

Sutton County Commissioners Court

SPECIAL MEETING

Friday June 19, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Sutton County Annex Meeting Room, 300 E. Oak, Sonora TX 76950

Joseph Harris
County Judge

Lee Bloodworth
Commissioner
Precinct 1

Bob Brockman
Commissioner
Precinct 2

David Blesing
Commissioner
Precinct 3

Harold Martinez
Commissioner
Precinct 4

Members of the public may give comment before the Commissioners Court on any item on this agenda. Please note that members of the public may not communicate to the court about any other subject not specifically mentioned on this agenda. Members of the Commissioners Court cannot discuss, deliberate, or act on any item or topic not scheduled on this agenda in accordance with existing law.

BUSINESS

- 1 Determination of quorum and call to order
- 2 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

AGENDA

Deliberate, Consider and take appropriate action regarding the following:

- 3 Declaration of Local Disaster Regarding the Threat of Local New World Screwworm

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Note 1 Texas Government code 551.071, Consultation with Attorney
- Note 2 Texas Government code 551.072, Real Property
- Note 3 Texas Government code 551.074, Personnel Matters
- Note 4 Texas Government code 551.076, Security
- Note 5 Texas Government code 551.087, Economic Development Negotiations
- Note 6 Texas Government code 551.089, IT Security

The County Commissioners Court of Sutton County reserves the right to adjourn into executive sessions at any time during this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed below. The Court may also consider any other matter posted on the agenda if there are issues that require consideration in Executive Session and the court announces that the item will be considered during Executive Session.

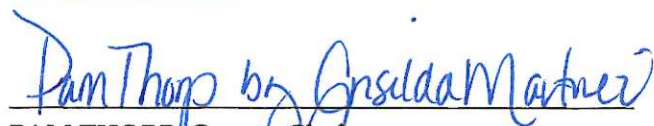
RECONVENE

- 4 Public Comment
- 5 Adjournment


JOSEPH HARRIS, County Judge



POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE COURTHOUSE ANNEX BUILDING and the SUTTON COUNTY WEB PAGE
www.co.sutton.tx.us this the 12th day of June 2026.


PAM THORP, County Clerk



FILED
At 4:01 O'clock PM
JUN 11 2026

PAM THORP
COUNTY & DISTRICT CLERK
SUTTON COUNTY, TEXAS

STATE OF TEXAS

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§
§

COUNTY OF SUTTON

**DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER
REGARDING THE THREAT OF NEW WORLD SCREWWORM**

WHEREAS, the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 authorizes the presiding officer of the governing body of a political subdivision to declare a local state of disaster if the presiding officer finds that a disaster has occurred or that the occurrence or threat of disaster is imminent; and

WHEREAS, Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code authorizes the County Judge, as presiding officer of the governing body of the County, to declare a local state of disaster upon the occurrence or threat of disaster; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Animal Health Commission is charged with protecting the livestock, domestic animals, and poultry of this State and with controlling animal diseases and animal pests, and County Commissioner's Court shall cooperate with and assist the Commission when requested, as provided by Section 161.003 of the Texas Agriculture Code; and

WHEREAS, Section 418.190 of the Texas Government Code requires the Texas Animal Health Commission to prepare and maintain an agriculture emergency response plan as an annex to the State Emergency Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, on January 29, 2026, the Governor of Texas issued a statewide disaster proclamation certifying under Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code regarding the spread of New world screwworm northward from Mexico toward the U.S. southern border threatened Texas' livestock industry and economy and posed an imminent threat of widespread and severe property damage for all Texas counties; and

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2026, the Governor of Texas issued a new statewide disaster proclamation for all Texas Counties in response to a detection of New World screwworm in Texas; and

WHEREAS, the New World screwworm (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*) is a destructive parasitic pest whose larvae infest living warm blooded animals and can cause severe injury, death, and substantial losses to livestock, wildlife, companion animals, agricultural operations, and related commerce; and

WHEREAS, Sutton County is vulnerable to significant harm to livestock, agriculture, wildlife resources, related business activity, and property interests from the introduction or spread of New World screwworm within or near the County; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2026, the County Judge of Sutton County finds that the confirmed presence of New World screwworm in Texas and the continuing risk of introduction or spread constitute an imminent threat of disaster within the meaning of the Texas Disaster Act and that extraordinary measures are warranted to prepare for, prevent, respond to, and mitigate that threat;

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO SECTION 418.108 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, I, JOSEPH HARRIS, COUNTY JUDGE OF SUTTON COUNTY, TEXAS, AS PRESIDING OFFICER OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF SUTTON COUNTY, HEREBY FIND THAT THE CONFIRMED PRESENCE OF NEW WORLD SCREWWORM IN TEXAS AND THE THREAT OF ITS INTRODUCTION OR SPREAD INTO SUTTON COUNTY CONSTITUTE AN IMMINENT THREAT OF DISASTER AND DECLARE A LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER FOR SUTTON COUNTY, TEXAS.

1. Declaration.

A local state of disaster is hereby declared for Sutton County, Texas, due to the confirmed presence of New World screwworm in Texas and the imminent threat of its introduction or spread within or affecting Sutton County.

2. Activation of Emergency Management Measures.

This Declaration activates the appropriate recovery, mitigation, preparedness, and response aspects of all applicable local and inter-jurisdictional emergency management plans and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under this Declaration.

3. Coordination with State and Federal Agencies.

The County's Emergency Management Coordinator and other appropriate County officials are directed and authorized to coordinate with all appropriate agencies and stakeholders regarding surveillance, reporting, public information, preparedness, and response activities related to the New World screwworm threat.

4. Use of County Resources.

All available County resources reasonably necessary to cope with this threatened disaster are authorized for use in accordance with applicable law.

5. Public Information and Protective Actions.

County officials are authorized to issue and disseminate guidance to livestock owners, veterinarians, agricultural operators, exhibitors, and the public concerning identification, reporting, prevention, and response measures relating to the New World screwworm threat.

6. Filing and Publicity.

This Declaration shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk in accordance with Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code.

7. Duration.

This Declaration shall remain in effect for not more than seven (7) days unless continued or renewed by the Commissioners Court in accordance with Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code.

8. Request for Assistance.

Sutton County requests all appropriate state and federal assistance necessary to support preparedness, prevention, response, mitigation, and recovery efforts relating to the threat of New World screwworm.

DECLARED AND ORDERED this 11th day of June, 2026, at 4:00 P.M.


Joseph Harris, Sutton County Judge

ATTEST


Pam Thorp, Sutton County & District Clerk

