RESOLUTION 2011-16
SUPPORTING THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Whereas, the Texas State Legislature established the agency in 1953 as the Texas State Historical Survey Committee with the task to identify important historic sites across the state. The Texas Legislature changed the agency’s name to the Texas Historical Commission in 1973;

Whereas, the Texas Historical Commission employs about 200 people who work in various fields, including archeology, architecture, history, economic development, heritage tourism, public administration and urban planning;

Whereas, the Texas Historical Commission works with communities and individuals to help identify important historic resources and encourages communities to evaluate their historic resources and develop a plan to preserve them as well as create a preservation vision and to plan for the future;

Whereas, the Texas Historical Commission provides leadership and training to county historical commissions, heritage organizations and museums in Texas’ 254 counties;

Whereas, the Texas Historical Commission helps protect Texas’ diverse architectural heritage, including historic county courthouses in addition to assisting Texas cities in the revitalization of their historic downtowns through the Texas Main Street Program;

Whereas, Comal County has received valuable funding and resources for the preservation and repair of the Comal County Courthouse through the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program;

Whereas, the Texas Historical Commission administers the state’s historical marker program — currently there are more than 12,000 historical markers across the state;

Whereas, the Texas Historical Commission consults with citizens and groups to nominate properties as Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks, State Archeological Landmarks and to the National Register of Historic Places;
Whereas, the Texas Historical Commission operates 20 state historic sites including house museums, military forts and archeological sites;

Whereas, the Texas Historical Commission works with property owners to save archeological sites on private land and ensures Texas archeological sites are protected as land is developed for highways and other public construction projects;

Whereas, the Texas Historical Commission publishes educational materials on a wide range of preservation topics;

Now, therefore, the Commissioners Court of Comal County, Texas hereby urges the Texas Legislature to continue the preservation of our heritage through continued funding and support of the Texas Historical Commission,

PASSED and APPROVED, by the Comal County Commissioners Court on the 5th day of May, 2011.

Sherman Krause, County Judge

Donna Eccleston, Commissioner Pct. 1

Scott Haag, Commissioner Pct. 2

Gregory Parker, Commissioner Pct. 3

Jan Kennedy, Commissioner Pct. 4

Joy Steeley, County Clerk

Comal County, Texas
March 30, 2011

Governor Rick Perry  
State Capital Building  
1100 Congress, Room 2S.1  
Austin, Texas 78701

RE: Texas Historical Commission

Dear Governor Perry,

I have been reading and watching updates on budget concerns and proposed legislation. When I learned of the proposed budget cuts to the Texas Historical Commission I became very concerned. The Texas Historical Commission is a very integral part of the preservation of our historic sites.

One program that remains close to my heart is the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program. This program has enabled many counties across the state to restore their Courthouses to their original, distinguished appearance. These prominent structures are visited each year by people from all over the country, written about, and filmed in movies and documentaries. I fear that a major cut in the funding of this program could jeopardize an integral part of our state heritage, County Courthouses.

Enclosed is a copy of a Resolution Supporting the Texas Historical Commission that was passed by the Lee County Commissioners’ Court on March 28, 2011. If you have any further questions or comments, please call me at (979) 542-3178.

Sincerely,

Paul E Fischer  
Lee County Judge

Enclosure