



## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS,** the Williamson County Commissioners Court supports the principles of an open and transparent government, allowing taxpayers the ability to monitor deliberations, decisions and spending of the Court, while also providing opportunity for public comment; and

**WHEREAS,** the Williamson County Commissioners Court has over a decade of history of going above and beyond the spirit and intent of the Open Meetings Act found in Chapter 551 of the Government Code and strives for ways to increase access of information to its citizens; and that history includes, but is not limited to, an agenda management software application that enables attachments of supporting documents, maps, and large presentations, which improves the ability of citizens to search for information, providing the ability to click on an indexed agenda and immediately jumping to video and documents of the desired agenda item and video-taping and live streaming of Commissioner Court proceedings; and

**WHEREAS,** Williamson County has won many awards that stem from its openness and transparency, including 26 consecutive years the Auditors Office has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting; 8 consecutive years the Budget Office has received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award; and 19 consecutive years the Purchasing Department has won the Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award; and

**WHEREAS,** it has already been a practice of members of this governmental body to avoid private quorum discussions or deliberations about items under consideration and it is our intention to continue that practice regardless of a recent decision by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals that struck down a key part of the Open Meetings Act; and

**WHEREAS,** we, the members of the Williamson County Commissioners Court are committed to abiding by both the letter and the spirit of the Open Meetings Act and that we do not waiver in our long-time commitment to transparency in decision making, as evident by our past actions;

**Now therefore be it resolved,** that the Williamson County Commissioners Court does hereby recommit us to the continuation of excellence, open governance to include access of information, public discussions, deliberations, and communications in conducting the business of and setting policy for Williamson County; and

**Be it further resolved,** that we recommit ourselves to the spirit of the Open Meetings Act and support clarification measures being considered by the Texas state legislature.

**RESOLVED THIS 2<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2019.**

**PASSED BY COMMISSIONERS COURT BY A VOTE OF \_\_\_\_\_**

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Bill Gravell, Jr., County Judge