

Calhoun County Historical Commission
Regular Meeting of April 14, 2015
6:30-7:30 PM at Calhoun County Library

Minutes of Secretary

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by CCHC Chair Mary Belle Meitzen

Invocation:

By John Meitzen

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mary Belle Meitzen led pledges to the U.S. and Texas flags

Quorum:

There was a quorum present. Those in attendance were:

Mary Belle Meitzen	Peggy Gains	Steve Koch	Gary Ralston
Jody Brett	John Kassner	Nelson Marek	Walter Spiller
Peggy Dobbins	Vicky Kepler	John Meitzen	

Consider/Approve Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's report by Gary Ralston was approved as posted

Consider/Approve Minutes for March 10, 2015 Regular Meeting:

Minutes of March 10, 2015 meeting by Walter Spiller were approved as posted

Consider/Take Necessary Action on Standing Committee Reports:

1. **Indianola Scavenger Hunt**-Robert Loflin & John Foester met and made plans for activities concentrated around Indianola. Possibilities mentioned were to have something on the Battle of Norris Bridge, and have a German dinner.

2. **Post 1945 Bridge Mitigation Project**-John Kassner moved that the Calhoun County Historical Commission accept the *Post-1945 Bridge Mitigation Report* and that a copy be sent to the Texas Department of Transportation who will continue consultations with the Texas Historical Commission.

From John Kassner: I sent an email to TxDOT on March 18, 2015. That same day I received a phone call from Carolyn Nelson who is the Architectural Historian in the Environmental Affairs Division at TxDOT in Austin. She followed up our conversation with an email:

The Lavaca Bay Causeway is a historically significant bridge and not a historically designated one, therefore, it has been placed in Group 1 for planning purposes:

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- A. Exceptionally important bridges significant in more than one evaluation category.
- B. Bridges would require full review and mitigation under federal law.

TxDOT has proposed to:

- A. Put a precast concrete barrier down the middle of the bridge to keep vehicles from jumping the median into incoming traffic.
- B. Wrap the piers on the underside using a material called CFRP(carbon fiber-reinforced polymer). It would work like a cast to help reduce salt water damage.

This Texas Historical Commission has been consulted on this project and they believe this construction activity would be compatible with the historic nature of the bridge and would not adversely affect it.

3. Junior Historian:

Half Moon Reef Lighthouse Tour-No definite time was given-Steve Koch volunteered to help.

4. Cemetery Committee Business: The Gladney Tour is still pending per Jody Brett.

A Ranger Cemetery work day was called for Saturday, April 25, 2015, beginning @ 9:00 AM(later changed to May 9).

Program: Calhoun County in the Civil War:

Gary Ralston gave a very good presentation on "Calhoun County in the Civil War 1861-65".

Consider/Take Action Commission Input:

May 2, 2015-Daughters of the American Revolution Preservation Award @ 11:30 AM at the Victoria Country Club-cost \$18.00.

May 12, 2015-Next posted CCHC meeting.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.