

Commissioners Court meeting minutes told

The Coke County Commissioners Court met in regular session on February 28, 2022, at 9 am at the Courthouse in Robert Lee. Those in attendance included County Judge Hal Spain, Commissioner Precinct 1 Donald Robertson, Commissioner Precinct 2 Paul Williams, Commissioner Precinct 3 Marshall Millican, Commissioner Precinct 4 Joe Sefcik, and Clerk Monica Reyes.

The meeting opened with the pledge to the flag and prayer was offered by Commissioner Williams.

Judge Spain announced the presence of a quorum.

Commissioner Millican made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. He was seconded by Commissioner Robertson and the motion carried.

The County Auditor's Report was unavailable.

The Extension Report was unavailable.

Commissioner Robertson made a motion to reinstate the

burn ban. The motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the signing of the contract with Perdue Brandon for the collection of delinquent accounts in criminal cases. Commissioner Sefcik seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Judge Spain presented the Racial Profiling Report for Constable Marty Boyd.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the order for the Special Election of two constitutional amendments to be held May 7, 2022. Commissioner Sefcik seconded the motion and the motion carried.

No action was taken regarding TASB Energy.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to accept the bid from Russell Sullivan for the remodel of the Bronte pool, on the basis that each of the following projects be done as the funds become available: 1) replaster the pool; 2) retile the pool; 3) replace and remount the diving board; 4) retile the bathroom; 5) refurbish the pool deck.

Commissioner Sefcik seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Commissioner Millican made a motion to accept the bid from Kendall Denton Construction, RLMK LLC, in the amount of \$69,000 for removal of existing materials and construction of a low water crossing at Dripping Springs. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Robertson, carried.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the budget amendments and line item transfers, seconded by Commissioner Sefcik. The motion carried.

Commissioner Williams notified the Court that the plumbing problems at the Bronte Recreational Center have been fixed.

Commissioner Williams relayed his desire to re-visit the county's subdivision regulations at the next meeting.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the bills and was seconded by Commissioner Robertson. The motion carried.

Judge Spain adjourned the meeting at 9:47 am.

on grades, leadership ability, community involvement, school activities and an essay submission. The recipient must attend an accredited Texas institution of higher education, including certified trade schools, while pursuing a degree. The submissions deadline for the CVEC scholarship is March 31.

For more information or to obtain applications, please visit cvec.coop/community/cvec-scholarship or call the member services department at 325-655-6957.

TxDOT issues urgent call to drivers

When friends and coworkers heard there was a crash nearby, they tried to call tow truck driver Isaac Simmons for an update. They never heard back.

"You don't realize how much somebody impacts your life until they're gone," Simmons' friend Nathan Bryant said. "He was ripped away from us violently and it's not right."

Isaac Simmons was killed on the side of the road in May, 2021 while responding to a stalled vehicle. He was one of more than 4,480 people killed on Texas roads in 2021, making it the second deadliest year since TxDOT began tracking fatalities in 1940. Sadly, 1981 was the deadliest year with 4,701 fatalities.

The increase in fatalities in Texas last year reflects a deadly trend nationwide. An estimated 20,160 people died in motor vehicle crashes in the first half of 2021, up 18.4% over 2020. In Texas, traffic fatalities were up 15 percent from 2020-2021.

Recognizing roadway safety is a shared responsibility between all of us – the public, engineers and law enforcement - Transportation Commissioner

Laura Ryan is pleading with Texans to do their part.

"Driver behavior is one of the causes, but also one of the most important solutions," Ryan said. "This is not blame. These are facts. We all have a role. TxDOT can do more, and we accept that responsibility. The driving public can do more. For instance, in 2021, a total of 1,522 people were killed because of speed, and a total of 1,219 people were killed because they were not wearing a seat belt. These were decisions made by people that could have potentially saved 2,741 lives."

At this year's annual Texas Transportation Forum, University of Texas psychology professor Dr. Art Markman told TxDOT leaders and transportation stakeholders that pressures from COVID are adding to disastrous outcomes on our roadways.

"We have to remind people that they are part of a community," Markman said. "We have to start considering everyone as part of our community. If we don't do that, there are going to be all sorts of negative consequences, and those are going to include negative consequences on the road."

In addition to funding traffic safety campaigns and grant funds to law enforcement, TxDOT is working with researchers to deploy and study new roadway design features that are proven to save lives. The agency is using crash data to pinpoint areas where drivers are more prone to crash and will be focused on improvements in those areas and sharing that data with the public.

With increased focus on engineering, enforcement and on the critical role drivers play in road safety, Ryan and TxDOT leaders believe we can end the streak of daily deaths on Texas roadways.

(Continued on next page)



February 2022

The Coke County Sheriff's Office answered 590 calls for the month of February 2022.

- Information Report - 3
- Alarm Calls - 2
- Welfare Concern - 4
- Civil Matter - 1
- Criminal Trespass - 2
- Criminal Mischief - 3
- Disorderly Conduct - 1
- Burglary - 2

- Injury to the Elderly - 1
- Theft - 4
- Death Investigation - 3
- Public Service (includes funerals, court, motorist assist, alarm calls, etc) - 411
- MHMR Interactions - 1
- Civil Process - 0
- Prisoner Transport (including arrest and to and from court) - 2
- Warrants Served - 1
- Livestock Calls - 24
- Accidents - 4
- Blue Forms Issued - 2
- Accident Assist - 1
- Traffic Stops - 121
- Traffic Stops Resulting in Citations - 53
- Total inmates in jail as of Monday, March 14, 2022:
 - Males - 3
 - Female - 1

Scholarship opportunity for local students

Concho Valley Electric Cooperative (CVEC) awards four \$2,000 scholarships every spring. Two scholarships are awarded to high school seniors and two are awarded to post-secondary students continuing their education.

Applicants must be a CVEC member, or dependent of a member, whose primary residence is served by the cooperative. Scholarship recipients are chosen by an independent committee based

BENEFIT FOR MELINDA MCCUTCHEN

WHEN
March 27, 2022
12pm – Sold out

PULLED PORK SANDWICH, BEANS, POTATO SALAD, APPLE COBLER

\$15/PLATE

WHERE
Drive thru pickup at the Courthouse Parking Lot. Entrance off Austin Street

Melinda was recently diagnosed with cancer. She will be going to many doctor and specialist visits which is going to bring on some enormous financial burdens.

Let's come together and help Melinda to lessen the burden of these expenses.

Hosted by the family of the Coke County Sheriff's Office with the help of County Employees.

TICKETS:
Courthouse
Bronte JP Office
Bronte Gun & Tackle
Coke County Feed Store

Grand Opening

New Brands:

- Jacoby Feed
- Heinhold Feed
- Pro tubs
- Louisiana Grills
- Pit Boss
- Weber Grill
- Los Casadores
- Milwaukee Tools
- Midwest Fasteners
- Diablo Blades
- John Deer Toys
- Moen Fixtures
- Dillon Blinds
- Crossfire Feeders



BLACKBURN'S

Ranch & Hardware Supply

Stop by **124 S. State Street** and find out about the Big Buck Contest sponsored by *Los Casadores!*

March 26 @ 10-2

Live music, chopped beef sandwiches, swag & more