

THE STATE OF TEXAS

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RAINS COUNTY

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COMMISSIONERS

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COUNTY OF RAINS

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COURT

March 12, 2026

Be it remembered, the Commissioners Court of Rains County, Texas, this **Regular Meeting** being convened in the Rains County Courthouse, on **Thursday, the 12th day of March 2026**, at **10:00 a.m.** with the following members of the court being present:

**JUDGE BRENT D HILLIARD
COUNTY COMMISSIONER MIKE WILLIS
COUNTY COMMISSIONER JEREMY COOK
COUNTY COMMISSIONER KOREY YOUNG**

Recorded proceedings of court duly transcribed by:

**MANDY SAWYER
COUNTY CLERK/COURT EX-OFFICIO**

The agenda was prepared by the Judge's office announcing a meeting to be held by the Commissioners on **Thursday, the 12th day of March 2026**, at **10:00 a.m.**

The posted meeting of the Commissioners Court was held on **Thursday, the 12th day of March 2026**, at **10:00 a.m.**

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

Meeting was called to order by Judge Brent D Hilliard; Commissioner Mike Willis led Court with the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America Flag and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag; and the invocation.

II. PUBLIC HEARING on Rains County forming a Chapter 391 Regional Planning Commission for Rains County, Texas or joining with Van Zandt County, Texas and participating in their Chapter 391 Regional Planning Commission. The Rains County Commissioners Court will discuss the potential creation of a Chapter 391 Regional Planning Commission for Rains County or joining Van Zandt County's existing commission. This existing commission, under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391, aims to enhance local coordination with state agencies on development, infrastructure, and projects such as energy initiatives, promoting efficiency and community input.

III. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Jim Erwin
Stephanie McCarter
Vicki Carol
Angela Breitkieutz
David Perkins

Dennis Breitkieutz
Suzette Rogers

IV. PRESENTATIONS

1. Sarah Latham- presenting certificates from the Judges and Commissioners Conference.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. CONSENT CALENDAR

Moved by Commissioner Mike Willis, duly seconded by Commissioner Korey Young to pull accounts payables from the Consent Calendar to discuss and approve.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Mike Willis, duly seconded by Commissioner Jeremy Cook to approve the accounts payables in the amount of \$329,526.29.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Mike Willis, duly seconded by Commissioner Korey Young to enter into public hearing session.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Korey Young, duly seconded by Commissioner Mike Willis to enter into regular session.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried

1. Approval of Accounts Payable

2. Approval of Line-item transfers

3. Approval of Budget Amendments

4. Approval of Payroll and Personnel

5. Approval of Financial Reports.

6. 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**

7. District Clerk's monthly report

8. County Clerk's monthly report

9. Justice of the Peace monthly report

10. Constable monthly report

11. Sheriff's Report

Moved by Commissioner Jeremy Cook, duly

Seconded by Commissioner Korey Young to approve all remaining Consent Agenda items.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike

Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried

B. ACTION ITEMS

1. Discuss/take action to record continuing education units for Commissioners Northcutt, Willis, and Young. – Sarah Latham

Moved by Commissioner Korey Young, duly

seconded by Commissioner Mike Willis to accept the continuing education units for Commissioners Northcutt, Willis, and Young into the meeting minutes.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard, Mike

Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried

2. Discuss/take action to grant approval for the 2nd Annual Golf Ball Drop at the Heritage Park. – Mike Willis

Moved by Commissioner Mike Willis, duly seconded

by Commissioner Korey Young to approve the 2nd Annual Golf Ball Drop at Heritage Park.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard, Mike

Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Mike Willis, duly seconded by Commissioner Korey Young to grant approval for the 2nd Annual Golf Ball Drop at the Heritage Park and waive the Rains County Courthouse and Heritage Park event fees.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard, Mike

Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried

3. Discuss/take action on passing a resolution to apply for TLA funded by HEB grant. No match – Kristi Hopkins

Moved by Commissioner Jeremy Cook, duly seconded by Commissioner Korey Young to discuss taking action passing a resolution to apply for TLA funded by HEB grant. No match.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard, Mike

Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Mike Willis, duly seconded by Commissioner Jeremy Cook to approve the resolution to apply for TLA funded by HEB grant. No match.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard, Mike

Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried

4. Discuss/take action to approve “Overdue Fine Forgiveness” month in May. – Bernadette Thompson

Moved by Judge Brent D. Hilliard, duly, seconded by Commissioner Korey Young to approve discussing to approve “Overdue Fine Forgiveness” month in May.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard, Mike

Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Mike Willis, duly seconded by Commissioner Jeremy Cook to approve making the month of May an Over Due Fine Forgiveness month for the year 2026.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard, Mike

Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried

5. Discuss/take action to accept an iPad donated by a community member to the library staff. – Bernadette Thompson

Moved by Judge Brent D. Hilliard, duly seconded by Commissioner Korey Young to approve accepting an iPad donated by a community member to the library staff.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried.

6. Discuss/take action to assign office space in County buildings. – Korey Young

Moved by Judge Brent. Hilliard, duly seconded by Commissioner Jeremy Cook to discuss assigning office space in County buildings.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried.

Moved by Commissioner Mike Willis, duly seconded by Commissioner Korey Young to approve the Judges request for the JP's and County Judges office able to use each other's offices as needed and address the remaining offices at a later date.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried

7. Discuss/take action to approve application and fee schedule associated with building permitting and inspections. – Korey Young

N/A

8. Discuss/take action to accept letter of engagement from Dr. Robert Steele as a technical consultant. – Korey Young

Moved by Commissioner Korey Young, duly seconded by Commissioner Jeremy Cook to accept letter of engagement from Dr. Robert Steele as a technical consultant, pending in subject to, professional services agreement with the developer.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried.

9. Discuss/take action to consider hiring one or more individuals to assume responsibilities of fire marshal and/ or building inspector on behalf of Rains County, and all related issues. – Korey Young

Moved by Commissioner Korey Young, duly seconded by Commissioner Jeremy Cook to table Agenda Item #9.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None
Court Members Abstaining: None
Motion Carried.

10. Discuss/take action on County policy regarding payment of overtime vs. comp time. – Jeremy Cook

Moved by Commissioner Jeremy Cook, duly seconded by Commissioner Korey Young to take no action.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None
Court Members Abstaining: None
Motion Carried.

11. Discuss/take action on providing funds for seminars for the Motor Vehicle Department Tax Assessor/ Collector. – Nicole York

Moved by Commissioner Korey Young, duly seconded by Commissioner Mike Willis to approve providing funds for seminars for the Motor Vehicle Department Tax Assessor/ Collector.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None
Court Members Abstaining: None
Motion Carried.

Moved by Commissioner Korey Young, duly seconded by Commissioner Mike Willis to amend previous motion to provide funds for seminars for the Motor Vehicle Department Tax Assessor/ Collector to be taken from the contingency.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None
Court Members Abstaining: None
Motion Carried.

12. Discuss/take action to approve the final plat of CT Rach situated in the Bonafacio de O'sinea survey, Abstract No. 175, Rains County, Texas. – Jeremy Cook

Moved by Judge Brent Hilliard, duly seconded by Commissioner Jeremy Cook to approve the final plat of CT Rach situated in the Bonafacio de O'sinea survey, Abstract No. 175, Rains County, Texas.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None
Court Members Abstaining: None
Motion Carried.

13. Discuss/ take action to approve replat of Lot 2, Alexander Estates, Rains County, Texas. – Jeremy Cook

Moved by Commissioner Jeremy Cook, duly seconded by Commissioner Judge Brent D. Hilliard to **approve replat of Lot 2, Alexander Estates,**

Rains County, Texas.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried

14. Discuss/ take action to approve replat of Lot 8r Oak Trails, being a replat of lots 8,9,10,11 &12, E.N. Stringer Survey, A-223, Rains County, Texas. – Mike Willis

Moved by Commissioner Mike Willis, duly seconded by Commissioner Jeremy Cook to approve replat of Lot 8r Oak Trails, being a replat of lots 8,9,10,11 &12, E.N. Stringer Survey, A-223, Rains County, Texas.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried.

15. Discuss/ take action to approve the road damage agreement and resolution, policy regarding same, and all related issues. – Lori Northcutt

Moved by Judge Brent D. Hilliard, duly seconded by Commissioner Mike Willis to approve the document as it has been submitted for the county to use going forward as our baseline policy.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried.

16. Discuss/ take action regarding most recent Library Advisory Board report. – Bernadette Thompson

Moved by Judge Brent D. Hilliard, duly seconded by Commissioner Jeremy Willis to accept Library Advisory Board report into the meeting minutes.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried.

17. Discuss/ take action to create a handicap parking spot with ramp at the Annex Building. – Mandy Sawyer

Moved by Commissioner Korey Young, duly seconded by Judge Brent D. Hilliard to approve creating a handicap parking spot at the Annex Building.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None
Motion Carried.

Moved by Commissioner Korey Young, duly seconded by Judge Brent D. Hilliard to approve filing everything necessary with TDLR and all other state agencies that may be involved to apply for a grant for the purpose of knowing if funds should be extended and what part of the budget it will come out of.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None
Court Members Abstaining: None
Motion Carried

18. Discuss/ take action to make the Annex building a smoke-free property. – Mandy Sawyer

Moved by Judge Brent D. Hilliard, duly seconded by Commissioner Korey Young to approve making the Annex building a smoke free property.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None
Court Members Abstaining: None
Motion Carried.

Moved by Commissioner Korey Young, duly seconded by Commissioner Jeremy Cook to go into Executive Session to discuss Agenda Items # 7, 8, 9.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None
Court Members Abstaining: None
Motion Carried.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

I. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Moved by Commissioner Korey Young, duly seconded by Commissioner Jeremy Cook to go into executive session to discuss agenda items #7, 8, 9 as permitted by TGC § 551.071 (1) and (2), Consultation with Attorney; § 551.072, Real Property; §551.073, Prospective Gifts; § 551.074, Personnel Matters; § 551.072, Investments; and § 551.076, Security Devices/ Audits.

ADJOURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Judge Brent D. Hilliard announces Commissioners Court is back in regular session at 2:04 pm.

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

III. COURT DISCUSSION/PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURN

Moved by Judge Brent D. Hilliard, duly
seconded by Commissioner Korey Young to adjourn.

Court Members Voting Aye: Brent D Hilliard; Mike
Willis, Jeremy Cook, and Korey Young.

Court Members Voting No: None

Court Members Abstaining: None

Motion Carried.

With no further business to be considered by the Court at 2:16 p.m.,
Judge Brent D. Hilliard declared Commissioners Court adjourned.

On this the 12th day of March, 2026, I, Mandy Sawyer, attest to the accuracy of this
record.



MANDY SAWYER
RAINS COUNTY CLERK
RAINS COUNTY, TEXAS