

## MINUTES – APRIL 9, 1999

### TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT

On Friday, the 9<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1999, the Commissioners' Court convened the regular Voting Session at 2:12 PM 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 Melissa Nuñez.

The Commissioners' Court adjourned the Voting Session at 3:17 PM.

The Commissioners' Court record notes that Precinct One Commissioner Ron Davis was not present during this Voting Session.

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1. RECEIVE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION.  
(2:12 PM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Bob Kamm, Legislative Consultant, Shields, Kamm, and Casteñeda; Jim Shaw; David Gelner; Stephen Williams, Executive Manager, Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services Department (A-TC HHSD) and Veterans' Services; David Balagia, Major, Travis County Sheriff's Office (TCSO); Jim Rust, Director, Pretrial Services; David Escamilla, First Assistant County Attorney; and, Barbara Alsworth, Assistant, Travis County Commissioner Precinct 3.

**Clerk's Note:** The Commissioners' Court received legislative updates from the Legislative Consultants and Travis County Staff.

Discussion Only on House Bills 49, 423, 430, 602, 1124, 1896, 1920, 2354, 2773, 3445, 602, 2773, 3445, and Senate Bills 710, 961, 1172, 1804, 1350.

**ITEM 1 CONTINUED**

**Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Sonleitner** to indicate the Courts opposition to HB 3119 in a way that highlights three things, 1) the County's ability to identify problems at the regional level, and put in place programs and strategies, 2) that since the present system has been in place whatever amount of money that has come down has been an indication of what good has been done, and to informally touch base with the CAPCO committee members, and 3) if the Legislature decides that a State Commission should allocate these dollars may, the Court suggest that they be done by County on a population basis, with the intent that Counties could directly apply for grants in the same way that they administer Criminal Justice grants, and that there be a mandate that TNRCC allocate the money.

**Motion carried:**

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	-	absent
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

**Motion by Commissioner Baxter and seconded by Commissioner Gómez** to monitor HB 1398.

**Motion carried:**

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	-	absent
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

**Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner and seconded by Commissioner Baxter** to oppose SB 1692, and that a letter be drafted with the very specific reasons why it would be harmful to Travis County.

**Motion carried:**

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	-	absent
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

## ITEM 1 CONTINUED

**Motion by Commissioner Baxter and seconded by Judge Biscoe** to support SB 799 and the companion bill HB 831.

**Motion carried:** County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe - yes  
 Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis - absent  
 Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner - yes  
 Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter - yes  
 Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez - yes

**Motion by Commissioner Baxter and seconded by Commissioner Sonleitner** to work with Representative Elliott Naishtat on HB 2165 to ensure that the language remains consistent and would ensure that there would be no unfunded mandate, and to pursue the language accordingly.

**Motion carried:** County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe - yes  
 Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis - absent  
 Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner - yes  
 Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter - yes  
 Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez - yes

**Motion by Commissioner Baxter and seconded by Commissioner Sonleitner** to draft the appropriate letter to send to the Travis County Delegation Members on behalf of the Court encouraging the Appropriations Committee to put money in the appropriations bill.

**Motion carried:** County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe - yes  
 Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis - absent  
 Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner - yes  
 Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter - yes  
 Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez - yes

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by** Commissioner Baxter **and seconded by** Commissioner Gómez to adjourn the Voting Session. (3:17 PM)

**Motion carried:** County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe - yes  
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis - absent  
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner - yes  
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter - yes  
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez - yes

**MINUTES APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT**

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**Date of Approval**

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**Samuel T. Biscoe, Travis County Judge**