

## JANUARY 2022 Erath County Judge's Summary

The Erath County Commissioner's Court meets in regular sessions on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month. Meeting notices (including special meetings), Agendas and Minutes are posted on the County website <https://www.co.erath.tx.us/agendacenter>

### Selected Agenda items from the JANUARY 2022 Commissioner's Court meetings:

- Final Plats were approved for two subdivisions: Eastwood Ranch Subdivision, consisting of 122 acres on CR 494 in Precinct 1. The property is divided into 13 tracts, ranging in size from 8 to 12 acres. Legends of Buffalo Ridge Subdivision, Phase III located off HWY 281 just N of Stephenville, includes 2205 acres divided into 52 tracts.
- The Court approved a contract with Waldrop Construction Co. Inc. to begin construction of the County Annex III, a 24,000 square foot multi-purpose building that will provide much needed office space for the County Clerk, Tax Assessor-Collector, Environmental, and Agri-Life/4H.
- The Court appointed Ms. Jan Rutledge to fill the remaining term for Justice of the Peace Precinct 2 in Dublin. The vacancy is due to the passing of long-time JP Bart Greenway. Jan had served as the Chief Clerk in that office.
- The Court approved 40 hours of extended COVID-19 paid leave for county employees.

Erath County continues to grow. A good indicator is the number of septic permits that are issued on an annual basis. As you can see, the data to the right indicates a strong and steady growth. Keith Bailey, Coordinator and Austin Gibson assist in all applications for septic systems in the county. Applications for developments and subdivisions are at an all-time high as people continue to discover the richness of living in Erath County.	Septic Permits by Calendar Year
	2021-----256
	2020-----240
	2019-----226
	2018-----175
	2017-----172
	2016-----164

### 2022 PRIMARY VOTING Information

<b>Early Voting:</b>	<b>Erath County Courthouse</b>	Monday Feb. 14- Friday Feb. 18	8am-5pm
	<b>Extended Hours</b>	<b>Saturday Feb. 19</b>	<b>12noon to 4pm.</b>
	<i>NO VOTING ON Feb. 21, President's Day, County Offices closed.</i>		
<b>Early Voting:</b>	<b>DUBLIN – Patrick Street Church of Christ 630 N. Patrick St.</b>	<b>Tuesday Feb. 22-Wednesday Feb. 23</b>	<b>7am-7pm</b>
	<b>Extended Hours</b>	<b>Tuesday Feb. 22-Wednesday Feb. 23</b>	<b>7am-7pm</b>
	Regular Hours	Thursday Feb. 24-Friday Feb. 25	8am-5pm
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### ELECTION DAY VOTING

#### March 1 ELECTION DAY VOTING LOCATIONS 7AM-7PM

Erath County Courthouse 100 W. Washington St.	Lingleville School 21261 N. FM 219
Texas A&M Agri Life 1229 N. US HWY 281	Morgan Mill Community Center 406 CR 156
Texas Bank 988 Wolfe Nursery Rd.	Selden Community Center 4142 FM 913
United Co-Op Services 1200 Glen Rose HWY	Bluff Dale Community Center 175 Holt Bluff Dale TX
Patrick St. Church of Christ 630 N. Patrick Dublin TX	Huckabay Community Center 42346 N FM 219

<https://www.co.erath.tx.us/DocumentCenter/View/2832/2022-03-01-Primary-Notice-of-Election-PDF>

**\*County Offices will be closed on Monday, February 21, in observance of President's Day\***

For Calendar Year 2021, here are some of our activities:

• **103 Unattended deaths**

This involves a death that occurs when not being attended by a physician (usually, not in a hospital). These may include deaths in the home, traffic accidents, drownings, homicides, suicides, etc. Our Funeral Homes are always ready to assist us as we deal with the grieving families of the deceased.

• **771 Magistrations at the County Jail**

A Judge: Sees an arrested person within 48 hours of arrest; Reads the arrested person their constitutional rights; Sets a bond/bail amount for the individual or gives other instructions to appear before a judge to answer charges; May set Bond Conditions as necessary to protect citizens from further danger(s) upon release of the person arrested; and May issue Emergency Protective Orders designed to provide continued protection for victims (i.e. of domestic or other assault).

Stephenville and Dublin Municipal Judges Richard Petronis and Juanita Torres (respectively) and Court-at-Law Judge Blake Thompson assist in conducting magistrations.

• **50 Mental Health Warrants** (to detain an individual in need of Mental Health evaluation).

This requires an evaluation to consider detaining a person who may pose a danger to him/her self or others. The County has an agreement with Pecan Valley Mental Health staff, who are there to provide professional advice on the individual's situation and if detained, the staff member will make arrangements for treatment of the individual at a Mental Health Facility (i.e. Wichita Falls, Granbury, etc.).

**Check out Erath County Jobs on our website:** <https://www.co.erath.tx.us/Jobs.aspx>

Community Supervision Officer (Adult)	Mechanic
Assistant County Attorney	County Clerk Land/Elections Clerk
Dispatcher	District Attorney Investigator
Jailer	PART-TIME EMT
Public Safety Communications Tech (IT)	Sheriff Patrol Deputy
Juvenile Probation Officer	Part-Time Clerk JP2 Dublin
Clerk of the Justice Court JP2 Dublin	Pct. 1 Equipment Operator
Pct. 3 Equipment Operator	

**Jan Rutledge Appointed JP2**



On Monday, January 10th, the Commissioner's Court appointed Jan Rutledge as Justice of the Peace, Pct. 2. Jan was sworn in by District Judge Cashion immediately following her appointment.

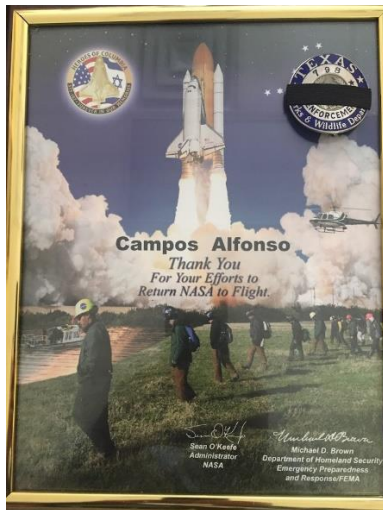
Jan has been with Erath County for 23 years and had been working as Chief Clerk for Judge Greenway since 2011 and until Judge Greenway's unexpected passing in November.

Upon her appointment, Jan commented, *"I find this an honor to serve out Judge Bart Greenway's term as Justice of the Peace! He was a very fair and considerate Judge and he became a dear friend, whom I will miss very much."*

**February 1, 2003 (19 years ago)**

At about 8am (local time), the Space Shuttle Columbia disintegrated as it re-entered the atmosphere over Texas and Louisiana, killing all seven crew members. In the Austin area at the time, I was alerted at about 9:30 am to quickly report to Bergstrom Airport in Austin and be prepared to travel to Lufkin, where considerable debris from the Space Shuttle had landed. Four of us from the Governor's Division of Emergency Management boarded a Black Hawk helicopter and arrived at about noon to a command post scurrying to coordinate search and rescue teams in the debris areas.

In an era before selfies, a photographer from the Governor's Office was also onboard and took the picture below. More than two years later, everyone who participated in the response received a plaque like the one pictured on the right. A day I will never forget. – *Alfonso Campos*



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To receive monthly summaries by email, send a request to [countyjudge@co.erath.tx.us](mailto:countyjudge@co.erath.tx.us)**



Citizens are invited to attend and are welcome to address the Commissioner's Court by signing up to speak. Arrive a few minutes early to get signed up.

Please call me with any questions. Let me know how we can better serve you.

You may contact my office with any opinions or suggestions at (254) 965-1415, or send me an email at [countyjudge@co.erath.tx.us](mailto:countyjudge@co.erath.tx.us) We are here to serve you.  
Until next time –

*Alfonso Campos*

Alfonso Campos – Erath County Judge



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