

COMMISSIONERS COURT ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:30 A.M. ON TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1999.

AGENDA ITEM # 29

May 25, 1999

Discuss sale of real estate: (EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED as per VTCA Govt. Code sec 551.072 relating to real property)

No action was taken in executive session.

AGENDA ITEM # 30

May 25, 1999

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Discuss pending litigation: Charles Johnston v. Williamson County (EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED as per VTCA Govt Code sec 551.071 relating to consultation with attorney.

No action was taken in executive session.

COMMISSIONERS COURT RECONVENED FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:51 A.M. ON TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1999.

AGENDA ITEM # 31

May 25, 1999

Discuss and take any appropriate action on pending litigation: Charles Johnston v. Williamson County.

Moved: Judge Doerfler

Seconded: Commissioner Hays

Motion: To make settlement payment to Charles Johnston.

Vote: Motion carried 4 - 0 with Commissioner Heiligenstein absent from the dais.

AGENDA ITEM # 32

May 25, 1999

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Hear comments from commissioners:

Commissioner Hays discussed his meeting last week regarding HNTB engineering presentation of IH 35 traffic study conducted by Texas A & M International University and the Department of Commerce. In 1998, 17 million cars and trucks crossed the Mexican border at Laredo. Most of the 17 million vehicles travel north on IH 35 through Austin to Dallas and then east. Traffic ranges from 8,000 to 70,000 vehicles per day in rural areas and 210,000 vehicles per day in some of the urban areas - mainly from Laredo to Dallas.

One recommendation was the widening of all existing IH 35 right-of-way. The report continued with 560 miles of IH 35 have sufficient lanes. A suggestion to widen almost 1,000 miles of IH 35 with decks being built in the urban areas with double-layer widening up to 12 lanes and build by-passes around Austin diverting 80% of the truck traffic. Also recommended was moving 50% of truck cargo by rail. These recommendations would be long-term alternatives.

The study continued with \$30 billion of goods being exported to Mexico in 1998, with Mexico exporting \$26 billion to the United States.

36% of total United States - Mexico trade is ground transported through Laredo.

Judge Doerfler gave a quick preliminary run-down on the 1999/2000 budget process. The proposed budgets he has received represent \$40 million in total expenditures. For the 1998/99 budget year the county estimates \$36 million in revenues. These figures do not include any new employees or employee raises and one hundred eleven (111) new employees have been requested by department heads.

The Judge also discussed an article in the Round Rock Leader regarding the City of Round Rock considering a mid-year \$1.2 million budget increase for hiring entry level employees.

COMMISSIONERS COURT ADJOURNED AT 11:20 A.M. ON TUESDAY MAY 25, 1999