

**NOTICE OF ELECTION**

THE STATE OF TEXAS	§
	§
COUNTY OF CHAMBERS	§
	§
EAST CHAMBERS INDEPENDENT	§
SCHOOL DISTRICT	§

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TO THE RESIDENT, QUALIFIED VOTERS OF  
EAST CHAMBERS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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TAKE NOTICE that an election concerning the ratification of the adopted tax rate will be held in the East Chambers Independent School District on November 3, 2015, in obedience to an order duly entered by the Board of Trustees of the District on August 24, 2015, which order reads substantially as follows:

**AN ORDER CALLING A TAX RATIFICATION ELECTION TO BE HELD BY THE EAST CHAMBERS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, MAKING PROVISION FOR THE CONDUCT OF A JOINT ELECTION, AND RESOLVING OTHER MATTERS INCIDENT AND RELATED TO SUCH ELECTION**

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WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees (the *Board*) of the EAST CHAMBERS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (the *District*), located in Chambers County, Texas (the *County*) hereby finds and determines that, as a result of its adoption on August 24, 2015 (the *Tax Adoption Date*) of an ad valorem tax rate in excess of its rollback tax rate, Section 26.08, as amended, Texas Tax Code (*Section 26.08*) requires that the District hold an election allowing its registered voters to determine whether to approve the adopted tax rate (the *Election*); and

WHEREAS, the Election shall be held on the 3rd day of November, 2015 (*Election Day*), a uniform election day under the Texas Election Code and a day that is (i) not less than 30 nor more than 90 days from the Tax Adoption Date, as required by Section 26.08 and (ii) at least 71 days from the date of adoption of this order (this *Order*), as required by Section 3.005, as amended, Texas Election Code; and

WHEREAS, the District will contract with the elections administrator (the *Elections Administrator*) of Chambers County, Texas (the *County*) to conduct all aspects of the Election; and

WHEREAS, the Election will be conducted by the County and held jointly with other political subdivisions for which the County is also conducting their elections (such other political subdivisions, collectively, the *Participants*), as provided pursuant to the provisions of an election agreement and/or a joint election or similar agreement between or among (as applicable) the District, the County, and/or any Participants, entered into in accordance with the provisions of Section 271.002, as amended, Texas Election Code; and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby finds and determines that the actions herein described are in the best interests of the residents of the District; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE EAST CHAMBERS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT:

SECTION 1: An election shall be held on the 3rd day of November, 2015, referred to herein as *Election Day*, in the EAST CHAMBERS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, which date the District has determined is (i) not less than 30 nor more than 90 days from the Tax Adoption Date and (ii) at least 71 days from the date of adoption of this Order, in compliance with applicable law, for the purpose of submitting the following proposition to the qualified voters of the District:

PROPOSITION

“Shall the Board of Trustees of the East Chambers Independent School District be authorized to levy, pursuant to an order of such Board adopted on August 24, 2015, an ad valorem tax rate of \$1.29 per \$100 of the taxable assessed valuation of property within the East Chambers Independent School District for the current tax year, being a rate that is comprised of a maintenance and operations tax rate of \$1.17 per \$100 of such taxable assessed valuation (the maximum maintenance and operations tax rate under current Texas law and heretofore and hereafter annually set by the Board) and a debt service tax

rate of \$0.12 per \$100 of such taxable assessed value (a rate that is set annually by the Board), which combined tax rate of \$1.29 adopted by the Board on August 24, 2015 represents an increase of \$0.07 per \$100 of such taxable assessed valuation when compared to the prior year's total tax rate and is \$0.13 higher per \$100 of such taxable assessed valuation than the school district rollback tax rate for the current tax year, calculated pursuant to Section 26.08, as amended, Texas Tax Code?"

**SECTION 2:** The District election precincts hereby established for the purpose of holding the Election and the polling places hereby designated for holding the Election in the District election precinct is identified in Exhibit A to this Order (which is incorporated herein by reference for all purposes). At least 72 days prior to the scheduled Election Day, the President, Board of Trustees, the Superintendent of Schools, or the respective designees thereof, in coordination with the Elections Administrator, will identify and formally approve the appointment of the Presiding Judge, Alternate Presiding Judges, Election Clerks, and all other election officials for the Election, together with any other necessary changes to election practices and procedures and can correct, modify, or change the Exhibits to this Order based upon the final locations and times agreed upon by the District, the Elections Administrator, and the Participants, to the extent permitted by applicable law.

A. The Presiding Judge named in Exhibit A shall appoint not less than two (2) resident qualified voters of the County to act as clerks in order to properly conduct the Election. To the extent required by the Texas Election Code, as amended, or other applicable law, the appointment of these clerks must include a person fluent in the Spanish language to serve as a clerk to render oral aid in the Spanish language to any voter desiring such aid at the polls on Election Day. If the Presiding Judge appointed actually serves, the Alternate Presiding Judge shall serve as one of the clerks. In the absence of the Presiding Judge, the Alternate Presiding Judge shall perform the duties of the Presiding Judge of the election precinct.

B. On Election Day, the polls shall be open as designated on Exhibit A.

C. The main early voting location is designated in Exhibit B to this Order (which is incorporated herein by reference for all purposes). The individual named as the Early Voting Clerk as designated in Exhibit B is hereby appointed as the Early Voting Clerk to conduct such early voting in the Election. The Early Voting Clerk shall appoint the Deputy Early Voting Clerks. This office or place shall remain open to permit early voting each day on the days and at the times as stated in Exhibit B. Early voting shall commence as provided on Exhibit B and continue through the date set forth on Exhibit B, all as provided by the provisions of the Texas Election Code, as amended.

Additionally, permanent and/or temporary branch offices for early voting by personal appearance may be established and maintained in accordance with the Texas Election Code. In the event such permanent and/or temporary branch locations are established, information regarding the locations, dates, and hours of operation for early voting at these offices shall be determined by the Elections Administrator, as identified in Exhibit B hereto.

An Early Voting Ballot Board is hereby established for the purpose of processing early voting results. The individual designated in Exhibit B as the Presiding Judge of the Early Voting Ballot Board is hereby appointed the Presiding Judge of the Early Voting Ballot Board. The Presiding Judge shall appoint not less than two (2) resident qualified voters of the District to serve as members of the Early Voting Ballot Board.

**SECTION 3:** Electronic voting machines may be used in holding and conducting the Election on Election Day; provided, however, in the event the use of such electronic voting machines is not

practicable, the Election may be conducted on Election Day by the use of paper ballots (except as otherwise provided in this section). Electronic voting machines or paper ballots may be used for early voting by personal appearance (except as otherwise provided in this section). Pursuant to Section 61.012, as amended, Texas Election Code, the District shall provide at least one accessible voting system in each polling place used in the Election. Such voting system shall comply with Texas and federal laws establishing the requirement for voting systems that permit voters with physical disabilities to cast a secret ballot. Any other legally permissible voting methods may be used for early voting and Election Day voting by personal appearance. Certain early voting may be conducted by mail.

SECTION 4: The District shall also utilize a Central Counting Station (the *Station*) as provided by Section 127.001, *et seq.*, as amended, Texas Election Code. The Elections Administrator, or her designee, is hereby appointed as the Manager and Presiding Judge of the Station and may appoint Station clerks and establish a written plan for the orderly operation of the Station in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code. The Board hereby appoints the Elections Administrator, or her designee, as the Tabulation Supervisor and the Elections Administrator, or her designee, as the Programmer for the Station. Lastly, the Elections Administrator will publish notice and conduct testing on the automatic tabulation equipment relating to the Station and conduct instruction for the officials and clerks for the Station in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code.

SECTION 5: The official ballot shall be prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code, as amended, so as to permit voters to vote “FOR” or “AGAINST” the aforesaid proposition which shall appear on the ballot substantially as follows:

#### PROPOSITION

“APPROVING THE AD VALOREM TAX RATE OF \$1.29 PER \$100 VALUATION IN THE EAST CHAMBERS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE CURRENT YEAR, A RATE THAT IS \$0.13 HIGHER PER \$100 VALUATION THAN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT ROLLBACK TAX RATE.”

SECTION 6: All resident, qualified voters of the District shall be permitted to vote at the Election, and on Election Day, such voters shall vote at the designated polling places. The Election shall be held and conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code, as amended, except as modified by the provisions of the Texas Education Code, as amended, and as may be required by law. To the extent required by law, all election materials and proceedings relating to the Election shall be printed in both English and Spanish.

SECTION 7: A substantial copy of this Order shall serve as proper notice of the Election. This notice, including a Spanish translation thereof, shall be published at least one time in a newspaper of general circulation in the District, with such publication occurring not more than 30 days and not less than 10 days before Election Day. Additionally, this notice, including a Spanish translation thereof, shall be posted (i) on the bulletin board used for posting notices of Board meetings not later than 21 days prior to Election Day, (ii) in three public places within the District’s boundaries not later than 21 days prior to Election Day, and (iii) in a prominent location at each polling place on Election Day and during early voting. In addition, during the 21 days prior to Election Day, the District shall, in a prominent manner, maintain such notice on its Internet website.

SECTION 8: The Board authorizes the President, Board of Trustees, the Superintendent of Schools, or the respective designee of either of such parties, to negotiate and enter into one or more joint election agreements and/or similar contracts or agreements with the County, acting by and through the Elections Administrator, and any Participants if desired or if required to comply with applicable law, as

permitted and in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code, as amended. In addition, the Board authorizes the President, Board of Trustees, the Superintendent of Schools, or the respective designee of either of such parties to make such technical modifications to this Order that are necessary for compliance with applicable Texas or federal law or to carry out the intent of the Board, as evidenced herein.

SECTION 9: It is officially found, determined, and declared that the meeting at which this Order is adopted was open to the public and public notice of the time, place, and subject matter of the public business to be considered at such meeting, including this Order, was given, all as required by Chapter 551, as amended, Texas Government Code.

SECTION 10: The recitals contained in the preamble hereof are hereby found to be true, and such recitals are hereby made a part of this Order for all purposes and are adopted as a part of the judgment and findings of the Board.

SECTION 11: All orders and resolutions, or parts thereof, which are in conflict or inconsistent with any provision of this Order are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict, and the provisions of this Order shall be and remain controlling as to the matters ordered herein.

SECTION 12: This Order shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas and the United States of America.

SECTION 13: If any provision of this Order or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be held to be invalid, the remainder of this Order and the application of such provision to other persons and circumstances shall nevertheless be valid, and the Board hereby declares that this Order would have been enacted without such invalid provision.

SECTION 14: This Order shall be in force and effect from and after its final passage, and it is so ordered.

YOU WILL, THEREFORE, take notice of all the matters and facts set out in the foregoing Notice of Election.

/s/ Scott Jones  
Secretary, Board of Trustees  
East Chambers Independent School District

(DISTRICT SEAL)

**Exhibit A**

**ELECTION PRECINCT AND ELECTION DAY POLLING LOCATION**

Presiding Judge: Heather H. Hawthorne

Election Day: November 3, 2015

Election Day Polling Locations open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

<b><u>District Precinct</u></b>	<b><u>County Precincts</u></b>	<b><u>Polling Location</u></b>
1	7, 12	Winnie Stowell Community Building 335 Park Street Winnie, Texas 77665

*[The remainder of this page intentionally left blank.]*

**Exhibit B**

**EARLY VOTING POLLING PLACE, DATES AND TIMES**  
**Early voting begins Monday, October 19, 2015 and ends on Friday, October 30, 2015**

Early Voting Clerk and Address:  
Heather H. Hawthorne  
Post Office Box 728  
Anahuac, Texas 77514

Presiding Judge of the Early Voting Ballot Board: Heather H. Hawthorne

Any voter entitled to vote an early ballot by personal appearance may do so at any Early Voting Site.

**Location, Dates & Hours of Main Early Voting Polling Place**

Conference Room, Chambers County Courthouse  
Annex 2128  
SH 61  
Anahuac, Texas 77514

**Dates**

Monday, October 19, 2015 through Friday, October 23, 2015  
Monday, October 26, 2015 through Thursday, October 29, 2015  
Friday, October 30, 2015

**Times**

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Location, Dates & Hours of Permanent Branch Early Voting Polling Places**

Winne Branch	Justice of the Peace, Pct 1 Courtroom East Chambers County Courthouse Annex 211 Broadway Ave. Winnie, Texas 77665
Mont Belvieu Branch	Justice of the Peace, Pct. 4 Courtroom West Chambers County Courthouse Annex 10616 Eagle Drive, Mont Belvieu, Texas 77580
Cedar Bayou Branch	Justice of the Peace, Pct. 6 Courtroom Cedar Bayou Community Building 7711 Hwy. 146 Baytown, Texas 77520

**Dates**

Monday, October 19, 2015 through Friday, October 23, 2015  
Monday, October 26, 2015 through Thursday, October 29, 2015  
Friday, October 30, 2015

**Times**

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

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**Location, Dates & Hours of Temporary Branch Early Voting Polling Place**

East Chambers Independent School District  
Administration Building  
1955 State Highway 124  
Winnie, Texas 77665

**Dates**

Monday, October 19, 2015  
Tuesday, October 20, 2015

**Times**

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**EARLY VOTING BY MAIL:**

Applications for voting by mail should be mailed to be received no earlier than Friday, September 4, 2015 and no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on Friday, October 23, 2015.

Applications should be mailed to:

Heather Hawthorne, County Clerk  
Post Office Box 728  
Anahuac, Texas 77514

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