

CALHOUN COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 14, 2023 MINUTES

The Calhoun County Historical Commission met November 14, 2023, at the Calhoun County Library, 200 West Mahan, Port Lavaca, Texas, at 6:30 p.m. Chairman Robert Loflin called the meeting to order. Quorum was met. Invocation was given by Gary Ralston. Pledges to the flags were led by Chairman Loflin. In attendance were Mary Meitzen, Vicki Cox, Robert Loflin, Wesley Abraham, Gary Ralston, Steve Koch, Sue Traylor, Larry Nicholson, and John Foester. Guests introduced were Allan Berger, Brigid Berger, and Kieth Hubbard.

May 9, 2023, Minutes were approved as posted online. Gary Ralston gave the Treasurer's Report which was approved as presented. Total Accounts were \$35,153.35. There was no THC Correspondence. There was no Cemetery Committee Report. Marker Chair Gary Ralston reported the Matagorda Lighthouse Marker has been received. The Olivia Cemetery Marker Replacement is complete. The Louis Andry Marker is ready to be shipped and will be placed by the LaSalle Statue. The Clark Station Marker is in the lineup. An Undertold Marker was submitted to THC concerning 69th Indiana Union soldiers who drowned crossing Saluria Bayou.

Old Business: Olivia Silhouette Project requires rebid. After discussion, Larry Nichols is to obtain Calhoun High School Shop Teacher information for Gary Ralston. Discussed Commission buying plans and steel for the High School to cut out Silhouette. Would save transportation costs. Mary Meitzen gave a Camel Corp 2023 update. Over 300 Students from Travis and Seadrift Middle Schools attended event on October 12, 2023.

New Business: Larry Nichols reported City Manager Jody Weaver is interested in creating a written Scope of Work for Half Moon Reef Lighthouse and then applying for various grants. Second, the Port Lavaca Chamber of Commerce is hosting its annual Holiday Decorating Contest. It was agreed to let the Chamber decorate the Lighthouse interior by Jay Cuellar. Larry Nichols would report decision to authorities. Gary Ralston reported Major George W.F. Wood Headstone was found located in the San Antonio National Cemetery. Two additional Federal employees are being researched. Brigid Berger offered to digitize Shifting Sands of Calhoun County. Offer accepted. Gary Ralston reported an increased 2024 Budget, \$16,600.00, beginning January 1, 2024. Chairman Robert Loflin reported Commissioner David Hall would be transporting Zimmerman Barrels from the Texas Ornithological Society Zimmerman Ridge site to the Calhoun County Museum. Kieth Hubbard, CC Parks Board, requested help with Magnolia Beach Kiosk documentation. Mary Belle Meitzen provided researched Cistern description which was accepted by the Commission. Chairman Robert Loflin explained Magnolia Beach Cistern project. Commissioner David Hall wishes to fill cistern to reduce chance of injury. Calhoun County Parks Chairman, Allan Berger gave a Green Lake Park update. It was suggested Berger contact THC Steward, Frank Condran, for help identifying recorded Calhoun County Archeological Sites which would conflict with bird-viewing stations. Commission voted to spend \$1600 plus donations to scan Ranger, McGuire or others with Gary Ralston in charge. Chairman Robert Loflin adjourned the meeting.

