

## Calhoun County Historical Commission

Minutes: February 11, 2025

Calhoun County Historical Commission met February 11, 2025, at the Calhoun County Library, 200 West Mahan, Port Lavaca, Texas. Chairman Larry Nichols called the meeting to Order at 6:32 p.m. Quorum met. Invocation and Pledges of Allegiance were led by Larry Nichols. Members were welcomed and introduced themselves. Handouts were distributed to members. Minutes from January 14, 2025 were viewed. One correction was made by Gary Ralston. In the last paragraph, it should say "the website needs to be upgraded." Motion was made by Jesse Hubbell and seconded by Jody Weaver, and was approved. Treasurer's Report, as of Jan. 31, included Total Accounts \$34699.93, Miscellaneous \$4002.00, and Capital Outlay \$2450.00. Jody Weaver asked about the Jr. Historians. It was stated that account isn't used much now unless any donations come in. Wesley Abraham moved Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented. Sheryl Cuellar seconded, and motion was approved.

Larry Nichols presented a copy of Shifting Sands that had been donated to the Historical Commission by Anita Knipling Scott. Mr. Nichols read the letter that accompanied the donation.

Cemetery Chair Keith Hubbard said there was not much to report.

A discussion was started about the upcoming Matagorda Lighthouse Marker Dedication. Gary Ralston reported the program was ready. Question was raised if the flags were needed, with an affirmation.

Under New Business, Goals for 2025 were discussed. Under discussion were:

1. Getting at least 2 items listed with the National Register of Historic Places Possibly the Courthouse and Calhoun High School.
2. Having signs put up for different towns to display. Each sign showing the year established and Calhoun County Historical Commission.
3. Getting some of the markers put on the 147 unmarked graves
4. Working on tours

Motion to adopt goals was made by Jody Weaver and seconded by Jesse Hubbell. It was approved.

Under Old business:

1. Gary Ralston reported on the Olivia Silhouette Project, the high school students are working on it on Fridays. C J Vetter is working on a story on the Silhouettes.
2. Lighthouse Repairs – Eddie Tyler reported the deck is installed. It is a little wider than the previous one, which will help with the handicap ramp. A piece of the original tongue & groove flooring was found. A discussion was had about possibly framing it and hanging it in the museum. Thanks was given for the County Parks Department.
3. Museum Report – Vicki Cox reported the museum had 68 visitors in January, and had cash donations of \$244. A discussion was had about getting off-site storage to open more space, and also getting a partition to put in front of the maintenance closet in the entry way. It would cover the door that needs painting and also give more area for displays.
4. Phil & Sue Thomaes – It was stated that MaryBelle is working on a date to honor the Thomaes.

“Judge’s Island” was brought up and discussed. It was decided to hold off for now, as we didn’t want to set any precedents.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jesse Hubbell, and seconded by Eddie Tyler, carried. The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Larry Nichols.