

## MINUTES – MAY 7, 1999

### TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT

On Friday, the 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1999, the Commissioners' Court convened the regular Voting Session at 9:35 AM in the Commissioners' Courtroom, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor of the Travis County Administration Building, 314 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Austin, Texas. Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk, was represented by Deputy Melissa Nuñez.

The Commissioners' Court adjourned the Voting Session at 10:48 AM.

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**1. RECEIVE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION.**  
(9:35 AM)

**Members of the Court heard from:** Bob Kamm, Legislative Consultant, Shields, Kamm, and Casteñeda; Tris Casteñeda, Legislative Consultant, Shields, Kamm, and Casteñeda; Marion Damen, Assistant County Attorney; Stephen Williams, Executive Manager, Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services Department (A-TC HHSD) and Veterans' Services; Susan Spataro, Travis County Auditor; and Carolyn Damron, Senior Financial Analyst, Travis County Auditor's Office.

**Clerk's Note:** The Commissioners' Court received legislative updates from the Legislative Consultants and Travis County Staff.

Discussion Only on House Bills 3445, 1124, 400, 423, 1260, 2773 and Senate Bill 1804.

**Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Davis** to take the Bail Bond Boards advice and send a letter of opposition to the sponsors of SB 403 and HB 1481 and members of the committee indicating reasons why Travis County is in opposition, and that the Court authorize the County's political consultants to take any and all reasonable steps to amend the bills in a way favorable to Travis County.

**Motion carried:**

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

## ITEM 1 CONTINUED

**Motion by** Commissioner Baxter **and seconded by** Commissioner Gómez to oppose HB 2111 in it's current form and state that the only way that the Court would back off of that, at a minimum, is to get the \$38.00 back in the legislation.

**Motion carried:** County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe - yes  
 Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis - yes  
 Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner - yes  
 Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter - yes  
 Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez - yes

**Motion by** Judge Biscoe **and seconded by** Commissioner Baxter to draft a letter of support for HB 2968 stating the facts, but requesting that whatever occurs, to make sure the \$10.00 the County receives right now is preserved, and anything on top of that, Travis County would appreciate. The Court also wishes to make sure the Travis County delegation receives a copy of the letter and knows the desire of the Court.

**Motion carried:** County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe - yes  
 Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis - yes  
 Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner - yes  
 Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter - yes  
 Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez - yes

**Motion by** Commissioner Sonleitner to take the appropriate steps to express the Court's opposition to HB 1161 as written at this point, in terms of the impact on Travis County and then, depending on the movement of this bill, direct the Legislative Consultants to talk with the conferees and Senator Barrientos at the appropriate time.

**Clerk's Note:** The Motion was not seconded.

**A Restatement of the previous Motion was made by** Commissioner Sonleitner **and seconded by** Commissioner Baxter to (1) prepare a letter between now and Monday, May 10, 1999, indicating the County's opposition and the reasons why, (2) visit with Senator Barrientos, (3) communicate with the City of Austin, (4) communicate with the rest of the Travis County Delegation, (5) communicate with the conferees, and (6) to direct the Legislative Consultants to take whatever action is necessary.

**Motion carried:** County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe - yes  
 Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis - yes  
 Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner - yes  
 Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter - yes  
 Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez - yes

**ITEM 1 CONTINUED**

**Motion by** Judge Biscoe **and seconded by** Commissioner Sonleitner to put together a letter indicating the County's position supporting HB 1477 and the reasons why, and to put in a card for the public hearing.

**Motion carried:** County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe - yes  
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis - yes  
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner - yes  
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter - yes  
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez - yes

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Baxter** to adjourn the Voting Session. (10:48 AM)

**Motion carried:** County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe - yes  
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis - yes  
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner - yes  
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter - yes  
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez - yes

**MINUTES APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT**

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**Date of Approval**

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**Samuel T. Biscoe, Travis County Judge**