

MONTAGUE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Marshall W. Thomas
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The State of Texas is by default an open range state, unless a Stock Law election is held. It requires the signatures of at least 50 freeholders of the county and has to specifically name the type of livestock covered by the petition. Texas Agriculture Code Sec. 143.021 (b).

On August 16, 1905 a petition was presented to the Montague County Commissioners Court signed by M. Webb and 190 freeholders. The petition was signed by freeholders from each precinct and specified the livestock covered as being horses, mules, jacks, jennets, and cattle.

On September 30, 1905 a special election was held with the following results:
For the Stock Law – 663 votes
Against the Stock Law – 142 votes

On October 7, 1905 the election was certified with the majority of 521 votes being cast for the stock law, making Montague County a closed range county.

Records of the stock law special election can be found at the Montague County Clerk's Office.

Further information can be found at
<https://www.mwl-law.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/TEXAS-STOCK-LAWS-BY-COUNTY.pdf>

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