

Public Comments • Linda Curtis, League of Independent Voters of Texas • 512.360.8754
Bastrop Commissioners Court • July 13, 2026

Good morning, Commissioners and Judge Klaus. I'm Linda Curtis speaking for the League of Independent Voters.

First, I want to extend an invitation to the court to attend a citizens Town Hall sponsored by the LIV, the Bastrop County Democrats and the Bastrop Republican Party Group on the EdgeConneX data centers to be held on Wednesday, July 22 at The Hampton Inn starting at 6:30. If you are attending, please let us know about any seating desires you have. We do not expect you to speak, but you are more than welcome to do so.

I want to talk about open government and bringing the County into full compliance with the spirit and intent of open meetings. Holding these meetings during the day guarantees that most working people cannot attend. None of this is new.

I do not understand why your past agendas and minutes are not readily online. Your audio and video recordings of meetings are not readily on line either. The cities of Bastrop, Elgin, and Smithville do all these things just fine.

I asked you to at least allow us to do own video of speakers, I was denied the right to do this other than from the back of the room. Why?

Why does the County not hold workshops or give this community some time to apprise citizens of issues you know will cause controversy, like Item 4 today on seeking funding from the DOJ Homeland Security and a potential detention center. And how about that rushed agenda item on election runoff day, May 26th, to trigger state subsidies for SpaceX?

Why did we have to go around in circles for weeks and weeks with your Open Records folks – nice people, and not their fault – to only to find out that there are scant records of the abatement involving millions of dollars that you granted to EdgeConneX in 2024?

Why did you give a no-bid contract to a premier lobby firm to handle your legislative agenda and not post an item or hold a workshop to ask us what we might want to justify that \$96,000 contract, much less to see if they are the best suited firm to represent us – the citizens of Bastrop County?

If you asked me – and you didn't – I might suggest you ask your lobby firm to investigate how Texas counties could enjoy the same option as Texas cities to charge one-time upfront impact fees for new developments to share in the costs of growth to our county taxpayers.

Here's my most urgent question for you. Will you join with counties across the state to ask the Governor for a special session or to use his power for a full moratorium on data centers until the Legislature can deliberate in 2027?

Thank you.

