



Treasury Notes

The Official Publication of the County Treasurers' Association of Texas

May 2025

Dear Fellow County Treasurers,

As we approach the mid-point of the year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible progress and engagement we've experienced over the past few months. Our association continues to grow stronger, more connected, and more vibrant thanks to your ongoing commitment and participation.

Since the beginning of the year, we've accomplished several key engagements. We successfully sponsored a golf tournament for the County Judges and Commissioners Conference in San Marcos, bringing together professionals from across the state to exchange ideas, build relationships, and elevate our shared goals. The turnout was phenomenal, and the energy in the room reminded us of the strength of our community. On April 8, 2025 there was the first County Treasurers Day at the Capital. I thank the Legislative Committee and everyone who helped make that event a possibility and also everyone who attended the event. At our April Conference we had a great conference. There were several great topics of discussion and some very good speakers. I thank the Education Committee for all the hard work they put in to making our conferences successful. The Endowment Committee awarded 6 scholarships. And on April 29, 2025 several of us participated at the County BBQ Day at the Capital.

In addition, our other committees have been hard at work behind the scenes. From launching a CTAT Venmo account as an alternative method of payment for fundraising events as well as creating an official Facebook page for CTAT.

As we look ahead, I encourage each of you to stay engaged— share your ideas, and invite your colleagues to get involved. Our association is only as strong as the members who bring it to life. It has been my honor to serve as President of CTAT.

I am proud of what we've accomplished together and excited for what's to come.

With gratitude,
Ruben Cavazos
CTAT President 2024-2025



GET TO KNOW: HONORABLE PAULINE MEDRANO



Pauline Medrano, Dallas County Treasurer does not just talk the talk, she walks the walk. This year's County Treasurers' Association of Texas 2024-2025 theme, Unity in Strength is more than just words for Pauline. Unity in strength has been applied not only to her role as the President Elect of CTAT but as the Dallas County Treasurer as well. As President Elect of CTAT a responsibility of hers includes fundraising for the organization. This year's fundraising effort was to sell lapel pins. As of April 2025, around 225 pins were purchased, raising \$1,350.00 including donations from fellow CTAT members. Two different set of pins were available for purchase. One, green and white with the CTAT emblem and the other, a green ribbon with County Treasurer inscribed on it. Something as simple as wearing a pin brings a group together in solidarity. By wearing these lapel pins, it shows the importance of the County Treasurers' Association of Texas and the importance of the County Treasurer. She had encouraged all who purchased one to wear their pins the to 53rd CTAT Conference. During

the 53rd County Treasurers' Association of Texas Conference, another fundraiser was held. With her assistance, all twelve regions pulled together to donate at least 2 bottles, some donating up to 8 bottles for the Wine & Liquor Pull. Pauline herself received wine donations from a local restaurateur. The CTAT fundraised \$1,200.00 through this pull. Unity in strength has also been incorporated into Pauline's County Treasurer responsibilities. As the Dallas County representative for Nationwide 457b deferred compensation, Pauline hopes to make it her legacy to promote all employees to save not only for retirement but to build for generational wealth. In 2015, her first year as Dallas County Treasurer, there were 3,563 Nationwide accounts with \$88 million in assets. As of April 2025, Dallas County has 5,306 employees out of the 6,700 contributing to Nationwide with \$178 million in assets. These employees are being educated, prepared, and inspired to succeed for their future and their families. Pauline and her team, including Dallas County Nationwide retirement representative, Will Angus, and Dallas County Chief Deputy, Stephanie Granberry plan and prepare seminars virtually and in-person for all Dallas County employees. She has motivated department heads to encourage their employees to contributing to Nationwide, such as Judge Ingrid Michelle Warren, of Dallas County Probate 2; who has then challenged the other Probate Judges to encourage their employees in contributing. The Dallas County has an upcoming learning seminar in May 2025 with the encouragement and support of District 4 Commissioner Dr. Elba Garcia focusing on planning for health care cost and managing taxes in retirement. Previous Nationwide events have been held with Commissioner Theresa Daniels and Commissioner Andy Sommerman with similar topics such as Empowering Women in Financial Literacy and Understanding the importance of Saving, pitch to employees under 35. The goal is to have as many employees participate so they may all have the tools and knowledge to build for a better tomorrow. The harmony of Dallas County leadership in understanding the importance of educating staff in investing and savings for retirement helps embolden employees to take steps needed to achieve generational wealth. Next year, Pauline is set to become CTAT 2025-2026 President. She plans to continue advocating for County Treasurer's and promoting growth. She is excited and cannot wait to make a difference. She welcomes everyone to pitch in new ideas to bring more unity to the County Treasurers' Association of Texas.





TEXAS OUTSTANDING COUNTY TREASURER NOMINEES



Pictured left to right: Adrian Hinojos- Culberson County, Tammy Brown- Shackelford County, Pauline Medrano- Dallas County, Jerry Yarbrough- Lamb County, Vivian Venegas- Upton County, Dinkie Parman- Hartley County, Karrie Crownover- Burnet County, Melanie Bush- Montgomery County, Renee Ellis- Jasper County, Priscilla Cantu - Kleberg County, Bill Rickert- Fort Bend County

not pictured Jenifer Gierisch- Concho County

AND THE FINALISTS ARE...

Dinkie Parman, Hartley County, Region 1



Dinkie Parman began her career in Hartley County in 1993 working in the Extension Office, then was appointed to the position of Hartley County Treasurer in 1996. She completed the TAC County Investment Officers level 1 course (CIO) in 1997. Dinkie has also been the Healthy County Coordinator for 16 years, since the beginning of TAC's Healthy County program. In January at the Healthy County Boot Camp, Hartley County received the "2025 Highest Participation Award" for a small county.

In a county of less than 6000, without an Auditor, Dinkie has kept all the core duties of the County Treasurer in the Treasurers' Office. This includes Human Resources, Payroll, Investments, workers' comp, accounts payable, quarterly reports, grants, jury payments, county web paging, cyber security course administrator, unclaimed funds and budget officer, to name a few. She attends all the Commissioner court meetings and while performing county auditor duties, she works closely with all the other elected officials. After taking office in 1996, she took on the challenge of the conversion of the county's manual ledgers books into its first computerized financial software system. She later introduced direct deposit payroll and fund accounting, to pool the County funds to update the investment portfolio. Starting with less than a \$1,000,000.00 under her watchful eye, the counties' fund balance has grown to around \$6,750,000.00.

In 2003, Dinkie helped design and implement the first computer network system and the first IT department in the Hartley County courthouse. Replacing dialup modems with routers and high-speed internet connections. That same year Hartley County was awarded the "Best Practices Innovation Award", by the TAC Leadership Foundation, for these improvements and efforts. To boost employee morale in the workplace, in 2012 she implemented the Hartley County "Employee of the Month" and "Employee of the Year" programs. For her efforts she was named the first "Hartley County Employee of the Year" by her fellow co-workers and elected officials. This program is still going today with an annual event to recognize employees.

During her tenure in Hartley County, Dinkie served as CTAT Region 1 secretary/treasurer for many years, and as region 1 Director for two different terms. She assisted with the planning and preparation of two CTAT fall conferences in Amarillo 1997 and 2014. Dinkie had the opportunity to be a presenter at the CTAT Annual Conference in 2023. She does regular presentations at region 1 meetings and loves to mentor new Treasurers, especially to those in smaller counties. She has served on the CTAT education committee and for the past 5 years she has served and continues to serve on the nominating committee.

Dinkie is very active in her community currently serving on the Hartley County Historical Commission Board and is the secretary for the Saddle Mountain Cowboy Church. She is married to her high school sweetheart, Walter. They have one daughter, Danae, son-in-law Flint and grandson Chet. As she prepares for retirement at the end of this term, Dinkie is embracing her new role as "Grandma", and is looking forward to spending her days with her family!

I have been blessed beyond words, to have had the opportunity to serve as Hartley County Treasurer and to be a part of CTAT and its amazing membership. I will cherish my many friends and memories I have made over the years. Thank you, Region 1, for giving me this honor to represent you as your nominee. (Dinkie Parman, Hartley County Treasurer)

Karrie Crownover, Burnet County,

Region 7

Karrie Crownover has been in county government since October 2003, beginning her journey in the county clerk's office before being elected as County Treasurer in March of 2010, being sworn to office January 1, 2011. Karrie completed the County Investment Officer training in 2011, and is the designated Investment Officer for Burnet County. She has served on multiple committees within her county including the HR Committee, Sick Leave Pool Committee, Employee Great Fund Committee, and also serves on the Bail Bond Board. In December of 2012, Karrie successfully moved payroll back to the Treasurer's office after it was moved to HR in 2010.

Karrie proudly served on the CTAT executive board and progressed up the board to serve as President in 2023-2024. She has served on multiple committees including Legislative, Fundraising, Public Relations, By-Laws, Resource Guide, Resolutions and is the current chair of the Nominating Committee. Karrie looks forward to continuing to serve on committees within CTAT.

She is involved in her region and has served as Region 7 Director, Region Vice Chair and Region Chair, and helped her region host the Fall Conferences in 2012 in San Marcos, and in 2021 in Boerne. Karrie is very honored to be a part of Region 7, and hopes to have influenced others the way that Region 7 along with other treasurers within CTAT have influenced her in service and leadership.





Priscilla Cantu, Kleberg County, Region 8

Priscilla Alaniz Cantu has dedicated the majority of her professional life to public service, with nearly 31 years of experience in Kleberg County Government. She began her career in October 1994 with the Kleberg County Sheriff's Department, before being appointed as County Treasurer in October 2006. Priscilla assumed this role after winning an election to complete the unexpired term of Rachel S. Alaniz, her late mother, who passed away on December 20, 2004, following a courageous four-year battle with cancer.

Priscilla officially began her first full term as County Treasurer in January 2007. Over the years, she has been re-elected unopposed in 2010, 2014, 2018, and 2022, and is currently serving her fifth term in office. In her early years as Treasurer, Priscilla focused on reinvigorating the county's finances by strategically investing county funds to ensure the county maintained the necessary resources to meet its financial obligations. She has successfully guided the county's growth, increasing investments from approximately 7 million to a remarkable 30 million. In addition to her primary duties as County Treasurer, Priscilla manages all human resources responsibilities for Kleberg County and has played a crucial role in modernizing the Treasurer's Office through the implementation of several technological upgrades. She maintains an open-door policy to ensure transparency and accessibility in her office, all while diligently fulfilling her core responsibilities.

Her involvement extends beyond the county office. Priscilla has been an active member of the County Treasurer's Association of Texas (CTAT), where she has held various leadership positions. She served as region 8 Director for two separate four-year terms, served as Vice President for her region, and also served on the CTAT Executive Board as Treasurer. She has also been involved in several committees within CTAT, including the Legislative and Scholarship committees, and currently serves on the Directory and Fundraising Committees. Additionally, Priscilla is the Sector 4 (At Large) Director for CTAT.

A lifelong resident of Kleberg County, Priscilla has consistently volunteered her time and talents to support local causes. She began working on local County, City, and School elections at the age of 18 alongside her mother, continuing this tradition for 18 years until she herself ran for office in 2006. Priscilla is an active member of St. Gertrude Catholic Church, where she has contributed to church festivals and supported St. Gertrude Catholic School during her daughters' time there. The Cantu family earned first place in the school's annual Fall Fundraiser for eight consecutive years, raising over \$1,000 each year. Additionally, Priscilla has generously volunteered for various other organizations, including Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, where she grew up, coached T-ball, supported Girl Scout activities, and was an active member of the H. M. King High School Cheer Booster Club, Middle School Cheer, and Student Council activities. She also played a key role in the Kleberg/Bishop Relay for Life, honoring her mother's memory.

Priscilla holds an Associate's Degree in Law Enforcement from Del Mar College (2000) and a Bachelor of Science in Criminology, with a minor in Sociology, from Texas A&M University-Kingsville (2004). Both of her daughters, Aleida Rose Cantu and Andrea Raquel Cantu, are graduates of Texas A&M University-Kingsville, with one currently pursuing a Master's degree. Priscilla is also a proud grandmother.

Pauline Medrano, Dallas County,

Region 9

Pauline Medrano was elected Dallas County Treasurer in November 2014, and is currently serving her 3rd term. She is the 34th Treasurer in the history of Dallas County and the 4th woman to serve. She currently serves as President-Elect of CTAT and is in region 9.



As the 2nd Vice President of CTAT, Ms. Medrano initiated the spread sheet for all 12 regions, designed to assist all the county treasurers to track their State Representatives and State Senators for the last election cycle. This exercise would assist the entire CTAT organization to be able to have a complete and accurate contact list for the 89th Legislative session. This list would be ready to call, write, or visit our representatives at any time.

In addition, Ms. Medrano designed the Vote No Prop 12-yard sign for the November 2023 Constitutional Amendment vote. She also addressed over 20 community organizations in Dallas County to educate the community about the impact Proposition 12 would have.

All her work paid off with a successful defeat of Prop 12 in Dallas County by over 53%. She also had yard signs delivered to 4 other counties. And proudly raised \$1,000 to assist Fort Bend County Treasurer Bill Rickert with his efforts in defeating Prop 12 in Galveston County.

As President-Elect, Ms. Medrano helped with the design work of two (2) CTAT lapel pins as a fundraising project. As of March 14th, the lapel pin project has raised \$1,000 for CTAT.

Furthermore, Ms. Medrano is an advocate for saving for a better tomorrow. Since January 2015, the Nationwide 457 (b) Deferred Comp Plan in Dallas County has increased in participation by over 60% under her leadership. She was invited to speak at the January 2024 Nationwide National Sales meeting held in Dallas. Dallas County is now the flagship county in the country for the Deferred Comp 457(b) Plan. Ms. Medrano is a proud member of the NACo Defined Comp and Retirement Advisory Committee.

In addition to her duties as the County Treasurer for Dallas County she currently sits on the following committees and boards:

- Chair- Financial Review Committee (since 2015)
- Bail Bond Board (since 2015)
- Employee Benefits Committee (since 2015)
- Dallas County Appraisal District Board of Directors (since January 2025)
- CTAT Executive Committee (since 2021)

Her commitment to CTAT is more impressive considering her outside involvement.

Prior to serving as County Treasurer, Ms. Medrano served on the Dallas City Council (2005- 2013) rising to Mayor Pro Tern. Ms. Medrano is the former President of the National Association of Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO).

She is a Dallas County native, earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Texas at Arlington. She is a member of the Oak Cliff Lions Club and the Esperanza "Hope" Medrano elementary school Board of Friends. Ms. Medrano has had a lifetime of service and continues down that path as County Treasurer.

Bill Rickert, Fort Bend County,

Region 12

Now in his second term as Fort Bend County Treasurer, Bill Rickert brings a wealth of executive management experience from the Oil & Gas and IT sectors. His expertise in business planning, process improvement, and technology-driven solutions has strengthened the county's financial resilience.

Upon taking office, Bill implemented strategic measures to ensure operational continuity, including transitioning to remote-capable systems and integrating modern banking technologies. His efforts proved critical during multiple events, allowing the Treasurer's Office to maintain uninterrupted service. He also enhanced fraud prevention measures, protecting public funds amid rising threats.

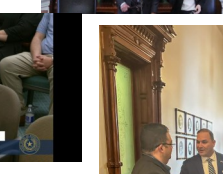
As a member of the Fort Bend County Investment Committee, Bill champions a diversified investment strategy and has introduced alternative vendor payment methods, set to expand in 2025. Looking ahead, he aims to completely transition the county away from paper checks, and streamlining financial operations as Fort Bend's population continues to grow.

Beyond his official role, Bill is active in professional organizations, serving as Chairman of CTAT Region 12 and leading efforts for the 2025 Treasurers Conference. He actively contributes to his community through various non-profits and remains engaged in the legislative process at both state and federal levels.

Bill studied Computer Information Systems at Loyola University New Orleans and received an MBA certificate from Tulane University. A Fort Bend County resident since 1992, he and his wife, Lisa, have been married for 42 years and raised two accomplished daughters.



89TH REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION



CONGRATULATIONS TO BROOKE GRAVES AND MICHAEL LORD FOR BEING SELECTED INTO TAC'S PRESTIGIOUS LEADERSHIP 254!



2025-2026 Leadership 254 Class Roster



Mr. Elijah Anderson
County Auditor
Taylor County



Hon. Eddie Brown
Constable
Dallas County



Hon. Cary Erickson
County Commissioner
Jefferson County



Hon. Georgia Estrada
Constable
Potter County



Hon. Robert Fisk
Sheriff
Motley County



Hon. Brooke Graves
County Treasurer
Potter County



Ms. Melissa Green
County Auditor
Kleberg County



Hon. Edith Harrison
District Clerk
Lampasas County



Hon. Kyle Hartmann
Justice of the Peace
Fayette County



Hon. Richard Holmes
County Attorney
Hill County



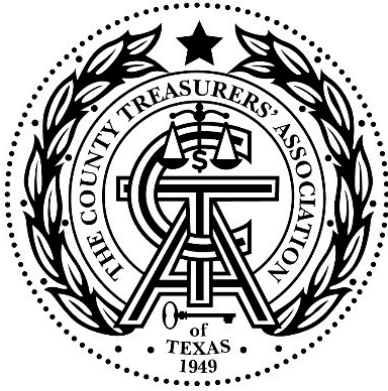
Hon. Christine Leftwich
County Clerk
Hood County



Hon. Michael Lord, Jr.
County Treasurer
Gaines County

53RD ANNUAL COUNTY TREASURERS' CONTINUING EDUCATION SEMINAR





Endowment Recipients

BRAEDEN STRINGER

- * Grandson of retired Treasurer Lesa Crosswhite, Taylor County
- * Plans to attend Texas Tech and will be studying engineering
- * National Honor Society all 4 years of high school



CHRISTOPHER BENAVIDES

- * Grandson of Treasurer GiGi Benavides, Jim Hogg County
- * Plans to study Kinesiology at Texas A&M Kingsville
- * A/B Honor Roll 21-22, 22-23 & 23-24, National Honor Society 23-24, Congressional Certificate of Recognition (STEM Courses 24-25), THSCA All-Academic/All State Team 24-25, 30-3A All-Academic/All District Team 23-24, 24-25



BO CROWNOVER

- * Daughter of Treasurer Karrie Crowover, Burnet County
- * Plans to study Business Management at Texas A&M University–Mays Business Honors Program
- * A honor roll all four years, Academic All-District (volleyball, basketball, softball all four years), Academic All-State Volleyball 2024, College Board First Generation Student Recognition, College Board Rural/Small Town Recognition, NHS President, Algebra II High Average Award, English III High Average Award, ranked class valedictorian





CARLOS GONZALEZ

- * Grandson of Treasurer Maria Perez, LaSalle County
- * Plans to study Business Management at University of Texas San Antonio
- * Deans List, Phi Theta Kappa, A Honor Roll, A/B Honor Roll, National Honor Society

DAKOTA WICK

- * Granddaughter of Treasurer Sherry Rushing, Harrison County
- * Plans to study Accounting at Texas State University
- * Top of her class and has been top 10% all of HS. Participates in the dual credit program through Kilgore College and has maintained an A average



HAGEN TUCKER

- * Son of Treasurer Crystal Tucker, Cottle County
- * Plans to study applied Sciences in the John Deere Ag Tech Program at Garden City Community College
- * National Honor Society, A Honor Roll, A/B Honor Roll, Academic Excellence Merit Awards in Ag including Top Chapter Hand, Ag Mechanics, Welding and Academic Excellence Merit Award in US History



Pictured left to right: Karrie Crownover, Burnet County, Crystal Tucker, Cottle County, GiGi Benavides, Jim Hogg County, Mary Perez, La Salle County, Sherry Rushing, Harrison County

not pictured Lesa Crosswhite



Dates to Remember

Conference of the Investment Academy	Corpus Christi, TX	Jun. 16-18, 2025
TAC Legislative Conference	Austin, TX	August 27-29, 2025
77th Annual CTAT Conference	Sugar Land, TX	Sept. 15-18, 2025
Texas Public Funds Investment Conference	Houston, TX	Nov. 6-7, 2025
Basics of Investments Course	San Marcos, TX	Feb. 3-6, 2026
Healthy County Bootcamp	Georgetown, TX	Feb. 11-13, 2026
County Management & Risk Conference	Round Rock, TX	3/31-4/2, 2026
54th Annual County Treasurers' Seminar	San Marcos, TX	Apr. 20-23, 2026

Continuing Education Requirements

	Required Hours	Outside Hours (Non-CTAT Conferences)	Carry Forward Hours
County Treasurers Continuing Education Hours	20 hours annually	Maximum of 10 hours	Maximum of 10 hours
Public Funds Investment Act	10 hours in a two year period	n/a	n/a

**“Alone we can do so little, together we
can do so much.” - Helen Keller**



**Please Remember - If
you have anything you'd
like to be included in our
next edition of Treasury
Notes, please submit to
Tambra Kile at
countytreasurer@ochiltree.net
Or 806-336-5377**