

## **County Judge Weldon Cude**

### **Pleasanton Express Article July 26, 2023**

In an inspiring display of unity and progress, I recently held a round table discussion with the Mayors of Pleasanton, Jourdanton, Poteet, Lytle, and the 'visiting' Mayor of Pearsall. The meeting brought the opportunity to discuss strengths, weaknesses, projects, and goals. It displayed that practical cooperation between County and City governments can lead to the overall well-being of our region. Collaboration between County and City governments is vital for fostering a strong sense of community. Together, we addressed shared challenges and exchanged ideas and solutions. I'm very grateful to have healthy working relationships with Mayor Clint Powell (Pleasanton), Mayor Doc Williams (Jourdanton), Mayor Denise Sanchez (Poteet), Mayor Ruben Gonzalez (Lytle), and Mayor Ben Briscoe (Pearsall). The Mayors of Christine and Charlotte could not attend our meeting, but I'm hopeful we will have an opportunity to meet soon. I hope that by engaging in open dialogue amongst our city leaders, we foster trust and transparency between the County and City Governments. By doing so, we set a positive example for our residents and further increase their confidence in us to create positive change in our communities. I see many bright things in the future for Atascosa County. Pleasanton continues to invest in Parks and Recreation and Streets, Jourdanton is increasing community engagement with local events, Poteet is expanding their Park by installing a new splash pad, and the City of Lytle continues to experience rapid growth in commercial and residential developments. With new projects and ideas come challenges. Solving every problem overnight is impossible, so I respectfully ask folks always to keep that in mind. I want to encourage Atascosa residents to engage with their City and County Governments. Check out your city council's meeting schedule, attend their meetings, or watch online and listen to what improvements or challenges are currently on the table in your neighborhood. Engage with your City Council members, Mayors, Commissioners, or myself. Please give them your feedback and encouragement. Sometimes holding a position in public office can feel isolating and daunting. Still, your kind words can go a long way and make all the difference to an elected official or City/County employee. I continue to have an open-door policy and will always encourage Atascosa residents to engage with my office if they experience problems or want to share constructive feedback. My office and I are ready and available to assist all residents by email at [countyjudge@co.atascosa.tx.us](mailto:countyjudge@co.atascosa.tx.us) or 830-769-3093 by phone. If you are ever interested in attending a Commissioners Court Meeting, we meet twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Monday of every month at 9 am at the County Courthouse in Jourdanton. By continuing the spirit of cooperation across Atascosa County and beside our city's mayors, we can take small steps towards collaborative governance that drives progress and shapes a brighter future for all. Together we are Atascosa Proud!