# MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 11, 1997 AND (RECONVENED) – SEPTEMBER 12, 1997

# TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT

# SECOND BUDGET MARK-UP VOTING SESSION

On Thursday, the 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 1997, the Commissioners' Court convened the Second Budget Mark-up Voting Session at 9:14 AM in the Commissioners' Courtroom, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor of the Travis County Administration Building, 314 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Austin, Texas. Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk, was represented by Deputy Anna M. Valdez.

The Commissioners' Court recessed the Second Budget Mark-up Voting Session at 11:47 AM and reconvened the Second Budget Mark-up Voting Session at 2:04 PM.

The Commissioners' Court recessed the Second Budget Mark-up Voting Session at 4:09 PM until Friday, the 12<sup>th</sup> day of September 1997 at 9:00 AM.

The Commissioners' Court reconvened the Second Budget Mark-up Voting Session of September 11, 1997 on Friday, the 12<sup>th</sup> day of September 1997 at 9:12 AM.

The Commissioners' Court adjourned the Second Budget Mark-up Voting Session at 10:23 AM.

1. THE TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT WILL CONDUCT BUDGET MARK-UP SESSIONS FOR THE PROPOSED FY 1998 BUDGET. (9:14 AM)

**Clerk's Note:** Please refer to the following pages for specific Motions and Votes taken by the Court on various issues in the FY 1998 Budget.

### 2. CORE BUDGET. (9:14 AM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Christian Smith, Executive Manager, Planning and Budget Office (PBO).

**Motion by** Commissioner Sonleitner and **seconded by** Commissioner Gómez to start with the core budget with the corrections and add-ons recommended by PBO as a base starting point for mark-up purposes, as outlined in the document titled, "Changes to FY 98 Preliminary Budget Since Publication, General Fund".

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

### **3.** PARKING LOT. (9:25 AM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; and Jessica Rio, Budget Analyst, PBO.

**Motion by** Commissioner Biscoe and **seconded by** Commissioner Gómez to put in the "parking lot" \$691,968.00 (of which, \$361,000.00 is capital and \$330,968.00 is operating).

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

# AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION

### **4.** TRAVEL, SOFTWARE, HORTICULTURE. (11:27 AM)

**Motion by** Commissioner Sonleitner and **seconded by** Commissioner Biscoe that the funding stay in this program and in this department, and that the job training program be handled as a one-year pilot project. If it is successful, it could at some point, come under the umbrella of the Workforce Development Board.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

### CONSTABLES

### 5. ASAP. (11:01 AM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; and Mark McCray, Budget Analyst, PBO.

Motion by Commissioner Gómez and seconded by Commissioner Biscoe to place ASAP vehicles in the "parking lot" and provide them "somehow".

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

## **COUNSELING CENTER**

# 6. TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE TO PROVIDE SPANISH-SPEAKING COUNSELING SERVICES. (3:29 PM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Caryl Colburn, Director, Travis County Counseling and Education Services (TCCES); and Pete Katz, TCCES.

**Motion by** Commissioner Sonleitner and **seconded by** Judge Aleshire to provide \$6,940.00 of "real money" to fund a temporary position to provide Spanish-speaking counseling services.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	absent
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

### **7.** TCCES RENT. (3:32 PM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Caryl Colburn, Director, Travis County Counseling and Education Services (TCCES).

**Motion by** Judge Aleshire and **seconded by** Commissioner Sonleitner to move funds from the CJP Budget and create a General Fund Line Item for the TCCES rent.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	absent
County Judge	Bill Aleshire - yes		

## **COUNTY CLERK**

#### 8. INCREASE IN ELECTION WORKER WAGES. (9:44 AM) (9:52 AM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Jessica Rio, Budget Analyst, PBO; Susan Bell, Chief Deputy, County Clerk's Office; and Leslie Thompson, Elections Division Manager, County Clerk's Office.

Discussion Only.

### 9. ELECTION COUNTING STATION – OPTION C. (3:21 PM)

**Motion by** Commissioner Sonleitner and **seconded by** Judge Aleshire to provide Election Counting Station hardware/software upgrades.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	absent
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

#### **10.** MICROSOFT PROJECT SOFTWARE FOR DEPT. MANAGERS. (3:22 PM)

**Motion by** Commissioner Biscoe and **seconded by** Commissioner Sonleitner to provide \$5,000.00 from "parking lot" funds for Microsoft project software for County Clerk Department Managers.

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### **11.** COURTHOUSE INFORMATION DESK. (3:22 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Jessica Rio, Budget Analyst, PBO.

# **DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

### 12. PROGRAM MANAGER FOR COMMUNITY PROSECUTION. (9:48 AM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO;

Discussion Only.

# **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

### **13.** PARTNERSHIP – FIRST RESPONSE. (3:42 PM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Chris Callsen, Director of Emergency Services, Criminal Justice Planning (CJP).

Discussion Only.

### 14. PARTNERSHIP – TRAINING. (3:42 PM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Chris Callsen, Director of Emergency Services, CJP; and Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO.

**15.** FUNDING FOR FY 98 INTERLOCAL FOR EMS SERVICES (INCLUDED IN CURRENT LEVEL DEPARTMENT BUDGET). (3:42 PM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Chris Callsen, Director of Emergency Services, CJP; Shoshanna Lansberg, Budget Analyst, PBO; and Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO.

**Motion by** Commissioner Sonleitner and **seconded by** Commissioner Biscoe to provide \$79,000.00 (put in Capital) earmarked against a potential request from the Health Facilities Corporation. \$56,640.00 would be added to the earmarked list on Allocated Reserves.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	absent
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

### **16.** INVESTIGATE. (9:48 AM - SEPTEMBER 12, 1997)

Members of the Court heard from: Chris Callsen, Director of Emergency Services, CJP.

Motion by Commissioner Gómez and seconded by Commissioner Sonleitner to put one of the investigator positions for Emergency Services in the "parking lot".

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes
	County Judge Bill Aleshire - yes		•

### **EXPOSITION CENTER**

### 17. CUSTODIAL STAFF. (9:30 AM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; and Karen Shafer Castro, Senior Budget Analyst, PBO.

**Motion by** Commissioner Sonleitner and **seconded by** Commissioner Biscoe that one of the two FTE's requested for custodial staff for the Exposition Center be added, effective October 1, 1997.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

# FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

### **18.** PACE BEND PARK RANGER HOUSE. (9:38 AM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; and Kevin Bailey, Director, Facilities Management.

**Motion by** Commissioner Bristol and **seconded by** Commissioner Sonleitner to put \$75,000.00 in the "parking lot" designated for Parks CIP Fund, with further research required.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

**19.** RESTORE FUNDING FOR ANNUAL INSPECTION SURVEY REMOVED IN THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET. (11:01 AM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Kevin Bailey, Director, Facilities Management; Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; and Karen Shafer Castro, Senior Budget Analyst, PBO.

Discussion Only.

### **20.** PLEASANT VALLEY ROAD – LIFE/SAFETY COMPLIANCE. (11:10 AM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Kevin Bailey, Director, Facilities Management; Karen Shafer Castro, Senior Budget Analyst, PBO; and Alicia Perez, Executive Manager, Administrative Operations.

Discussion Only.

### **21.** NORTHWEST RURAL COMMUNITY CENTER LEASE EXPANSION. (11:26 AM)

# HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

22. MODIFIED RENTAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST. THE DEPARTMENT IS TRANSFERRING \$86,795.00 FROM UTILITY ASSISTANCE AND BURIAL ASSISTANCE. (10:38 AM) (2:07 PM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Alan Miller, Budget Analyst, PBO; Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Stephen Williams, Executive Manager, Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services Department and Veterans Affairs Services; Cora Wright, Director, Neighborhood Services, Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services Department; and David DeGrassi, Accounting Manager, Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services Department.

**Motion by** Commissioner Gómez and **seconded by** Commissioner Biscoe to authorize cuts in County funding for utility assistance and internal transfers. If other resource possibilities are exhausted during the year, further funding will be provided from Allocated Reserves.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

### 23. ESL CLASSES (INTERFAITH MATCH GRANT). (2:25 PM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Stephen Williams, Executive Manager, Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services Department.

**Motion by** Commissioner Gómez and **seconded by** Commissioner Biscoe to approve the \$50,000.00 (real funding) for ESL.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes
	County Judge Bill Aleshire - yes		•

### 24. HOUSING REQUEST – OPTION 2. (2:28 PM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Stephen Williams, Executive Manager, Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services Department; Cora Wright, Director, Neighborhood Services, Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services Department; and Alfredo Carrasco, Manager, Housing Services, Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services Department.

**Motion by** Commissioner Biscoe and **seconded by** Commissioner Sonleitner to request a grant from the Travis County Housing Finance Corporation for \$126,060.00 to fund Option 2.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

### 25. WATER DELIVERY SUBSIDY -- IN CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL. (2:37 PM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Cora Wright, Director, Neighborhood Services, Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services Department; Sharon Holley, Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services Department; and Joe Gieselman, Executive Manager, TNR.

Discussion Only.

### 26. REGULAR/ADMIN (CPS CASEWORKERS). (2:50 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Alan Miller, Budget Analyst, PBO.

**Motion by** Commissioner Sonleitner and **seconded by** Commissioner Biscoe that on the revised CPS request, \$3,400.00 in capital be provided and that \$113,060.00 go into the "parking lot" for five (5) Unit Technicians.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	absent
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

### 27. ADULT GUARDIANSHIP FUNDS. (2:55 PM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Alan Miller, Budget Analyst, PBO; Sharon Holley, Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services Department; and Stephen Williams, Executive Manager, Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services Department.

**Motion by** Judge Aleshire and **seconded by** Commissioner Biscoe to transfer Adult Guardianship Program funds from the Health and Human Services (CAN funds) budget to Probate Court, unless Judge Herman objects.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe -		yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	absent
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

### **28.** FQHC FUND RESERVE. (3:06 PM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Mike Abkowitz, Financial Manager, Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services Department; Alan Miller, Budget Analyst, PBO; and Stephen Williams, Executive Manager, Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services Department.

**Motion by** Judge Aleshire and **seconded by** Commissioner Biscoe to reduce FQHC fund reserve to zero and earmark in the Allocated Reserve, which has a net positive financial effect in the General Fund of \$99,963.00.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	absent
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

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# HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

**29.** PERSONNEL ASSISTANT (PART OF REORGANIZATION 10/1/97 START) (PBO SUPPORTS). (9:42 AM - SEPTEMBER 12, 1997)

Members of the Court heard from: Jessica Rio, Budget Analyst, PBO.

**Motion by** Commissioner Biscoe and **seconded by** Commissioner Gómez to endorse PBO's recommendation to hire a Personnel Assistant for HRMD to start October 1, 1997.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

# JUVENILE COURT

**30.** SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELOR (AS REFERENCED IN MEMO FROM JUVENILE COURT). (3:35 PM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Mark McCray, Budget Analyst, PBO; and Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO.

**Motion by** Commissioner Sonleitner and **seconded by** Judge Aleshire to provide \$23,308.00 from "parking lot" funds for FTE, Substance Abuse Counselor, for Juvenile Justice Center.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	absent
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

# **RECORDS MANAGEMENT**

#### **31.** INFO CLERK. (3:22 PM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Karen Shafer Castro, Senior Budget Analyst, PBO; and Steven W. Broberg, Director, Records Management and Communication Resources.

**Motion by** Commissioner Sonleitner and **seconded by** Commissioner Bristol to provide funds from "real funding" for a .2 FTE in Records Management for the County Information Desk.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	absent
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

# TRANSPORTATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES (TNR)

### **32.** MODIFIED SUBDIVISION REVIEW – OPTION B. (10:11 AM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Karen Shafer Castro, Senior Budget Analyst, PBO; Joe Gieselman, Executive Manager, Transportation and Natural Resources (TNR); Steve Manilla, Director of Engineering and Planning, TNR; and Jessica Rio, Budget Analyst, PBO.

**Motion by** Commissioner Biscoe and **seconded** by Commissioner Sonleitner to support Option B (adding three FTE's for Subdivision Review) with the proviso that everything that can be done to keep improving efficiency is done, including elimination of duplication and working to figure out if there is a better way to do it than the way it is currently being done.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	no

**33.** UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS – NORTH LAMAR OPTION ONE. (10:31 AM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Joe Gieselman, Executive Manager, TNR; and Steve Fowler, TNR.

Motion by Commissioner Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Gómez to bring underground storage tank standards into compliance with the Clean Air Act.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

**34.** 3% PREMIUM PAY FOR ROAD CREW WORKERS. (3:56 PM) (9:14 AM – SEPTEMBER 12, 1997)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Karen Shafer Castro, Senior Budget Analyst, PBO; and Don Wheeler, Division Director, Road Maintenance and Fleet Services, TNR.

**Motion by** Commissioner Biscoe and **seconded by** Commissioner Gómez to approve 3% premium pay for Road Crew Team Leaders.

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	no

**35.** REC/ED COORDINATOR. (9:34 AM – SEPTEMBER 12, 1997)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Jessica Rio, Budget Analyst, PBO; and Joe Gieselman, Executive Manager, TNR.

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# **36.** EXECUTIVE LIAISON. (3:56 PM)

Discussion Only.

# **37.** TWO SURVEY TECHNICIANS. (3:56 PM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Joe Gieselman, Executive Manager, TNR; Steve Manilla, Director of Engineering and Planning, TNR; and Jessica Rio, Budget Analyst, PBO.

# RECESS

**Motion by** Commissioner Biscoe and **seconded by** Commissioner Sonleitner to recess the Second Budget Mark-up Voting Session until 9:00 AM on Friday, September 12, 1997. (4:09 PM)

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	absent
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

# ADJOURNMENT

**Motion by** Commissioner Sonleitner and **seconded by** Commissioner Gómez to adjourn the Budget Mark-up Voting Session. (10:23 AM)

Motion carried:	Precinct 1, Commissioner Samuel T. Biscoe	-	absent
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Valarie Scott Bristol	-	absent
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes
	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes

### MINUTES APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT

**Date of Approval** 

**Bill Aleshire, Travis County Judge**