

AGENDA ITEM # 38August 10, 1999Hear comments from commissioners.

Commissioner Limmer felt right-of-way should be purchased for county road expansion even if construction could not begin this year.

Judge Doerfler advised Commissioner Boatright reported a Pedernales Electric Cooperative sub-contractor had drilled into the Seminole Gas pipeline located north of Highway 29 on County Road 214 causing an explosion. The drilling operator has not been located at this time. The number of injuries has not been determined and everyone northeast of County 214 and 200 are being evacuated. Authorities are estimating five (5) hours for the fire to burn out. Two medical helicopters are on the scene.

COMMISSIONERS COURT RECESSED AT 12:25 P.M. ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1999.

COMMISSIONERS COURT RECONVENED AT 7 O'CLOCK P.M. ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1999.

AGENDA ITEM # 39August 10, 1999Public Hearing - 1999/2000 County Budget.

County Judge John Doerfler welcomed those in attendance extending an invitation to anyone wishing to address the court.

He explained the proposed 1999/2000 budget included a hefty increase and approximately \$4.7 million cash ending balance would be used to balance the budget.

Retired County Clerk employee Barbara Shuffield addressed the court requesting consideration of a cost of living increase for the retirees. Since the retirement system began January 1, 1969, there have been no cost of living increases for retirees. On January 1, 1999, there were 67 retirees and beneficiaries.

Commissioner Heiligenstein would like to see language in budget orders for this and future years striving to reach annual cost of living increases for retirees.

Precinct #1 Chief Deputy Constable Priscilla Smith addressed the court requesting reconsideration of their budget request for an additional mental health deputy - offering to use money appropriated for two new vehicles for the officer.

County Attorney Gene Taylor thanked the court on behalf of all Williamson County employees who are indebted to the Commissioners Court for the hard work dedicated to employees over the past few years.

Judge Doerfler thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the public hearing.

COMMISSIONERS COURT ADJOURNED AT 7:45 P.M. ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1999.