

LEAGUE:

Odessa

Texas

EXACT WORDING OF LOCAL CURRENT AGENDA

1953:

a study of County Home Rule.
Project: Securing Voting Machines
for County-City elections.

1954:

A study of Domestic Relations
Courts with a view toward action.

1955:

A Study of City - County
Government with emphasis on
education.

3613 N. Muskingum
Odessa, Texas



REPLY CARD

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS of TEXAS
[REDACTED], Waco, Texas

Missent to Ranger, Texas

ODESSA

LCA - 1958-59

Functions of County Government Emphasizing County Court

Chairman: Mrs. Ross Lee

Correspondence

Letter May 24 '58

Ans. July 1 '58

Post Card July 4 '58

memo 50 Feb Jan '59

Report sheet + notes Feb '59

Report used

LOCAL PROGRAM:

Describe any activity on your local Program.

Annual Report

Odessa 58-59

Our League has been studying the various functions of the county government, with emphasis on the county courts. We have had discussions, speakers on the county court and all the phases of its work. We have had observers at the various board meetings throughout the year, including the commissioners court. We were interested in seeing a county court at law for Ector County. This has been provided for by the state legislature, and is in fact now. We cannot claim much credit for this, because we got in on the tail end, but our interest and our study was known in the community.

Odessa
League of Women Voters of Texas

o AUSTIN 5, TEXAS

Dear Mrs Lee - I'll be so glad to have a report on your years work on your LCA item. Hope you're

January 30, 1959

enjoyed the work & feel that you've accomplished a lot.

Only chance of your coming to President's Council in March? Just enjoy it. Cordially - Ruth Hughes

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.)

League Odessa Chairman Mrs Ross Lee

LCA Item A Study of the Functions of Ector County Gov. - Highlighting Hospital
(Use 2nd Report Form for LCA II or local Continuing Responsibility on which you worked this year.)

1. How many members on your committee? 9

2. How did you inform your members?

Units Morning & Evening
Voter Discussed

General Meetings Made Reports - and
Go-see trips Had City & County Speakers
at our luncheons

Special bulletins or fact sheets Bulletins

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

4. Do you think that you accomplished your purpose in 1958-59? We all were better informed
Did not take any action

5. Do you feel that you made a contribution to your community? yes

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.)

Local - Proposed Current Agenda -

Item I - Provision for adequate courts in Ector County -
Item II - Continue study of other County functions

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

1959

We voted Feb. 17th that local league
will take a stand on Bond elections
next year — after much study —

We will continue to have our four
committees visit the city, County, School
& Hospital Boards

IDA REPORT, 1958-59
(Please return this report to me at 3012 Curtis, Houston 4, before February 20.)

League

Chairman

LCs Item

(Use and Report Form for LCA II or Local Committee Responsibility on which
you worked this year.)

1. How many members on your committee?

2. How did you inform your members?

General Meetings

Go-see trips

Local Initiative or Task sheets

3. How often 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

ODESSA, TEXAS

July 1, 1958

*ans. via
Post Card
July 4, 1958*

Mrs. Eugene H. Hughes
[REDACTED]

Dear Mrs. Hughes:

I appreciated your letter and I hope I can give you our outlook on what we are doing on Local Items.

Our League is rather inactive this summer, with the acceptance of our monthly Board Meetings and Voters Service, then a membership Tea later this summer.

I appointed the following committees in March, one to visit the city council meetings, the County Government meetings, and one for the School Board. They brought us good information to our discussion groups, while we have been studying Local Items.

I had our County District Attorney, County Judge and the administrator from the hospital, speak to us at three monthly General Luncheon Meetings. They all brought us much help on Local Study.

We have done our "Know Your County Survey" but it hasn't been completed for use as yet. This is our second "Know Your Town Survey".

I have the publication, "On the Home Front" which is very helpful.

Thank you ~~for~~ your letter, I am always happy to hear from you on whatever, you have, I might need.

Sincerely,

Cecile J. Lee
Mrs. Ross Lee

1801 N. Snow Avenue

[REDACTED]
May 24, 1958

Mrs. Ross Lee
[REDACTED]

Odessa, Texas

Dear Mrs. Lee:

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

Do you have the new state publication: "On the Home Front"? If not, by all means get it before you start your work. You will find that the 10 steps for a successful 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 for your League files, and will be building for the future on LCA items!

I will be looking forward to receiving your outlook for work.

Cordially,

cc: SO
Baggett
Pettis

Mrs. Eugene H. Hughes

ODESSA: Consultant--Mrs. Herbert Martin (Amarillo)
Membership--57; gained 2 new members in April; no plans for orientation.
Finance--Good; just completed successful drive which raised \$1,025.50. Budget \$2,300;
have not yet collected dues.
Support of State and National--\$200 pledged; \$50 for SFS.
Publications--Good use of within the League; none outside.
Voters Service--Now in balance; plan to carry out summer V/S activities.
Public Relations--Wonderful chairman with excellent plans for Speaker's Bureau;
Radio and TV programs, etc.
Meetings: 1. General--plan 4 big and much publicized meetings per year
2. Board--one per month; well attended
3. Units--two; quite well attended
Minutes--Good; well written; cover everything.
Program: 1. State--one chairman carrying both items; plans for future seem adequate.
Two members visited District Court on Law Day, USA.
2. National--looks like a beginning into National Program; show promise

LWV of Texas
June 1958

June 1958 report

West Texas Leagues, page four

3. Local--good plans for KYCounty survey; members observing at School Board, City Council and County Court meetings -- observers often attend Juvenile Court proceedings.

Legislative--Prospective chairman will be excellent (if she takes the job); expect great things if she does.

Committees--Beginning to use

Calendar of Work--Plan to prepare

By-laws--ok

Policy Sheet--?

State Visits--Full board training by Martin and Baggett on May 22.

Remarks--This League has made an excellent recovery; is attracting top leadership; promises to be one of the best Leagues in West Texas.

ODESSA

LCA - 1959-60

I. Provision for adequate courts in Ector County Study

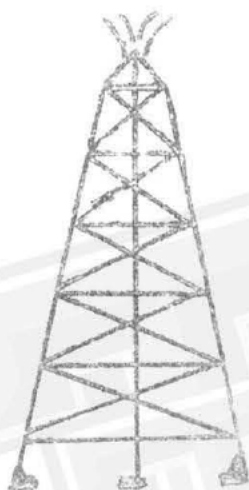
II. A continued study of County functions

Chairman: Mrs. C. W. Bonds

Memos, Correspondence, etc.

Memo - April 9, 1959

Memo - May 1959



LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS of

BULLETIN

APRIL 1960



President
Mrs. C. W. Bonds

Editor
Mrs. Neal Johnson

C A L E N D A R

April 13 - Board Meeting (Officers and Directors)
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

April 20 - General Meeting Luncheon - 12:00 Noon,
Holiday Inn - \$1.75. Phone reservations
to Nadine Francis, [REDACTED]

April 27 - Committee Planning - Program: "From Chaos
to Gentle Confusion" (Details will be
announced at General Meeting)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

On behalf of the officers, I wish to thank the members for sending us to State Convention. It was a wonderful debut for us, as we assumed our roles of responsibility. Since we will report at our luncheon on the 20th, I shall not go into detail here except to say it was the most physically fatiguing, mentally stimulating, and intellectually appealing convention I've ever attended. In our 40th year, we note with pride that we are disappearing from the "society page" as the lines of distinction are being defined more clearly between our League activities and our average women's club activities. Let us recognize ourselves -- the only woman's organization in the world whose sole purpose is to make democracy work, by teaching and studying democratic procedures. Our challenge for the 60's is stupendous, but not impossible. Maximum benefits to Odessa, Texas and our country, and therefore indirectly back to us, depends on each of us. Assuming that, by virtue of your membership, you are willing to accept the challenge, with the board's approval, I have appointed each of you to a committee. We hope to devote more time to study and discussion in addition to our community service. We have tried to match your talents with our needs. If you would like to change to another committee, or, we hope, be willing to serve on an additional one, please call Beverly Simpson, EM6-5283, or Beverly Brock, EM6-2121.

League Program - 1st V-Pres.
Mrs. Frederic Simpson

National Current Agenda

Mrs. F. C. Durbin - Director
Mrs. Bessye Cowden Ward
Mrs. M. B. White
Mrs. Selwyn Webber
Mrs. J. J. Carpenter
Mrs. J. E. Connell

National CR's

Mrs. J. E. Connell - Director

State CA #1 - TCR

Mrs. Leroy Williams - Director
Mrs. William Theis
Mrs. Ralph Chesnut
Mrs. Lee Brumelle
Mrs. Herman Winkler
Mrs. Ralph Rich

State CA #2 - Voter Registration

Mrs. John C. Woods - Director
Mrs. R. B. Curry
Mrs. Gene Andrews
Mrs. R. C. Kramer
Mrs. F. E. Siever
Mrs. A. B. Wright

State CR's

Mrs. Ralph Rich

Local CA #1 - Jury

Mrs. Dale Curry - Director
Mrs. Z. K. Mitis
Mrs. Joe Bailey Smith
Mrs. H. H. Halseell
Mrs. Otis Jordan

Local CA #2 - KYC-C Survey

Mrs. Ralph Clark - Director
Mrs. Ross Lee
Mrs. M. B. White
Mrs. H. H. Gass
Mrs. Charles R. Kromer
Mrs. F. C. Durbin
Mrs. Neal Johnson

CA #2 - Cont'd

Mrs. H. R. Cummins
Mrs. Richard Holcomb
Mrs. Neva Rose

Local CR's

Mrs. Otis Baker - Director

League-Community Relations - 2nd V-Pres.

Mrs. James H. Brock (Membership)

Membership Committee

Mrs. J. A. Purifoy
Mrs. C. C. Kelso
Mrs. Jess Cariker
Mrs. E. B. Francis - Hospitality
Mrs. Charles E. Jones, Jr. - Orientation

Public Relations

Mrs. Ross Short - Director
Mrs. R. E. Leever
Mrs. Delmar Groos
Mrs. Neal Johnson
Mrs. Ben Nedow
Mrs. C. R. O'Dell

Voters Service

Mrs. David Hunt - Director
Mrs. Charlie Taylor
Mrs. Harold Young
Mrs. E. G. Rodman
Mrs. T. O. McLean
Mrs. Paul W. Kaiser
Mrs. Charles E. Jones, Jr.
Mrs. R. B. Curry
Mrs. John C. Woods

Publications

Mrs. Phil B. Cook - Director
Mrs. Ross Short
Mrs. M. F. Lawless
(All program chairman ex officio)

Finance

Mrs. Charles E. Jones, Jr. - Director
Mrs. Charlie Taylor
Mrs. Ralph Clark
Mrs. Bessye Cowden Ward
Mrs. Paul W. Kaiser
Mrs. M. F. Lawless

We are happy to announce that we have a Very Important Personage in our Midst. Though it hasn't been officially released from the State Office, we cannot contain ourselves any longer. The Odessa League of Women Voters boasts a State Board Member! Mrs. Jim (Beverly) Brock has been appointed a Director with portfolios on Public Relations and Publications. Of course, we've all know Beverly for the capable vivacious person she is, and congratulate the State Board for recognizing that she too was "born" a League member and not "made." We feel this closer communication with State will help our League, and in turn, we feel we'll be able to make a more valuable contribution through this contact. Beverly has served on the local board since 1957 -- first as Unit Organization Chairman, then Chairman of Public Relations, and is now serving as 2nd Vice-President. She has served on the State Budget and Finance Committee, and has twice been a delegate from this League to State Convention....in 1958, and again in 1960.

FINANCE

An appeal to all members to pay their 1960-61 dues NOW. Why? Because:

It is a good way to start off the new League year, which promises to be an interesting one with much activity on the local level.

It would help the treasury immensely to have all dues paid up. Our finances are at a low ebb (balance approximately \$200 at this date), and we will need money soon to pay for the May Voters' Guides.

The Finance Drive which was held last Fall only reached about half of its goal, or a little more than \$800. We believe that the goal was not made primarily because over 80 prospective contributors were not contacted, due to absence from the city, lack of time, and the conflicting Community Chest drive.

The amount that was received was spent as carefully as your board could plan. Nevertheless, our balance has been reduced to the above mentioned \$200.

Our League has not frequently stressed contributions from our members, although we have always listed the item in our budget, and have always been pleased to receive any. This is, of course, purely optional. There are those who have mentioned that they could make a donation, and there are probably others who would be willing to do so as our need is made known. Or possibly there are some interested League husbands who would like to lend their support to our efforts.

It is to these that we are appealing. The need is great; the time is now. Whether you want to give \$1.00 or \$100.00, please contact Marian Jones, EM6-3874, 2810 North Century, soon. Thank you!

U. S. Postage
PAID
Odessa, Texas
Non-Profit Org.
Permit No. 34

MRS. KARL TEIGLER
[REDACTED]

Correspond.

O Bessa

Ziegler

CONFIDENTIAL

March 7, 1961

Mrs. C. W. Bonds, President
League of Women Voters of Odessa

Dear Mrs. Bonds,

I hope this reaches you in time to be of some assistance to you and your Board. Continuing Responsibilities do create problems for us sometimes and it is probably well that they do for this prods us to take a good hard look at where we are and how we got here in the first place.

I think I shall begin by trying to answer the questions in your last paragraph, for this may be what you need immediately. And then with your permission I would like to digress each time to a sort of philosophical discussion. First of all, I would refer you and your Board to the Local Leaders Handbook, specifically, Page 9: "3 CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES"; Page 11: Continuing Responsibilities, re determining a position; Page 12: Legislative Action.

To your first question: A Current Agenda item is moved to Continuing Responsibilities only if there has been study, conclusions, and membership agreement (remember the State Jury item -- there was no consensus, so it was dropped from our Program). Whenever a Current Agenda item is placed on CR status, it is usually for the reasons that the League wishes to act either legislatively or in the community on this item. And of necessity then the position as a CR is the same as the original position arrived at under CA status. Essentially, a CR's coverage can be narrowed, but not broadened to include more criteria or specifics than were originally studied and agreed on. So it seems to me that the answer to this first question is YES, you are bound by your original position reached when you studied this as a CA.

2 - If conditions are altered, then the positions reached under your original study would no longer seem valid. I'm not real clear as to what you mean by 'altered conditions'. Is it the deed? the bond issue defeat? the time needed to clear title? the current move to remodel? Actually from here, it doesn't seem to me that conditions are really changed at all. Your original criteria (1st paragraph) are actually still valid in relation to all the above. All that would be necessary would be for your Local Program committee to study the architects' recommendations, determine if they meet your present criteria, inform your membership, and pursue the most appropriate action. It would seem inadvisable to preclude that the League would back any architectural recommendations, but rather the League would study these in relation to your criteria and support those which fit and oppose those which did not. This can all be done as a CR (re the present National study on the World Court).

3rd, moving CR to CA -- This isn't necessary unless you decide that conditions have changed to the point where your present criteria are not applicable. You may decide that this is the case and only some additional study in the light of recent events will evolve new criteria which are now valid and will strengthen any contribution the League can make to the community on this subject. By the way, if your convictions are strong enough I wouldn't let the number of years it will take to accomplish your goal deter you (remember TCR).

4th - Yes, you can do this even if it hasn't been published one month prior to your Annual Meeting. I am not familiar with your local League By-laws but National and State By-laws (Article I, Section 3 b) provide a procedure that is relative to the predicament in which you find yourselves. I would be willing to bet that your local By-laws will permit this kind of related, belated action. The procedure is this: the Board may wish to alter -- or 'modify' -- the Proposed Program as published (or sent to local League members in some form) one month prior to the Annual Meeting, as a result of, 1) "second round" suggestions, or 2) fast-breaking events which indicate need for a change in emphasis or direction of a proposed item or items (State Board did this, re the TCR proposal prior to Convention). If the Board chooses to modify its Proposed Program then sufficient notice of this intention and why should be sent to the members prior to the Annual Meeting.

5th, publishing CRs -- Yes, CRs are part of the total Local Program -- just as much as the CA items, and sometimes more. Therefore, they should be included in total Proposed Program with an Outlook for Work. In nearly all instances, the Outlook for Work on CRs usually involves legislative and community action only with periodic up-dating for the membership. This will be part of the work-load for the year -- time, woman-power, and finances must be scheduled to handle your continuing interest in those subjects which you have studied and reached agreement on. The Board (or really the membership in program-making meetings) should review the CRs -- as well as proposed CA items -- in light of criteria on Page 11 of the Local Leaders Handbook. A CR can be dropped, narrowed, or put back on CA. In any event, CRs are part of Proposed Program and should be carefully worded, an Outlook for Work considered, and published and adopted as part of the total Local Program.

Now the membership at your Annual Meeting can accept, change, or modify any of the Board's Proposed Program -- CRs as well as CAs. (remember State Convention action which changed the TCR item). They can also give direction on the proposed Outlook for Work on each item, CAs and CRs, to include more work than suggested, less, or a different kind. Their direction is on the work only, and not on the positions or criteria inherent in the item.

The Board will need to think through where you are on this item, and from this determine what course you will recommend to the membership. The Board has a responsibility for exercising leadership and judgment in this instance, but at the same time you must keep your membership informed on what you propose to do and why. Tell them where you are, what you think could happen if such and such a course is followed, make a firm proposal with specifics as what will be expected

of them. League members -- and citizens -- usually make wise choices once they are able to base their action on knowledge and facts.

If you need more help, why not call me at Dickinson, 8 - 2841? Will I see you at Council?

Most sincerely,

Mrs. Harold E. Murphy, Jr.
1st Vice President, Program

cc: Mrs. George C. Boller
Mrs. James Brock
Mrs. Karl Tiegler
Mrs. M. S. Braunagel
Mrs. Colin Macdonald, bc

the odessa voter march '86

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ODESSA

C A L E N D A R

Mar. 15	11:45 AM	ANNUAL MEETING	CLub Cairo [REDACTED]
Mar. 29	9:45 AM	FINANCE WORKSHOP	National Bank of Odessa [REDACTED]
Apr. 1		COLLEGE BOARD ELECTION	
Apr. 4		CITY COUNCIL ELECTION	
Apr. 12		Finance Drive Kick-off	
Apr. 5		Board Meeting	Watch your April
April 19		Units	Voter for details
April 26		General Meeting	of April meetings.

The Annual Meeting is your place to voice your opinions! Your February bulletin contained budget, by-laws, nominating committee, and program making workshop reports, all of which require your consideration and your vote. So dig it out of File 13 and read it again...and come!

Regarding program, we only printed the items suggested for Current Agenda study for next year; we failed to include a description of our Continuing Responsibility item which must also have your consideration. SO..... We are printing it now!

This is our Local Continuing Responsibility:

"Provision of Adequate Courts for Ector County"

This item was studied for about 2½ years, during which time we, with other groups, were successful in obtaining a 2nd District Court for Ector County. The study was expanded to include facilities for this court, and after a great deal of further study, the League reached consensus and adopted the following position: A recommendation that: 1. Temporary facilities for the new 161st District Court be provided immediately, and 2. That definite steps be taken to provide for a new Ector County Court House in the proposed Civic Center according to the Master Plan of Odessa.

As most of you know, we were not successful in our bid for a new court house, although our efforts resulted in the appointment by the mayor of an 85 member citizen committee, who after 4 months of intensive study, reached the same conclusions we had! Feeling that anything worth working for is worth working for over a long period of time if necessary, (for ex ample, we have been working on Texas Constitution Revision for 9 years and are just beginning to make some progress!) the League membership

placed the item on continuing responsibility, realizing that at some future date there might again be possibility for action.

This item must be considered in the total "outlook for work" for the Odessa League for the coming year, along with which ever study item the membership chooses for their Current Agenda item, considering the amount of work involved in both. During the past year we have reviewed, either at units or at general meetings, our national, and state continuing responsibilities, but there just didn't seem to be time to review the local C. R. Many of our newer members are not familiar with this item; so, your board suggests that it might be well to have a review at the April 19th units, and then any consideration or direction which the members may wish to give the board may be discussed at the April general meeting.

LOCAL CURRENT AGENDA: In spite of bad weather, a few of us met for the Local Current Agenda program workshop. We selected three possible items for the board to consider and recommend to the membership. If you were not there, now is the time to send in your suggestion for some area on local level you'd like to study. You may contact Beverly Simpson, FE7-9069 before January 31st.

Frances Clark says the Know-Your-City-County Survey is being edited and typed. We're still looking for some "Angel" to publish it!