

League of Women Voters of Texas
1007 West 24th Street
Austin 5, Texas

Wichita Falls

April 16, 1956

To: Local Current Agenda Chairmen

*Mrs. Lambert Esin, 4806 George St
Wichita Falls, Texas*

From: Mrs. H. R. Yeary, State Chairman, Local Current Agenda

Here we are, hardly unpacked from a great State Convention, and all keyed up with plans for another satisfying job in L.W.V. I'm sure you and your Board have already read how the Organization Committee of the State Board is set up under Pauline Lemon, Vice-President, and how we're going to have a day of orientation in Austin on June 20. I would like to hear from you as soon as possible, with a few answers which I can use there.

1. List your local agenda item for this year (April 1, 1956 --April 1, 1957) adopted at your Annual Meeting.

Work for efficient and economical water conservation and

flood control in the Wichita Falls area.

2. Have you read the State Board Report, Outlook For Work on the State Item, mailed to your president on April 10? Yes X No
Have you read the National Board Report, Outlook For Work on the National Items, mailed to your president January, 1956? Yes X No

3. Will you please send me your Outlook For Work on Local Items?

1. General Survey of Present Situation:- Talk at General Membership

Luncheon, May 16; Topic: "Water Problems and Proposals in Wichita Falls";

Speaker: Mr. Tom C. Foley, now city councilman, last year chairman of

mayor's water study committee, chairman Chamber of Commerce, Water Supply and Conservation Committee.

2. Local Current Agenda Committee will compile questionnaires and

will use them for personal interviews with: mayor, city director of

public works, city manager, superintendent city water department,

officials of local water improvement districts, average citizens- (OVER)

4. What immediate help do you need or expect from the State Board on the local items adopted at your annual meeting?

If you have any outliges or other material prepared by other Leagues on the subject, please send, lend. Also, please give any suggestions you have.

(Please return one copy of this page, when you have completed it, to: Mrs. H. R. [REDACTED])

The questions will have three purposes: securing information, obtaining opinions, and stimulating more interest in the problems

We shall be checking into costs, possible means of financing, the effect on city and county budgets, the effect on tax structures.

Study of proposed sites for a new lake and comparisons of size and cost.

Special emphasis will be placed on the flood situation on Holliday Creek.

Use maps and reports of Bureau of Reclamation, Freeze & Nichols, and Corps of Engineers.

Interview Congressman Frank Ikard.

3. Committee will make outlines and prepare and mimeograph material for unit studies based on information gathered from interviews and other sources.

4. Schedule general membership programs and unit meetings on the outlines.

5. Try to arouse public opinion to action by letters to all organizations and clubs (Men's and women's), by newspaper, radio, and TV publicity, and by personal word-of-mouth campaign.

6. Public meetings, if possible

7. If consensus reached by time any proposal submitted to vote of citizens, League may possibly be in a position to take a stand in favor of or in opposition to the measure, - but in any event, members will be prepared themselves and better qualified to publish a Voters Guide on the issue or issues.

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS

August 1956

LOCAL CURRENT AGENDA - - - 1956-1957

"Work for efficient and economical water conservation and flood control in the Wichita Falls area."

(Adopted under League Principle 15: "Conservation and development of natural resources in the public interest.")

Two Parts:

1. Water Conservation - Adequate water supply
2. Flood Control of Holliday Creek

Program:

- I --Unit meetings in September, 2nd and 4th weeks
- II -General Membership Coffee, September 19 - Speaker
- III-Action as Situation Develops

Sources of Information:

1. Newspapers: Wichita Falls Times
Wichita Falls Record-News
2. Chamber of Commerce Magazine, "Wichita Falls"
3. Personal Interviews
4. Maps: - Red River Basin map from U. S. Department of the Interior, Geological Survey, Surface Water Branch.

Texas Highway Statewide Highway Planning maps of Clay, Archer and Wichita Counties.

Board of Water Engineers, State of Texas, map of Storage Reservoirs on Texas Rivers (small watershed map of the State).

City map of Wichita Falls

OUTLINE OF STUDY

I UNITS meeting second week of September: Sept. 11, 12, 14

Topic: Water Conservation - Adequate Water Supply

A. General Information

Watershed - the region or area drained by a river, etc.; a drainage area.

Location of water-supply lakes is based on site with sufficient watershed.

Acre foot - water sufficient to cover one acre in area one foot deep.

Study of maps of Wichita Falls area, considering possible sources of water supply.

Wichita Falls is in the Red River Basin.

B. Present Water Supply

1. Lake Wichita on Holliday Creek completed 1901
Capacity: $4\frac{1}{2}$ billion gallons (3 or 4 months' standby if needed)

2. Lake Kemp on Wichita River completed 1924
Capacity: 132 billion gallons
(used for irrigation and by some industries to save palatable water of Lake Kickapoo)
 3. Lake Diversion on Wichita River completed in 1924
Capacity: 13 billion gallons
 4. Lake Kickapoo on Little Wichita River. Completed in 1947.
Capacity: 34 billion gallons (101,000 acre-feet of water)
- 4 pump stations to be installed by October to eliminate using Lake Wichita water - Kickapoo has a 3-year supply of water if proper distribution facilities available.
5. Conservation measures:
 - a. New elevated storage tank at Avenue Y near the Fort Worth and Denver Railroad soon to be in use to improve distribution in southwestern Wichita Falls - IF water supply sufficient to fill.
Capacity: One million gallons.
 - b. City of Wichita Falls is participating in an evaporation control experiment by a method developed by an Australian which it is claimed reduces evaporation 45 per cent.

Annual evaporation at Lake Kickapoo takes twice the amount of water used by the city. Thus, if evaporation could be cut in half, the city would double its water supply.
 - c. Underground clear well about completed at Bond and Jasper Streets which will store water that has been softened, settled and chlorinated.
Capacity: Five million gallons.

C. Need for Additional Water Supply

If Wichita Falls continues to grow in future at same rate as in past few years, present water supply will be totally inadequate within a period of from 8 to 14 years.

Not practical to enlarge Lake Kickapoo because the watershed is not very big, thus amount of increased water supply would not justify cost of enlargement.

In January 1956, Wichitans were using 7,500,000 gallons of water daily.

Summer 1955 averaged nearly 20,000,000 gallons per day with a peak of 24,000,000.

As of August 1956, 22 to 24 million gallons a day is being used. Record for August 9 was 23.14 million gallons, with 22,288 water meters in use.

In order to supply this daily amount Lake Wichita water is being mixed in varying amounts with Lake Kickapoo much more palatable water. On some days Lake Wichita water makes up more than half the raw water supply. The percentage varies downward to as little as 20 per cent at other times. Some improvements in distribution system will somewhat alleviate the situation but will not be long-term solution to adequate water supply.

Additional water supply will become imperative if city continues rapid growth and if industries are to be induced to come to Wichita Falls.

D. Types of Water Projects

1. Water Conservation
U. S. Bureau of Reclamation
2. Flood Control
U. S. Corps of Engineers

3. Water Districts (Water Improvement and Control)
State Water Board
4. Multiple-Purpose
Integrated project with cooperation of all agencies.

E. Proposed New Lakes Being Considered August 1956

All proposed sites, except the Waurika location, are on the Little Wichita River - between Lake Kickapoo and Red River.

All the water on the Little Wichita River watershed is good, palatable, similar to that of Lake Kickapoo.

1. Ringgold site on the Little Wichita River - favored at present.

Location: 6 miles northeast of Ringgold - 18 miles downstream from the Scotland site.

Estimated cost: \$19.8 million - 41 MGD - 840 ft. spillway
25.7 million - 70 MGD - 849 spillway

One proposal is to build high dam and a lower spillway to be followed later with another spillway to form a series.

Advantages: Includes no oil property. Few property owners.
Larger watershed. Deeper Lake bed.

Disadvantages: Due to distance from Wichita Falls, a higher operating expense - more miles of conduits, uphill all the way.

2. Scotland site on the Little Wichita River--recommended by the Bureau of Reclamation in 1952.

Location: About 9 miles west of Henrietta - 18 miles upstream from Ringgold Reservoir.

Capacity: 18 MGD (700,000 acre-feet)

Estimated Cost: \$12.2 million.

Advantage: Closer to Wichita Falls
Gravity can bring water economically.

Disadvantages: (a) U. S. Highway 101 - inundated for more than a mile, necessitating elevation of roadway 10 or 15 feet.

(b) High-power lines and pipes would have to be rerouted.

(c) Oil wells and oil property would be inundated.

(d) Because of oil, land costs would be higher.

(e) A city should own and not lease lake lands.

(f) Much smaller reservoir capacity than Ringgold site.

3. Waurika Project - ruled "out" at present, but still being mentioned often.

Location: In Oklahoma on Beaver and Cow Creeks - 6 miles northwest of Waurika in Jefferson County.

Capacity: 30-50 million gallons daily - 227,000 acre feet of water.

Area: Will cover 9,300 acres of land.

Cost: A Federal project costing \$17,000,000, including a 42" pipe line to Wichita Falls.

This Waurika Reservoir would be a multiple-purpose project. The order of benefits from the reservoir would be:

- a. Municipal water
- b. Industrial water
- c. Irrigation water
- d. Flood control
- e. Recreation

If Wichita Falls should participate in this Waurika project, the city would enter into a contract to buy a certain amount of water for a certain number of years from the Waurika Reservoir at an agreed price per 1,000 gallons.

Advantages: Wichita Falls would not build or pay for the Reservoir.

Disadvantages: Cost of the conduits alone would be 3 or 4 million dollars, if not more, (37.5 miles to Wichita Falls). This would be considered in the price of the water bought by Wichita Falls.

Reservoir would not belong to Wichita Falls or be controlled by it.

An interstate compact between Texas and Oklahoma would have to be made regarding the Reservoir and participation of Wichita Falls in sharing water.

Oklahoma cities would have priority in use of water.

Estimated it will take 10 to 12 years to get the project completed. Wichita Falls cannot wait so long for additional water supply.

4. Other Sites

At least two other sites on the Little Wichita River have been considered at one time or another but have been discarded in favor of the Scotland and Ringgold sites.

Chief reason for ruling out these locations has been the presence in the areas considered of producing oil wells.

5. Twin Lakes

Some consideration has been given to combinations of sites at various spillway elevations.

For example - one combination of reservoirs, one above, one below Henrietta, has received favorable mention. Together, the twin lakes would have a capacity of 533,700 acre feet, with an estimated yield during a critical drought period of 69.3 million gallons per day. Total estimated cost: \$12,868,000.

Advantage: Could miss possible oil fields, railroad right-of-way, and highways.

F. Opinion Poll of Unit Members on Lake Sites

II - GENERAL MEMBERSHIP COFFEE - September 19

Topic: "Water Districts"

Guest Speaker:

Question Period.

III - UNITS meeting fourth week in September: Sept. 25, 26, 28.

Topic: A. Water Conservation - Possible Action and Member Suggestions

B. Flood Control of Holliday Creek

A. Water Conservation - Possible Action and Member Suggestions

1. Financing Proposed New Lake

- a. Wichita County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 will issue revenue bonds in the amount needed for construction of the lake and other required facilities - land acquisition, a dam or dams, and pipelines.

No tax bonds would be issued, thus no increase in taxes.

Because of its present bonded indebtedness, the city of Wichita Falls cannot pass any more bond issues until 1964, - too late on the time-table of need for a new water-supply lake. On the other hand, the Water District 1 is in good financial position to have a bond issue to pay for construction of the new lake, and the plan is for the city to reimburse the District by payments for water used from the new lake.

Qualified voters of Water District 1 will have to approve the bond issue at an election called for the purpose, if this plan is to be carried out.

- b. Contract between the City and the Water District 1.

Wichita Falls will contract to buy water of the new reservoir from the Water District 1 at a rate sufficient to underwrite the project - that is, at a rate sufficient to enable the Water District 1 to retire the bonds as they mature.

- c. Federal Aid.

Matching funds subject to the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation and the U. S. Corps of Engineers might be available if the project comes within certain limitations.

If Federal aid is wanted for the project, City and District Officials and Committees go to Washington, present the problem with pertinent data to our Representative, Congressman Frank Ikard, and through him make proper application for Federal Aid.

Government agencies then make their own surveys, investigations, and recommendations.

2. Stages in Planning and Execution of Lake Projects.

- a. City Council considers need and possibilities.
- b. Surveys and recommendations are requested by the City Council from the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, U. S. Corps of Engineers, and Water District 1. (District 1 employed the engineering firm of Freese-Nichols to make surveys)
- c. Water District makes application (August 23, 1954) to State Board of Water Engineers for water rights on the Little Wichita River - petition granted.
- d. On February 7, 1955, Water District makes application for extension of time on water rights - 18 months extension granted.
- e. Time expires September 1, 1956, unless another extension is granted. About August 1, 1956, Water District 1 made "presentation" to State Board of Water Engineers for a one-year extension.

In case this further extension of time is granted, a definite project must be under way by the end of the time-extension or the water rights will revert to the State to be re-assigned to some other city.

- f. Reports from all sources studying the project are made from time to time to the City Council for consideration.
- g. Council requests further study, surveys, estimates, and recommendations.

h. Council makes final selection of a site.

i. Elections are called:

- (1) Water District 1 calls election on issuing of revenue bonds—voted on by qualified voters of Water District 1.
- (2) City Council calls election on authorizing the City of Wichita Falls to contract with the Water District to buy water from the new lake for city use — voted on by qualified voters of the city.

j. If both elections carry vote FOR the project, District begins process of financing and constructing the Lake.

3. Member Suggestions

4. Discussion Questions

- (a) In your opinion, is Wichita Falls looking too far in the future in proposing a new city reservoir at this time or do you think the city is not looking far enough into the future with the present proposals? Give reasons to support your opinion.
 - (b) Do you think municipal water problems should be solved by each city solely on the basis of local needs or do you think some sort of statewide or at least area-wide planning and allotment of water resources should be adopted as a regular policy in Texas? Give reasons for your point of view.
-

B. Flood Control of Holliday Creek

1. This problem is a complex, integrated one, involving action by City, Wichita and other Counties.
2. Only a small portion of Holliday Creek goes through Wichita Falls. Creek banks belong to property-owners along the Creek. The Government owns only the bed of the Creek from bank-to-bank.
3. Any complete, satisfactory solution must be a joint project involving Lake Wichita, Holliday Creek, and the Wichita River. Anything less than an over-all project is only partial solution.

Flooding on the lower reaches of Holliday Creek is caused by the backing up of the Wichita River at flood stage. This is because the level of Holliday Creek at the point of juncture with the river is lower than the flood level of the river.

4. So far as surveys show, cleaning and dredging Holliday Creek would somewhat alleviate the situation but would be only temporary improvement. Expense, some officials believe, would be greater than benefits unless other flood control measures with respect to Lake Wichita and Wichita River were also put into effect.
5. A number of proposals for flood control of Holliday Creek have been considered.

In February 1956 a "reconnaissance visit" to determine flooding problems connected with Holliday Creek was made to Wichita Falls by an engineer from the U. S. Corps of Engineers. The visit and the study were requested by the City Government.

As of August 1956 the City is awaiting the report and the recommendations from the U. S. Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation before proceeding to any steps for control of flooding of Holliday Creek. Officials are optimistic that some solution will be found.

The report is expected by October 1956.

6. The August 1-3, 1950 flood along Holliday Creek resulted in damage estimated by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers at \$291,500. There have been a number of floods almost as disastrous through the years.
7. Unit member suggestions and opinions.

OUTLINES PREPARED BY
LOCAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Lambert Cain, Chairman

Mrs. Gail C. Aldridge

Mrs. J. E. Wolf

Mrs. Hugh Bassett

Mrs. Kenyon Brown

Mrs. Charles B. King
First vice-president, ex officio

018.

Return
to sender

WICHITA FALLS

LCA - 1958-59

Know Your County Survey

Chairman: Mrs. J. E. Wolf [REDACTED]

CR: Support of measures for efficient water conservation and flood control in the Wichita Falls area.

Correspondence

Letter - May 10 '58 - no ans.

" Sept 10 '58

Memo so Jan '59

Report sheet & note Feb '59

Report rec'd

Wichita Falls
League of Women Voters of Texas

o AUSTIN 5, TEXAS

January 30, 1959

TO: Local Current Agenda Chairmen
FROM: Mrs. Eugene H. Hughes, State Chairman, LCA

Let's share our work on our LCA items this year! At President's Council in Austin we will have a LCA Browsing Table, where Local Leagues may display materials about their local programs. We have limitations as to space at the Driskill, so we must limit our display to materials which can lie on a table; such as, Know Your Town booklets, study outlines, newspaper publicity on LCA, outlines for work, or anything pertaining to your local program. Won't you arrange to have such a display? It will be helpful to other Leagues to see what you have been doing.

LCA REPORT, 1958-59

(Please return this report to me at [redacted] before February 20.)

February 15, 1959

Mrs. J.E. Wolf until Sept. '58

League WICHITA FALLS Chairman Vacant since then

LCA Item KNOW YOUR COUNTY SURVEY (WICHITA COUNTY SURVEY)
(Use 2nd Report Form for LCA II or local Continuing Responsibility on which you worked this year.)

1. How many members on your committee? Six

2. How did you inform your members?

Units Not yet

General Meetings Explanations and announcements only as yet

Voter 2 issues

Go-see trips Planned

Special bulletins or fact sheets Yes (Policy only so far)

3. Was this an interesting item to most members? Yes

4. Do you think that you accomplished your purpose in 1958-59? NO

5. Do you feel that you made a contribution to your community? Not so far

6. Did you recommend this to continue as an active item for another year? YES

Or, made a continuing responsibility? _____

7. What can you bring (or send with your delegation) for display at Council?
(Description and space required on display table.)

Prefer to wait until next year, as we really have so little this year to show.

(OVER)

Please use the back of this sheet for anything you wish to report about your plan of work and accomplishments.

LOCAL CURRENT AGENDA- April 1958 - March 1959

SCHEDULE OF STEPS TAKEN

1. A Policy-Fact Sheet compiled and mimeographed for distribution to members of League, to Commissioners' Court, to other County Officials, to press, radio, and TV.
2. April 14, 1958- Five Committee members attended meeting of Commissioners Court, explained the project, and received promise of support and cooperation.
Nice coverage by newspapers(news section), radio and TV newscasts.
3. About May 2(my notes undated): Four Committee members interviewed the County Auditor in his office and examined some records. Notes not yet sifted and reported to membership; partial report to Board.
4. September 15, 1958- secured 15 copies of adopted County Budget for 1959 for use of those actively participating in the Survey.
5. September- Mrs. J.E. Wolf, LCA chairman, resigned because of need to conserve her strength for business duties. Co-chairman, Mrs. Burl Bryant unable to assume responsibility of chairmanship. Portfolio vacant since then.
6. October 15- Workshop on "Know Your County" at home of 1st vice president(over-all Program director), when fourteen members attended, were briefed and given specific assignments, copies of "Know Your County" handbook and of 1959 Budget for Wichita County.- No report completed yet.
7. October and November 1958 "Wichita Falls Voter" re-printed Policy-Fact Sheet in two parts.
8. Plan to have three charts ready to distribute to membership as part of Report on LCA at ANNUAL MEETING, March 11(if not, they will be mailed to members as soon as possible thereafter):
(a) County map showing location of four Commissioners' Precincts;(b) chart of County Government;(c) list of County Officials at present.

P.S.*-- MOST of the questions the League asked candidates on the July Primary Voters Guide had the KYC in mind. Some of the answers will probably be incorporated into the final KYC report.

(I have personally subscribed to the National Civic Review. With my first copy(Feb.1959), because I had written of our Wichita County Survey, I received three or four pieces of helpful material,with suggestions about others.--We have copies of the San Antonio and the Lubbock Leagues' County Surveys.)

LOCAL PROGRAM:

Describe any activity on your local Program.

*Annual
Reports*

Hughes

KNOW YOUR COUNTY SURVEY (WICHITA COUNTY) - See separate attached page

Adopted as a 2-year project. No unit or general membership

meetings yet devoted to LCA. Short Progress report given at one

membership meeting, and regularly to Board meetings.

*Wichita Falls
58-59*



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF
WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS
LOCAL CURRENT AGENDA, 1958- 1960
KNOW YOUR COUNTY SURVEY
(WICHITA COUNTY)
Two-year project

SCHEDULE OF STEPS TAKEN TO DATE:

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7. October and November 1958 "Wichita Falls Voter" re-printed, in two parts, the LCA Policy-Fact Sheet.
8. Will have three charts ready to distribute to membership as part of Report on LCA at Annual Meeting, March 11, 1959:
(a) County map showing location of four Commissioners Precincts;(b) chart of County Government;(c) list of County Officials at present.
9. Most of the questions the League asked candidates for the July Primary Voters Guide had the LCA in mind. Some of the answers will be incorporated into the final KYC report.

League of Women Voters of Texas

o AUSTIN 5, TEXAS

January 30, 1959

TO: Local Current Agenda Chairmen
FROM: Mrs. Eugene H. Hughes, State Chairman, LCA

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LCA REPORT, 1958-59

(Please return this report to me at [REDACTED], before February 20.)

February 15, 1959

League WICHITA FALLS Chairman Vacant since September
Support of Measures for Efficient Water Conservation
LCA Item CONTINUING Resp. and Flood Control in the Wichita Falls Area.
(Use 2nd Report Form for LCA II or local Continuing Responsibility on which you worked this year.)

NOTE:- This Item was inactive this year.

1. How many members on your committee? When a water bond issue came up for vote, it became so violently controversial,
2. How did you inform your members? the LWV staid out of the fight because we were not competent to judge whether or not the proposed
Units General Meetings Reservoir would be the most "efficient" solution to
Voter Go-see trips our water problem, in the face of conflicting claims by water
Special bulletins or fact sheets engineers.
3. Was this an interesting item to most members?
4. Do you think that you accomplished your purpose in 1958-59?
5. Do you feel that you made a contribution to your community?
6. Did you recommend this to continue as an active item for another year?
Or, made a continuing responsibility?
7. What can you bring (or send with your delegation) for display at Council?
(Description and space required on display table.)

Please use the back of this sheet for anything you wish to report about your plan of work and accomplishments.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF
WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS

Mrs. Wayne Somerville
1921 Seventh Street
Wichita Falls, Texas

February 13, 1959

Dear Mrs. Hughes,

In my morning mail I received the report blanks for LCA which you had mailed to Mrs. Wolf and which she, in turn, had mailed to me. I realize that I should very long ago have reported to you that Mrs. Wolf resigned as LCA chairman at the September Board meeting and that we have not yet persuaded any other member to take on the job.

That is bad, very bad. I am as full of excuses as a dog is of fleas, but the truth of the matter is that, as first vice president (program responsibility), I have done next to nothing with my job since May 12, 1958, and yet I have consented to stay on in the same capacity, provided I am elected at our Annual Meeting, now set for March 11! How presumptuous can one get!

The truth is that I want so badly to serve as program vice president and most particularly to see the KNOW YOUR COUNTY item through to successful conclusion that I dare to hope that I can do much better during the coming year than during the past year. My now 86-year old mother who makes her home with me became very ill last May 12, after which she had two hospitalizations with radium treatments, followed by daily treatments almost all summer of x-ray and cobalt. Almost miraculously, she was able to stand the terrible ordeal and is now doing very nicely, very slowly gaining back some strength but quite naturally still requiring lots of very close attention and medication. That explains why I have had to neglect so greatly my responsibility in the League, and I feel sure you will understand.

As you already know, Betty Story's resignation as president, also at September Board meeting, left us pretty well stranded, until Mrs. Finnell stepped into the breach so nobly and so well. We have made an effort to get a replacement on the Board for Mrs. Wolf but most women balk at assuming responsibility for the LCA portfolio, though they are quite willing to help under the chairmanship of someone else! I have great hopes, however, for the coming year. A sort of "log-jam" now seems to have been broken.

In the meantime, I shall prepare and mail to you the LCA report on what we have actually done, meager though it has been, and I shall get it to you within the next day or so ahead of the February 20 deadline--I promise. I'm aching to go to Council but it's impossible: I have no one at all to leave with my Mother. Do have fun. Best wishes,

Fondly,

Wivian Somerville



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF
WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS
March 13, 1959

Dear Mrs. Hughes,

Thanks a lot for your card acknowledging the LCA report from us.

Here are two copies of the Report I on the Know Your County Survey, which ~~was~~ distributed to members present at the Annual Meeting and will be given to all other members also.

You will be pleased, I am sure, as are we, that Betty Story has consented to serve as LCA chairman for the coming year. She was duly appointed to the job at the close of the Annual Meeting, and is already at work. For co-chairman she has Mrs. Ben Fowler, who has great interest in the county study but whose health prevents her serving as chairman herself. This puts Betty back on our Board and we certainly have needed to have her there.

Yesterday afternoon at my house we had a planning session for the unit to be held March 25 at which time a special study of the City-County Hospital charity bills which city and county share equally will be made: this is a "hot potato" here! We shall tread with care but shall try to make a truly factual survey of the situation.

Do have fun at Council.

Best of luck.

Cordially yours,

Vivian Somerville

Mrs. Wayne Somerville

1921 Seventh Street

Wichita Falls

✓
"KNOW YOUR COUNTY"

(a continuation from your October Voter)

4. The survey is to be a serious, carefully planned study. Everything put in the final published report will be double-checked for accuracy. That is why it is anticipated the survey may possibly require approximately two years to complete. We dare to hope, however, to have it finished short of that length of time.

5. The survey is an ALL-MEMBER project. Each member will participate in some way in the survey work.

6. The survey will be made one or two sections of county government at a time, not all at once. Progress reports will be made to the central planning committee and to the League Board. Each report will be discussed by members in unit meetings and general membership meetings before it is put in final form for publication.

*Wichita Falls
Nov 15-18*
7. Members will participate in "go-see" tours for some sections of the survey. For other sections, one or two members may ask to spend a day or more in certain offices or plants in order to observe and to get an overall picture of activities carried on by that particular branch of county government. Personal interviews with county officials, arranged ahead of time, will be one of the main sources for information in the survey. Public documents, such as the annual budget, will be given close attention and analysis.

8. The purpose of the League of Women Voters in undertaking a survey of county government is to give basic information first to League members and then to provide for all Wichita County citizens a convenient, available source of information on our county affairs.

In the course of the survey we may find some aspect of county government on which we may later concentrate and which we may possibly adopt as a special project. What that might be is just anybody's guess, now at the start of the survey.

ON A HIGH NOTE

The traveling salesman asked the waitress if she had any scruples. After checking the menu, she made a trip to the kitchen to inquire. Returning, she informed the salesman that scruples were out of season!

A BOUNTIFUL AND HAPPY THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
TO YOU ALL

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS

Mrs. Eugene Hughes



[REDACTED]
Houston 4, Texas
Sept. 10, 1958

Mrs. Jack Storey, President
League of Women Voters
[REDACTED]

Dear Betty:

You have probably received by this time a copy of the booklet: "A Guide to Publishing a KNOW YOUR TOWN Booklet." Our State Office ordered these from the Illinois State League for the use of any Texas Leagues who are doing a Know Your Town or Know Your County Survey. This seems to be a very good booklet, just full of good ideas for the League who is working on this kind of project. Will you please see that it gets to your LCA chairman, Mrs. Wolf?

After your League has finished with it, I hope that you will return it to State Office so that others may use it.

Cordially,

Mrs. Eugene H. Hughes
State LCA Chairman

cc: Wolf
SO
Baggett
Pettis

Dear Mrs. Wolf: I wonder how you are coming with your KNOW YOUR COUNTY Survey. I'd be happy to hear from you whenever you have time to write. I hope that you find this booklet helpful.

RH

3812 Gertin
Houston 4, Texas
Sept. 10, 1958

Mrs. Jack Storey, President
League of Women Voters

[REDACTED]

Dear Betty:

You have probably received by this time a copy of the booklet: "A Guide to Publishing a KNOW YOUR TOWN Booklet." Our State Office ordered these from the Illinois State League for the use of any Texas Leagues who are doing a Know Your Town or Know Your County Survey. This seems to be a very good booklet, just full of good ideas for the League who is working on this kind of project. Will you please see that it gets to your LCA chairman, Mrs. Wolf?

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Index
1958
Report
WICHITA FALLS: Consultant--None

Membership--Grew from 87 in April to 96 in May due to membership coffee held in Apr.
Finance--\$400 in reserve fund; Budget \$1,960.; no report on finance drive, April 1-7.
Support of State and National--\$600 pledge; no pledge for STS.

Publications--Unknown

Voters Service--Unknown; letter went to chairman from Murphree in May; sent out questionnaires.

Bulletin--Good; only real source of information

Public Relations--Unknown

Meetings: 1. General--evidently 9 per year (21 at May meeting)

2. Board--one per month

3. Units--board "recommends that in the future Units meet once a month"
-- membership was to vote on this recommendation.

Minutes--None received

Program: 1. State--Mary Glade carrying both Items

2. National--no chairman for Item II

3. Local--KYCounty; CR--Water Conservation and Flood Control

Legislative--Plans unknown

Committees--Unknown

By-laws--?

Policy Sheet--Revised in May (by board) to read "A board member may not attend precinct Conventions...."

State Visits--None since Feb. (Hannah Daniel and Virginia MacDonald attended a membership coffee and spoke on Finance); board training by Lemon, April 1957. Mrs. Story did own board training in May and June of this year.

Remarks--According to the W.F. files this League has been mashing along quite successfully in past and is probably doing so now tho the bulletin is my only source of information, thus far. Received brief correspondence from Story re this League.

3812 Gertin
Houston 4, Texas
May 19, 1958

Mrs. J. E. Wolf

Wichita Falls, Texas

Dear Mrs. Wolf:

This is the time of year when you as local current agenda chairman for the LWV of Wichita Falls, will be getting a committee and making plans for carrying out your present item of: Know Your County Survey. As state chairman of LCA, I am much interested in how you will plan to proceed with making this study. When you and your committee have made your plans, I hope that you will write and give me your outlook for work.

Do you have the new state publication: "On the Home Front"? If not, by all means get it before you start your planning. You will find that the 10 steps for a successful local current agenda most helpful.. It would be a good idea for every member of your committee to have this tool.

I might also suggest that you ask someone on your committee to keep a running account of the steps you take in carrying out this item. This will furnish a record of your accomplishments and how you arrived there, and will be building for the future LCA times.

If I can be of any assistance to you at any time, don't hesitate to write me. And I will be looking forward to getting your outlook for work.

Cordially,

cc: SO
Baggett
Pettis

Mrs. Eugene H. Hughes

WICHITA FALLS

KNOW YOUR COUNTY SURVEY

Report I
March 1959

KNOW YOUR COUNTY SURVEY

Compiled by: League of Women Voters of Wichita Falls, Texas

WICHITA COUNTY, TEXAS

COUNTY: Legal subdivision of the State (Texas Constitution, Article XI, Sec. 1)

-dual functions: (a) unit of local government
(b) administrative agent of the State

WICHITA COUNTY : Organized- June 7, 1882
Population- 1950 census: 98,493
1958 estimate: 131,000
1958 Tax Rate - 95 cents on \$100 valuation
1958 Tax Valuations- \$115,534,680.00

GOVERNMENT

Commissioners Precincts - 4	Voting Precincts - 53 regular
District Courts - 3	1 absentee
County Courts - 1	Justice of the Peace Courts- 5

* COMMISSIONERS COURT *

* (5 members) *

* *

* * COUNTY JUDGE *

* (Presides) *

ELECTIVE: *	Commissioner, Precinct 1	Commissioner, Precinct 3
*	(Wichita Falls)	(Iowa Park)
*	Commissioner, Precinct 2	Commissioner, Precinct 4
*	(Burkburnett)	(Electra)
*		
*		

OTHER ELECTIVE COUNTY OFFICIALS

Salaries paid by the State *	Salaries paid by the County *

District Judges (3) *	District Clerk *
(Their salaries as members of the *	County Attorney *
Juvenile Board are paid by the *	County Clerk *
County) *	Sheriff *
	Treasurer *

District Attorney *	Tax Assessor-Collector *
(Assistants paid by County) *	Constable, Precinct 1 *
	Constable, Precinct 2 *
*****	Constable, Precinct 3 *
County School Superintendent *	Constable, Precinct 4 *
(paid from state per capita *	
apportionment of school funds) *	

Paid from Fees of Office *	* County Judge also presides over
	County Court (no civil cases in
	this county), handles criminal,
	probate, and insanity cases.

Justices of the Peace (5) *	

(more)

page 1

WICHITA COUNTY (continued)

COUNTY BOARDS

JUVENILE BOARD

3 District Judges(ex officio)
County Judge (ex officio)

CITY-COUNTY WELFARE BOARD

7 members(8 at present)
appointed by:
City Council and
Commissioners Court

WICHITA GENERAL HOSPITAL BOARD

6 members
appointed by :
City Council and
Commissioners Court

COUNTY CHILD WELFARE BOARD

7 members
appointed by:
Commissioners Court

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

5 members
Commissioners Court
(ex officio)

COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

5 members - ELECTED
One member from each
Precinct
One member county-at-large

APPOINTIVE OFFICIALS

Auditor, appointed by :
District Judges
Probation Officer, appointed By:
Juvenile Board
Reporters, District Courts
appointed by:
Judge of each Court
Reporter, County Court,
appointed by:
Commissioners Court
County Engineer, by Com. Court
County Health Officer,
by Com. Court
County Home Demonstration Agent
by Ext.Service A&M & Com.Court
County Agricultural (Farm)Agent
by Ext.Service A&M & Com.Court
County Veterans Service Officer
by Commissioners Court
County Farm Superintendent
by Commissioners Court
Courthouse Building Superintendent
by Commissioners Court
Courthouse Engineer
by Commissioners Court
County Welfare Agent
by Commissioners Court
Right of Way Agent
by Commissioners Court
County Trapper, sent by:
Texas Predatory Animal Control
Association,-County shares
salary.

* * * * *

C O U R T S

30th District Court
78th District Court
89th District Court
County Court

5 Justice of the Peace Courts
which also act as:
Small Claims Courts

(2 Justice of the Peace
Courts in(Wichita Falls)
Precinct 1, but only
1 Justice of the Peace
Court in each other
Precinct of the County)

These four Courts function in
Wichita County alone, the
boundaries of their jurisdictions
being co-extensive with the
boundaries of Wichita County.

(more)

WICHITA COUNTY(Continued)

COUNTY OFFICIALS

March 1959

DISTRICT JUDGES

Judge Arthur Tipps, [REDACTED]
Judge Temple Shell, [REDACTED]
Judge Graham B. Purcell, Jr., [REDACTED]

COMMISSIONERS

Precinct 1,- - Kelley Gilbreath (Wichita Falls)
Precinct 2,- - G. Clark Gresham (Burkburnett)
Precinct 3,- - E.E.(Buck) Voyles (Iowa Park)
Precinct 4,- - H.H. Haynes (Electra)

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

T.L.(Tolly) Wilson

Assistants:

Gene Richie

Stanley Kirk

Jim Goforth, special investigator

COUNTY JUDGE

Judge Temple Driver

DISTRICT CLERK

Flora Cobb

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Don Short

Assistants:

John Mogan

Frank Gibson

COUNTY CLERK

Dora Davis

SHERIFF

Weldon Bailey

TREASURER

T.W. McHam

TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR

Jim Robinson

COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

B.M. Dinsmore

COUNTY SURVEYOR

A.M. McPherson

COUNTY AUDITOR

Joe Gowdy

* JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 1

* Place 1-H.M.(Doc) Newman

* Place 2-Ralph G. Davis

* JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 2

* F.E. Cruce

* JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 3

* Robert R. Brubaker

* JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 4

* J.R. Carter

* CONSTABLE, PRECINCT 1

* Clyde Elder

* Deputy Constable

* H.W. Swadley

* CONSTABLE, PRECINCT 2

* S.J. Mitchell(inactive)

* CONSTABLE, PRECINCT 3

* Henry Jones

* CONSTABLE, PRECINCT 4

* Walter Dale

* DISTRICT COURT REPORTERS

* Mrs. Lola Woodward, [REDACTED]

* Winifred McGar, [REDACTED]

* Warren Griffen, [REDACTED]

(more)

COUNTY OFFICIALS(Continued)

CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER
Howard G. Large
Adult Probation Officer
Bill J. Ballard

COUNTY ENGINEER
E.L. Andrews

COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER
Dr. Mark E. Huff

COUNTY FARM SUPERINTENDENT
Lewis N. Jernigan

COUNTY COURT REPORTER
and
Clerk of the Commissioners Court
Mrs. Gladys Langford

HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT
Miss Thelma Wirges

AGRICULTURAL(FARM) AGENT
B.T. Haws

RIGHT OF WAY AGENT
Max Murphy

COUNTY TRAPPER
Harry Mack

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER
Coy T. Ball

COURTHOUSE BUILDING
SUPERINTENDENT
W.W. Givens

COURTHOUSE ENGINEER
J.O.Lamb(retires March 15)

COUNTY WELFARE AGENT
Mrs. Bessie Sloan

CITY-COUNTY INVESTIGATOR
(medical)
Mrs. Minnie Shafer

SPECIAL OFFICER, PARKING AT
COURTHOUSE
H.A. White

JUVENILE BOARD
Judge Graham B. Purcell,Jr.
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J.S. Bridwell, chairman
Earl R. Hoggard
H.W. Fillmore
W.A. Krohn(Electra)
Rhea Howard
Paul B. Browning
(Burkburnett)
John B. Barbour(Iowa Park)

CITY-COUNTY WELFARE BOARD
Dr. William L.Rector,chairman
Harold Van Loh,Burkburnett
Mrs. E.C. Darter,Electra
Rex Lehman, Iowa Park
Ernest Guffey
Jack Broday
Mrs. Owen Berg
Lloyd Neely

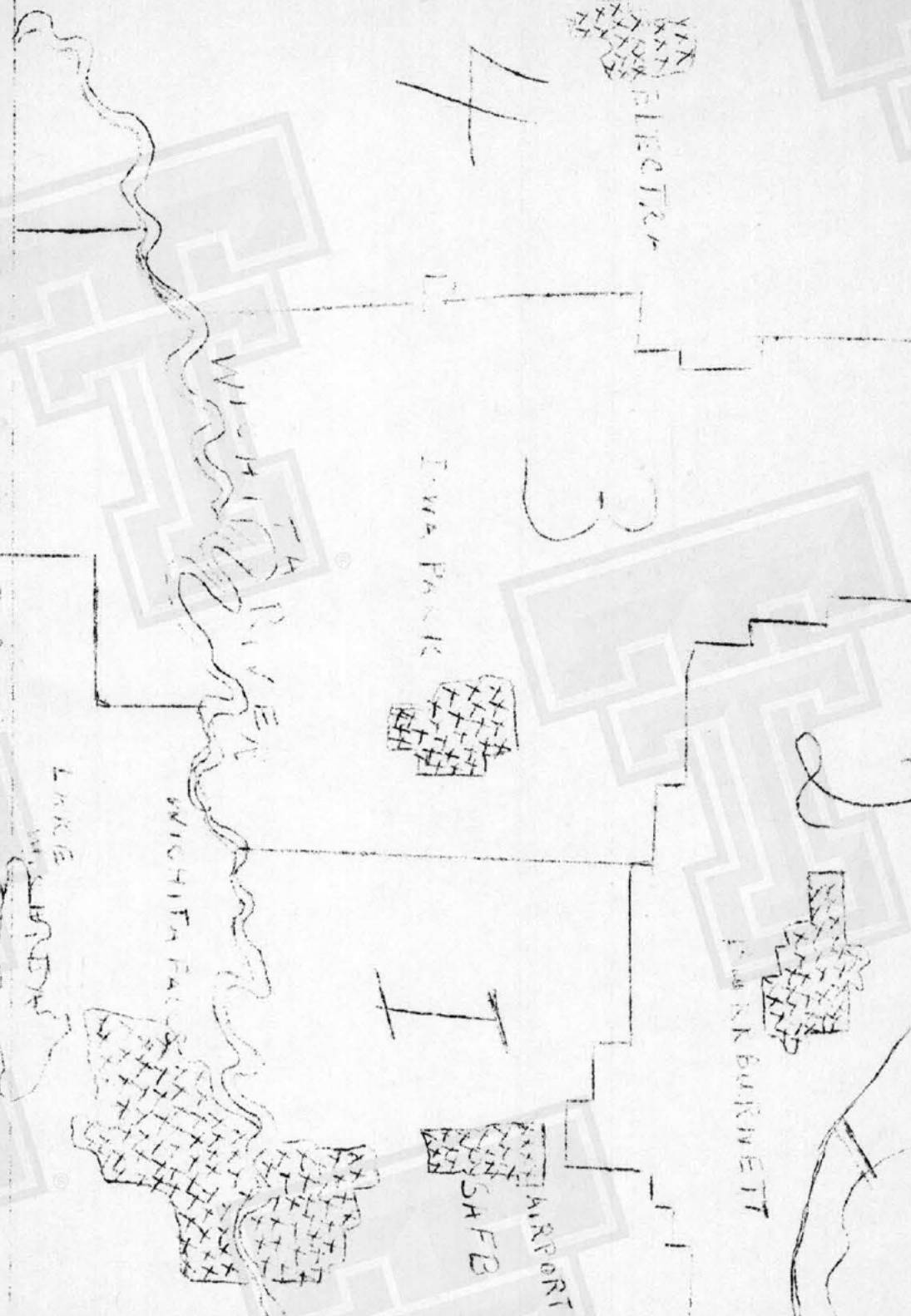
WICHITA GENERAL HOSPITAL BOARD
Dr. Gordon G. Clark,Iowa Park
(County) -chairman
County appointees:
James Prothro
Dr. Phillip A. Carpenter,
Burkburnett
City appointees:
Steve Ford
Dr.Stephen A. Powers.
Woody Featherston

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
Judge Temple Driver
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G. Clark Gresham
E.E. Voyles
H.H. Haynes

COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD(ELECTED)
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Grover Bullington,Wichita Falls
Precinct 1-vice-president
J.S. Mills,Burkburnett,Pr.2
Danny Dale,Electra,Pr.4
W.L. Voyles,Wichita Falls-
member,county-at-large

WILLBARGER COUNTY

WILLMAIN COUNTY
OKLAHOMA
COTTON COUNTY
OKLAHOMA



Map of Willbarger County, Oklahoma, showing the Wichita River and Lake Michigan.

CLAY COUNTY

Policy - FACT SHEET ABOUT "KNOW YOUR COUNTY" SURVEY
To be made by League of Women Voters, Wichita Falls, Texas

~~Mrs. Jack Story~~, president *Mrs. Leslie B. Fimmell*

Mrs. Wayne Somerville, 1st vice president

-general director and supervisor of survey

Mrs. Jack Story ~~Mrs. J.E. Wolf~~, chairman central planning committee

Mrs. Ben Fowler ~~Mrs. Burl Bryant~~, co-chairman, central planning committee

1. The "Know Your County" survey will be a completely non-partisan, objective, fact-finding study of Wichita County government--how it is set up and how it operates--together with a directory of County Officials at the time the survey is complete and publication is made of material gathered in the survey in the form of a Wichita County Handbook.
2. The survey will be entirely impersonal; that is, it will consider the office in each case, not the office-holder.
3. The survey will follow a manual prepared by the National Board of the League of Women Voters of the United States which is used, with slight variations from state-to-state, by Leagues in all of the 48 states in making similar studies of their county governments.
A number of Leagues in Texas have made, or are in the process of making, "Know Your County" surveys. Among them are: Edinburg, Harlingen, Odessa, San Angelo, Waco, Lubbock, San Antonio. San Antonio League's study was completed and the report published in October 1957 under the title: "Citizen's Handbook of Bexar County and Directory of County Offices,"-copies of which we have on hand.
4. The survey is to be a serious, carefully planned study. Everything put in the final published report will be double-checked for accuracy. That is why it is anticipated the survey may possibly require approximately two years to complete. We dare to hope, however, to have it finished short of that length of time.
5. The survey is an ALL-MEMBER project. Each member will participate in some way in the survey work.
6. The survey will be made one or two sections of county government at a time, not all at once. Progress reports will be made to the central planning committee and to the League Board. Each report will be discussed by members in unit meetings and general membership meetings before it is put in final form for publication.
7. Members will participate in "go-see" tours for some sections of the survey. For other sections, one or two members may ask to spend a day or more in certain offices or plants in order to observe and to get an overall picture of activities carried on by that particular branch of county government. Personal interviews with county officials, arranged ahead of time, will be one of the main sources for information in the survey. Public documents, such as the annual budget, will be given close attention and analysis.
8. The purpose of the League of Women Voters in undertaking a survey of county government is to give basic information first to League members and then to provide for all Wichita County citizens a convenient, available source of information on our county affairs.
In the course of the survey we may find some aspect of county government on which we may later concentrate and which we may possibly adopt as a special project. What that might be is just anybody's guess, now at the start of the survey!

* * * * *

KNOW YOUR COUNTY SURVEY

Compiled by: League of Women Voters of Wichita Falls, Texas

WICHITA COUNTY, TEXAS

COUNTY: Legal subdivision of the State(Texas Constitution,
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1958 Tax Valuations- \$115,534,680.00

GOVERNMENT

Commissioners Precincts - 4 Voting Precincts - 53 regular
District Courts - 3 1 absentee
County Courts - 1 Justice of the Peace Courts- 5

* * * * *

* COMMISSIONERS COURT *

* (5 members) *

* * * * *

* COUNTY JUDGE *

* (Presides) *

ELECTIVE: * Commissioner, Precinct 1 Commissioner, Precinct 3
* (Wichita Falls) (Iowa Park)
* Commissioner, Precinct 2 Commissioner, Precinct 4
* (Burkburnett) (Electra)
*
*

* * * * *

OTHER ELECTIVE COUNTY OFFICIALS

Salaries paid by the State	*	Salaries paid by the County
	*	
District Judges (3)	*	District Clerk
(Their salaries as members of the	*	County Attorney
Juvenile Board are paid by the	*	County Clerk
County)	*	Sheriff
	*	Treasurer
District Attorney	*	Tax Assessor-Collector
(Assistants paid by County)	*	Constable, Precinct 1
	*	Constable, Precinct 2
* * * * *	**	Constable, Precinct 3
County School Superintendent	*	Constable, Precinct 4
(paid from state per capita	**	
apportionment of school funds)	**	* County Judge also presides over
* * * * *	**	County Court(no civil cases in
Paid from Fees of Office	*	this county),handles criminal,
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Justices of the Peace (5)	*	* * * * *
	*	

WICHITA COUNTY (continued)

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County Engineer, by Com. Court
County Health Officer,
by Com. Court
County Home Demonstration Agent
by Ext.Service A&M & Com. Court
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by Ext.Service A&M & Com. Court
County Veterans Service Officer
by Commissioners Court
County Farm Superintendent
by Commissioners Court
Courthouse Building Superintendent
by Commissioners Court
Courthouse Engineer
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Right of Way Agent
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County Trapper, sent by:
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Association, -County shares
salary.

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(more)

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March 1959

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Judge Temple Shell, [REDACTED]
Judge Graham B. Purcell, Jr., [REDACTED]

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* * * * *

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(more)

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Rex Lehman, Iowa Park
Ernest Guffey
Jack Broday
Mrs. Owen Berg
Lloyd Neely

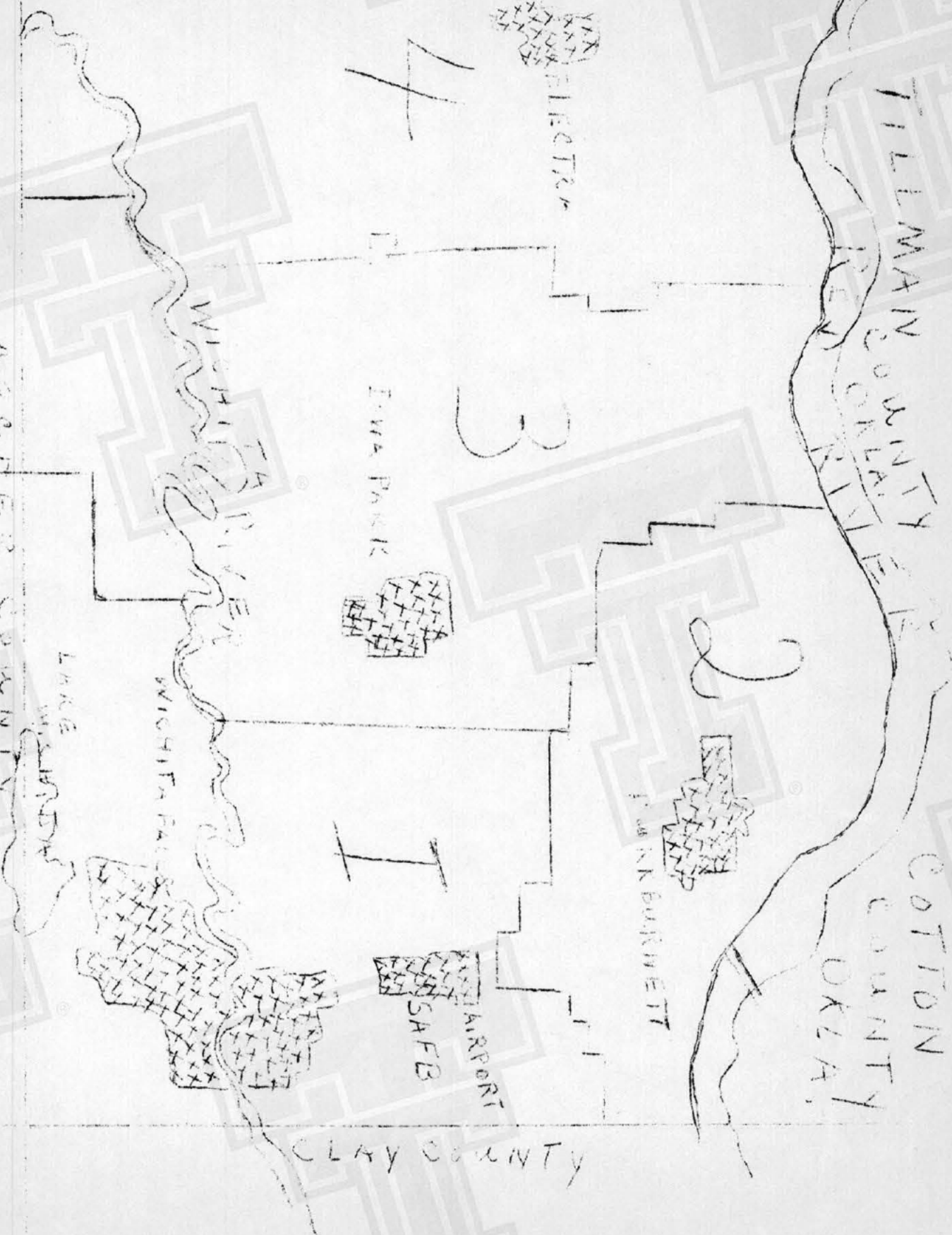
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Grover Bullington,Wichita Falls
Precinct 1-vice-president
J.S. Mills,Burkburnett,Pr.2
Danny Dale,Electra,Pr.4
W.L. Voyles,Jr.,Wichita Falls-
member,county-at-large

WILBARGER COUNTY

Reservoirs, Wichita County, showing connection with the Wichita



Policy - FACT SHEET ABOUT "KNOW YOUR COUNTY" SURVEY
To be made by League of Women Voters, Wichita Falls, Texas

Mrs. Jack Story, president *Mrs. Leslie B. Fennell*
Mrs. Wayne Somerville, 1st vice president
-general director and supervisor of survey
Mrs. Jack Story Mrs. J.E. Wolf, chairman central planning committee
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KNOW YOUR COUNTY Our Local Current Agenda, "Know Your County", is shaping up admirably under the direction of Mrs. Jack Story, with two more extremely informative speakers this month.

Mrs. Bessie Sloane, Supervisor of City-County Welfare, spoke at the Unit Meeting on May 13th, at the home of Mrs. N. R. [REDACTED]. Mrs. Sloane and Mrs. Minnie Shafer are in sole custody of the City-County Welfare Agency at this time. Both ladies have emphasized to us the need for more workers in their field. We have heard of some of the problems concerning Medical Welfare from Mrs. Shafer. Some of the responsibilities coming under the supervision of Mrs. Sloane are encouraging transients to continue their travels to other destinations; helping unemployed to find employment; distributing groceries to indigent families; disbursing surplus commodities on a limited scale; securing aid for dependent children; helping to "tide over" injured workmen until Workmen's Compensation is paid; supplying clothing, travel and incidental expenses to charity patients who are sent to out-of-county hospitals; and of course, each applicant must be investigated and certified before any of these positive steps can be taken. Next to the need for additional workers, Mrs. Sloane stressed the need for a list of definite rules to follow in determining the eligibility of welfare applicants as a help in serving her office more efficiently.

A new vista was opened to our LWV with the speech of Dr. Charles Miller, Director of the Wichita County Health Unit, on May 27, at the home of Mrs. C. H. Parker, [REDACTED]. We were made aware of the fact that the World Health Organization is no farther from us than our telephone. Weekly reports of statistics and health conditions in any country in the world, -including Soviet Russia- are available to us through our local Health Unit. Our Public Health Department has the responsibility of seeing that our water is sanitary, that products from local dairies meet certain rigid specifications, that health conditions following disasters such as floods are kept under control, that any hazard to the health of the public is eliminated at once. The Public Health Department, locally under the direction of Dr. Miller, is truly the watchdog of the health of each and every one of us. Dr. Miller earnestly requested the help and active support of the League of Women Voters in interesting the public in the work of his department.

Next Unit Meeting will be in the auditorium of the Wichita Health Unit, where we will hear a report from Mrs. Jack Story, Mrs. H. W. Coffman, and Mrs. V. A. Brockman, on the Juvenile Department of this County. This promises to be an extremely interesting and timely report, and all members, as well as the public, are urged to attend and learn more about the operation of our county. This report will be followed by a "Get-Acquainted" tour of the Health Unit, conducted by Dr. Charles Miller.

June '59
Bulletin

WICHITA FALLS

LCA - 1959-60

Know Your County Survey - with present emphasis on Welfare expenses
to the Wichita General Hospital

Chairman: Mrs. Jack Story [REDACTED]

Memos, Correspondence, etc.

Memo - April 9, 1959

7th May 1959