

Pleasanton Express

Judge Cude July 12, 2023 Article

Greetings, Amigos! As I continue highlighting County Departments and Offices of elected Atascosa County officials, I will focus on the County Treasurer's Office in today's article. The Texas Constitution established the Office of the County Treasurer in 1846. Before then, during the Republic of Texas, the duties of the County Treasurer were performed by the County Clerk. It was in the Texas Constitution in 1846 that required the County Treasurer to be an appointed official. In 1850 the Treasurer's Office became an elective seat with a term of two years. An amendment to the Texas Constitution in the 1950s increased the term to four years and has since remained the same. The County Treasurer is a fundamental component of County Government because they are responsible for the security of county money. The Treasurer receipts all county money, serves as custodian of county money, and oversees the disbursement of county money, as approved by the Commissioner's Court. Laura Pawelek has served as the County Treasurer for Atascosa since **2009**. She and her team are responsible for receiving and depositing County revenue; they serve as a liaison between the County and banking systems; they disburse funds as directed by the Commissioner's Court, prepare payroll, and serve as the County's human resource office, amongst many other responsibilities. Ms. Pawelek's institutional knowledge of Atascosa County's internal workings is unique and integral to my role as County Judge. I have appreciated working alongside her as we have taken a collaborative approach to updating many workplace policies and procedures to ensure County Offices are accessible and optimally serving the public. If you have questions, concerns, or feedback, contact me at countyjudge@co.atascosa.tx.us or call the office at 830-769-3093. I'm here to serve you and all Atascosa County residents to the best of my ability. Together we are Atascosa Proud!