

Resolution protects freshwater inflow

Erika Koenig
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County commissioners approved a resolution supporting freshwater inflows research and protection following a presentation from Jennifer Walker of the Sierra Club's Lone Star Chapter Monday.

The document recommends that Texas Governor Rick Perry, Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst, Senator Ken Armbrister and Representative Glenda Dawson support legislation to protect freshwater inflows in the state's bays.

Adequate freshwater inflows are necessary to maintain certain bay ecological habitats.

The resolution follows a recent National Wildlife Federation study called Bays in Peril, in which Matagorda Bay received a danger rating indicating that if current water usage trends continue, the bay will not receive the necessary freshwater flows to keep its ecosystem healthy.

Palacios City Council approved a similar resolution in December, and Bay City Council will consider one Thursday.

In other commissioner court news:

- Commissioners approved 45 appointments to the Matagorda County historical Commission for 2005-2006.

Ona Lea Pierce was appointed chairman, Ruby Penland vice chairman, Jackie Jecmenek secretary and Donna Johnson treasurer.

- The court approved board appointments for Matagorda County Conservation & Reclamation District No. 1, Matagorda County Hospital District, Economic Action Committee of the Gulf Coast, Tommy LeTulle Cemetery Board, HGAC Committee on Natural Resources and Matagorda County Appraisal District.

- Commissioners approved a \$4,000 annual contract between Matagorda County and the Economic Action Committee of the Gulf Coast (EAC).

EAC is a social service agency that provides energy related assistance, emergency nutrition and other social services to indigent citizens in the county.

- The court agreed to accept bids for a 1993 Ford ambulance with a siren and a 1968 Ford-350 grass truck with a 750 gallon tank.
- Commissioners approved deputizing Raymond C. Green as Precinct 6 Deputy Constable.
- The court approved a professional services proposal from Texas Gulf Engineering to provide a plan to upgrade Precinct 4's county barn.
- Commissioners adopted new job descriptions for Matagorda County Extension Office administrative secretaries that reflect their current duties.