed on the current Agenda.

After close of this portion of the Agenda, Public Comment for the remainder of the Court session is no longer appropriate or accepted unless specifically requested by a Member of the Court.

3. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON ORDER ADOPTING UPDATED RULES AND GUIDELINES GOVERNING THE MANAGEMENT OF THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK.
4. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GRANT APPLICATION TO THE DEEP EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR THE FY2021 REGIONAL SOLID WASTE PROGRAM.

ADJOURN

Posted: December 29, 2020

By: Sydney Murphy, County Judge

I do hereby certify that the above Notice of Meeting of the Polk County Commissioners Court is a true and correct copy of said Notice and that I have caused to be posted a true and correct copy of said Notice in the Polk County Courthouse at a place readily accessible to the general public during normal business hours on Friday - December 29, 2020 and that said Notice remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said Meeting. This notice has also been posted on the official website of Polk County, Texas (www.co.polk.tx.us).

SCHELANA HOCK, COUNTY CLERK



AGENDA REVIEW

For January 1, 2021

Special Session

County Courthouse, 3rd floor
Livingston, Texas

Review of Agenda topics (items included for review / reference are noted in *bold italics & underlined*)

1. **CALL TO ORDER (Time): 10:30 AM**
**** If you have not done so already, please turn off (or mute) all cell phones and devices ****
Judge Murphy will call meeting to Order.
 - Invocation from visiting clergy or other in attendance; and
 - Pledge of Allegiance to US & Texas flags
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
(Clerk will verify any properly completed and submitted *Public Participation Forms* and persons will be recognized in the order of forms received).
Members of the public wishing to address the Court will be invited to do so. Comments must pertain to topics related to the business of the County and are limited to a 3-minute maximum for each person or group represented. This is the only portion of the meeting during which public comments will be accepted. Under the Open Meetings Act, the Court may only answer a rhetorical question posed by the public and may not hold any discussion of an item presented, other than to place such item on a future agenda for discussion if a specific action is not clearly listed on the current Agenda.

After close of this portion of the Agenda, Public Comment for the remainder of the Court session is no longer appropriate or accepted unless specifically requested by a Member of the Court.
3. **DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON ORDER ADOPTING UPDATED RULES AND GUIDELINES GOVERNING THE MANAGEMENT OF THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK.**
The Families First Coronavirus Response Act, signed into law in March 2020, included provisions to ensure that all employees would receive paid leave, up to 80 hours, for the following reasons:
 - quarantine order
 - health care provided advised quarantine
 - experiencing symptoms
 - caring for someone advised to quarantine or experiencing symptoms
 - caring for a child whose school or place of care is closed due to COVID precautions; and/or
 - experiencing similar conditions specified by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

This provision is scheduled to expire on December 31st and the new coronavirus relief measures recently approved by the federal government did not include any extension. However, we are now seeing the highest levels of employee absenteeism due to COVID since the public health crisis began, and this is

	projected to continue into the spring. We have prepared <u>a proposed Order, included for your review</u>, to adopt updated rules & guidelines governing the management of the COVID-19 outbreak. Included in this order are guidelines for the minimization of business disruptions, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Paid Leave of Absence. At this time, we recommend that the Order be in effect from January 1 through the end of February, with the Court reassessing county needs on February 23rd.
4.	CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GRANT APPLICATION TO THE DEEP EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR THE FY2021 REGIONAL SOLID WASTE PROGRAM. At the previous meeting, the Court approved a commitment of funds from the Waste Management Funds for the establishment of a building for a recycling center. To secure additional funding for equipment purchases, we are preparing an application to submit to DETCOG for the FY2021 Regional Solid Waste Program. <u>A Resolution, included for your review</u>, will need to be submitted along with the application. This Resolution authorizes the submittal of the grant application, authorizes the county judge to act on matters pertaining to the grant on behalf of the county, and pledges that grant funds received will be utilized in a manner that complies with the grant requirements.
	<u>ADDENDUMS</u> Should any additional items (of which we are not aware at the time of this mailing) be posted as Addendums to the Agenda, we will forward a copy of such posting to you prior to Tuesday's meeting.
	ADJOURN (Time): _____ <u>Next Regular Meeting – January 26, 2021</u>