



ORDER NUMBER 2020-05

ORDER OF POSTPONEMENT OF THE MAY 2, 2020 GENERAL ELECTION
AND SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE CITY OF SAN BENITO, TEXAS
TO NOVEMBER 3, 2020 UNIFORM ELECTION PURSUANT TO
TEXAS GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT ISSUED PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020 Texas Governor Greg Abbott, by Proclamation suspended Sections 41.0052 (a) and (b) of the Texas Election Code and Section 49.103 of the Texas Water Code to the extent necessary to allow political subdivisions that would otherwise hold elections on May 2, 2020, to move their General and Special Elections for 2020 only to the next Uniform Election Date, occurring on November 3, 2020 without otherwise adjusting the term of office, a copy of said Proclamation is attached as Exhibit A hereto; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Benito currently has scheduled a General Election for May 2, 2020 for the purpose of voting for a Mayor and two City Commissioners, to Commissioner, Place 1 and Commissioner, Place 2, for three year terms each for the City of San Benito, Texas; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Benito also has currently scheduled a Special Election for May 2, 2020 for the purpose of voting for a City Commissioner for the unexpired term of City of San Benito, Commissioner, Place 3.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the pursuant to the Governor's Proclamation of March 18th, 2020 the dates of both the General Election and the Special Election previously set for May 2, 2020 are hereby to be held on November 3, 2020. The purpose of the General and Special Election for November 3, 2020 will be for the purpose of voting for the Mayor and three Commissioners for three year terms for the City of San Benito Texas AND for the purpose of voting to fill the unexpired term of San Benito Commissioner, Place 3.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the candidate filings for the election will remain valid for the Uniform Election held on the November 3, 2020 and that the filing period will not be re-opened for the November 3, 2020 Uniform Election.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all Application for Ballots by Mail for voters that are voting by mail due to being over the age of 65 or due to disability will still be valid for the postponed election, and that Applications for Ballots by Mail for voters who submitted Applications for Ballots by Mail based on expected absence from the county would not be valid for the postponed election.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the following major relevant dates and locations for the November 3, 2020 Election shall be as follows:

a) Voter Registration and Applications for Ballots by Mail (ABBM's)

Voter registration deadline October 5, 2020

Deadline to submit an ABBM October 23, 2020

b) Early Voting By Personal Appearance

Early Voting Location: San Benito Community Building
210 East Heywood Street
San Benito, Texas 78586

Dates and Hours for Early Voting: October 19 to 23, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
October 24, 2020 from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
October 25, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
October 26 to 28, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
October 29 to 30, 2020 from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Early Voting Clerk: Remi Garza, Elections Administrator,
Cameron County Elections Office
1050 East Madison Street
Brownsville, Texas 78520
Telephone: (956) 544-0809

There will be no changes to any branch early voting locations.

Issued this the 24th day of March, 2020.


Honorable Benjamin Gomez
Mayor




Honorable Carol Lynn Sanchez
Mayor Pro Tem, Commissioner, Place 4


Honorable Antonio Gonzales
Commissioner, Place 1


Honorable Rene Villafranco
Commissioner, Place 2

* Commissioner, Place 3 Vacant




GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

March 18, 2020

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
10:00 AM 'CLOCK

The Honorable Ruth R. Hughs
Secretary of State
State Capitol Room 1E.8
Austin, Texas 78701

MAR 18 2020

Secretary of State

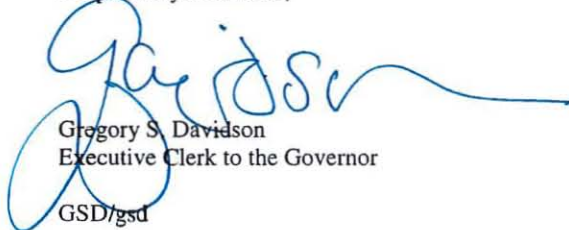
Dear Secretary Hughs:

Pursuant to his powers as Governor of the State of Texas, Greg Abbott has issued the following:

A proclamation suspending Sections 41.0052(a) and (b) of the Texas Election Code and Section 49.103 of the Texas Water Code to the extent necessary to allow political subdivisions that would otherwise hold elections on May 2, 2020, to move their general and special elections for 2020 only to the next uniform election date, occurring on November 3, 2020, without otherwise adjusting the term of office, and suspending Sections 31.093 and 42.0621(c) of the Texas Election Code to the extent necessary to require all county election officers, if requested by an affected political subdivision, to enter into a contract to furnish election services with any political subdivision who postponed their election to November 3, 2020, under the authority of this proclamation.

The original of this proclamation is attached to this letter of transmittal.

Respectfully submitted,


Gregory S. Davidson
Executive Clerk to the Governor
GSD/gsd

Attachment

PROCLAMATION
BY THE
Governor of the State of Texas

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

WHEREAS, Section 41.001(a)(2) of the Texas Election Code provides that a general or special election in this state shall be held on a uniform election date, and the next uniform election date is occurring on May 2, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Section 49.103 of the Texas Water Code provides that certain districts governed by this provision are required to hold director elections in May of each even-numbered year; and

WHEREAS, Section 41.0052 of the Texas Election Code prescribes a procedure for a political subdivision to change a general election date, but the time for making such a change has expired; and

WHEREAS, Section 31.093 of the Texas Election Code requires a county elections administrator to enter into a contract to furnish election services upon request of a political subdivision; and

WHEREAS, Section 42.0621(c) of the Texas Election Code does not require a political subdivision to enter into a contract with a county or hold a joint election with a county on the November uniform election date; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of Texas certified that the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) poses an imminent threat of disaster and, under the authority vested in the Governor by Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code, declared a state of disaster for all counties in Texas; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code, the Governor has the express authority to suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or the orders or rules of a state agency if strict compliance with the provisions, orders, or rules would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with a disaster.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GREG ABBOTT, Governor of Texas, under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Texas, do hereby suspend Sections 41.0052(a) and (b) of the Texas Election Code and Section 49.103 of the Texas Water Code to the extent necessary to allow political subdivisions that would otherwise hold elections on May 2, 2020, to move their general and special elections for 2020 only to the next uniform election date, occurring on November 3, 2020, without otherwise adjusting the term of office. I further suspend Sections 31.093 and 42.0621(c) of the Texas Election Code to the extent necessary to require all county election officers, if requested by an affected political subdivision, to enter into a contract to furnish election services with any political subdivision who postponed their election to November 3, 2020, under the authority of this proclamation.

The authority ordering the election under Section 3.004 of the Texas Election Code is the authority authorized to make the decision to postpone its election in accordance with this proclamation.

Current office holders will hold over to the extent authorized by Article XVI, Section 17 of the Texas Constitution.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
10:00 AM O'CLOCK

MAR 18 2020



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I
have hereto signed my name and
have officially caused the Seal of
State to be affixed at my office in the
City of Austin, Texas, this the 18th
day of March, 2020.

Handwritten signature of Greg Abbott in black ink.

GREG ABBOTT
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

Handwritten signature of Ruth R. Hughs in black ink.

RUTH R. HUGHS
Secretary of State

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
10:00am O'CLOCK

MAR 18 2020