

AGENDA:  
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**MINUTES**

of the

**WILLIAMSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING**

**MAY 16, 2000**

STATE OF TEXAS                    )(

COUNTY OF WILLIAMSON )(

BE IT REMEMBERED that at 9:30 a.m. on this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of May, A.D., 2000, there was begun and held a SPECIAL SESSION of the Commissioners Court of Williamson County, Texas, the following members being present, to-wit:

JOHN C. DOERFLER, County Judge  
 MICHAEL L. HEILIGENSTEIN, Commissioner, Precinct 1  
 GREGORY W. BOATRIGHT, Commissioner, Precinct 2  
 DAVID HAYS, Commissioner, Precinct 3  
 FRANKIE LIMMER, Commissioner, Precinct 4  
 EUGENE D. TAYLOR, County Attorney  
 NANCY E. RISTER, County Clerk  
 DAVID U. FLORES, County Auditor

**AGENDA ITEM #1**

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Hear any interested person and consider forming the next agenda or adding items to today's Agenda.

Dr. Wade Burton addressed the court with a petition signed by various county residents regarding the Williamson County Humane Society. He stressed concerns over noise, odor, waste disposal, traffic, health issues, pollution to the surrounding areas, and diseased animals. Dr. Burton and his wife Dr. Susan Hopper own and operate Georgetown Veterinary Hospital in Georgetown and urged Williamson County to withdraw their financial support and association with Williamson County Humane Society. He is concerned for the health, safety and welfare of the animals being impounded by the county and transferred to the Williamson County Humane Society due to various disease problems which he feels have become worse since the October, 1999, relocation to their new 27 acre facility on County Road 272 near Leander.

He also expressed concern for public safety due to rabies vaccination errors and record keeping which he has seen. He is personally opposed to tax money paying for license fees which go to a non-profit business turned into a "for-profit" enterprise which competes with local tax paying businesses (specifically a spay/neuter clinic).

He felt the Williamson County Humane Society is using the non-profit status to prevent the public from obtaining valid medical, health and safety information which the public has the right to know. Dr. Burton supports the area residents who oppose a large essentially commercial operation located on a county road. The facility is inadequate for the operation. He suggested Williamson County build and operate its own impound facility and be responsible and accountable to the tax payers with an operation much better than currently being accomplished. He expressed his concern for the liability issue for the county.

Commissioner Heiligenstein asked the doctor to compose a report outlining the alarming conditions and disease with specifics or recommend someone who would consent to do so.

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