

ATASCOSA COUNTY JUDGES REPORT

The grand opening for JP3 went well. We should have the Truck Weigh Station operating in 30 days. I am pleased with what we have accomplished in a little over four years. We have made a necessary jail expansion. The Sheriff tells me he has over 40 prisoners renting the extra cells right now, and that to me means annualized revenue that will pay the note payment plus more. That is outstanding news. We made the necessary investment in a state-of-the-art Justice Center for additional high security courts and offices. We invested in controlling the out of control county stray animal population with a first-class animal control facility that is really getting the job done. And we finished the new digs for the last JP office. I do not foresee any new major construction projects. We do have a number of old county buildings and we need to keep these up, improving them where we can. But, otherwise, I think we have moved aggressively to meet our building needs for decades.

The transfer of governance for the Juvenile Detention Center is going very well. We have already cut over \$300,000 from the guard budget and should be hiring a clinical director soon for the in-house juvenile treatment program. Hopefully we can see that locally-controlled revenue enhancement program in place. It will also be a great enhancement and saving for Atascosa juveniles we place in treatment programs. A big plus will be that the families of Atascosa juveniles we put in placement will soon be able to visit frequently. In the past, we have sent juveniles to places all over Texas and most of these folks can't afford travel costs to visit. That will be a morale boost for the juveniles. Daniella Martinez, the Superintendent, is doing a great job. I can tell you that, at this point, Commissioners Court is very pleased with her. I will keep you advised on this very complicated issue.

Please know that I never forget that I am your employee, your humble servant.

Quote: "Happiness is that state of consciousness which proceeds from the achievement of one's values." – Ayn Rand

Thank you for listening.

We want you to be proud of your county government.