



Office of Ellis County Judge Todd Little
For Immediate Release

August 12th, 2022; Ellis County Staff Reports
Corey Rogan - Public Information Officer

“Ellis County Historical Commission Receives 2022 Distinguished Service Award”

Ellis County, TX – The Ellis County Historical Commission has received a 2022 Distinguished Service Award from the Texas Historical Commission, a statewide historical preservation program. County Historical Commissions (CHC’s) around the State of Texas work under the guidance of the Texas Historical Commission to identify, preserve, and promote historically significant locations, artifacts, and resources within Texas for the educational benefit of future generations. Each year, the Texas Historical Commission identifies top CHC contributors to receive the Distinguished Service Award. For the 2021 service year, the Ellis County Historical Commission was one of the local chapters to receive the award, which was formally presented to the group at the August 9th Commissioners’ Court meeting.

“This is a big deal,” said County Judge Todd Little. “There are many cultural heritage sites in Ellis County, and we value heritage and the preservation of history – not ignoring or replacing it. The Ellis County Historical Commission has served as an irreplaceable partner in this effort, and because of the work they are doing for our community – all of which is on a volunteer basis – I am honored to present this award to them on behalf of the Commissioners’ Court and the Texas Historical Commission.”

Upon receiving the award from Judge Little, Commission Chairman David Sacha said, “Quite frankly, I was surprised when we received it because I thought we’re just doing what we’re supposed to do – what we’re responsible to do for the cultural heritage of our county and its history. I want to mention Sylvia Stanford Smith, Elmerine Allen Bell, and others on the Commission because they have been doing a lot of hard work – many hours for many years. But all of us just think we’re doing what we’re supposed to and are grateful for this recognition.”

Some of the Ellis County Historical Commission’s recent accomplishments include obtaining a historical marker for several historic Waxahachie homes, organizing extensive reconstruction of the Ellis County Museum (the historic Masonic Hall), and working with the Commissioners’ Court to begin a project for identifying and properly memorializing all 74 individuals and names buried at the Ellis County Farm (a historic pauper burial site), with more projects planned in the near future.

The Ellis County Historical Commission is also seeking new members. Those interested in joining the Ellis County Historical Commission should contact the County Judge’s Office at 972-825-5011 for instructions on how to apply.

###

