

OCTOBER 2018 FLOOD UPDATE

Debris Pickup

~ Update provided by Commissioner Peter Jones ~
• Received 11/26/2018 •

The Llano County Commissioners Court met this morning, Monday November 26th, to discuss progress on the clean-up of flood debris in Llano County.

The county entered into a contract with TFR Enterprises, Inc. to clean-up all curbside debris in the county at a cost of \$55 per cubic yard. The contract caps expenditures at \$1.9 million. Should more funds be required to complete the clean-up the Commissioner's Court would need to approve this.

Clean-up started in Precinct 1 today in Sunrise Beach Village with a dump truck sized truck with a cherry picker arm to pick up debris. Other trucks will be assigned to Precinct 1 as the week progresses. I have requested that Sunrise Beach and the communities on the south side of the 2900 bridge that were particularly hard hit are first for debris removal. These are the communities of Bridgepoint, Lakewood Forest 1 and Commanache Rancheria. Other communities will be scheduled as the work progresses.

The City of Sunrise Beach Village entered into an interlocal agreement with Llano County to use the same debris removal firm and will reimburse the county for the cost on a per cubic yard basis. Those communities in unincorporated areas of the county will have the cost of debris removal paid by the county.

The dump truck sized trucks will be used in the communities to pick up debris and it is being considered to transfer the debris to much larger trucks and trailers to haul to the disposal site in Hutto. If approved, this would speed up the pick-up and disposal and reduce cost and disposal travel time.

Each day I will receive a status update of the progress and will advise communities in Precinct 1 when they are scheduled for debris removal.

The Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) have donated \$100,000 to Llano County to assist in the cost of clean-up with a suggestion from LCRA that 70% of these funds be used for river and lake front clean-up of debris. Much of the debris at the curbside is brush from the river and lakes and by removing this debris the county is complying with the suggestion from LCRA. The manner in which this money is to be used was discussed at the Commissioner Court this morning.

At this time LCRA has stated that it will not contract for clean-up of debris on riverfront, lakefront, coves, canals or inlets and that this donation was a gesture of support. In reality, this type of clean-up will likely cost in the millions of dollars. As well, this flood has not yet been approved as a Federal Disaster Declaration and the county is not certain that it will be. This requires Governor Abbott to declare this as a Federal Disaster to President Trump to approve. For Governor Abbott to do so the losses must reach over \$37 million in total in the multiple counties affected. This has not yet been determined and Llano County continues to work with FEMA to determine if this level is reached and to closely follow FEMA guidelines so that Llano County qualifies for reimbursement from FEMA if a Federal Disaster is

approved. It is likely that we will not know if this flood is deemed to be a Federal Disaster until the new year, 2019.

Should this flood not be approved as a Federal Disaster, Llano County would not receive reimbursement from FEMA. If this is not approved the full cost of repairs to county roads and debris removal in unincorporated areas would be paid by the county and is expected to cost in the multi-millions of dollars.

It is for these reasons that the county held off in determining a process to distribute the LCRA \$100,000 funds to various communities in the county to assist in river and lake front clean-up. If a Federal Disaster is declared and the county is assured of reimbursement of debris removal funds and road repair costs, the commissioner court will then determine how, who and how much could be distributed to communities to help with the waterfront clean-up costs. If this takes place it is not likely that much would be available to any one community to offset the full cost since in Precinct 1 alone there are seven river/lake front communities and two cities that were impacted.

In the meantime, I suggest that those individuals and communities that are affected keep photos, records and cost of any clean-up activity to submit when and if reimbursement of any of these costs is possible.

I will continue to keep you updated on this progress as it is known.

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