

**THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

**IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS**

Be it remembered, that on this the 13<sup>th</sup> day of January A. D., 2014, the Commissioners Court of Zapata County, Texas, convened in **REGULAR SESSION** of said Court, at the regular meeting place thereof, in the Courthouse of Zapata, Texas, with the following members of said Court, to-wit:

**PRESENT:**

Hon. Joseph Rathmell	County Judge
Jose Emilio Vela	Commissioner, Precinct No. 1
Gabriel Villarreal	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Eddie Martinez	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Norberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
Celica A. Rodriguez	Chief Deputy County Clerk, Sitting in for Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan, County Clerk

**ABSENT:**

Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk (attending County and District Clerks Conference in College Station)
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**VISITORS:** Romeo Salinas, Triunfo Gonzalez, Nellie R. Treviño, Brian J. Martinez, Mario Gonzalez-Davis, Juan J. Meza, Hector Uribe, Roger Miller, Joyce Currington, Xavier Villarreal, Ray Del Bosque, Ramon E. Montes, Diana Cuellar Villarreal, Jose Peña, Nellie Treviño, Larissa Gonzalez, Victor J. Gonzalez, Amada Villarreal Garza, Laura Govea, Jose G. Algandro, Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., Leo Cuellar, Luis L. Gonzalez, Eloisa Garcia and Maria I. Gutierrez.

**WHEREUPON**, the following Orders and Proceedings were had by said Court, to-wit:

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:00 A.M.**

**ROLL CALL BY CELICA A. RODRIGUEZ, CHIEF DEPUTY - COUNTY CLERK**

**INVOCATION BY REV. ROGER MILLER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ORDER APPROVING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 9 AND DECEMBER 23, 2013**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the Minutes of December 9 and December 23, 2013 as presented by Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan, County Clerk.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

### **ORDER APPROVING INVOICES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve invoices as presented by Triunfo Gonzalez, County Auditor.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

### **ORDER APPROVING CHECKS ISSUED AND TREASURER'S REPORT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve checks issued and Treasurer's Report as requested by Hon. Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer. Chief Deputy Ray Del Bosque, Zapata County Sheriff's Office, also submitted his report to be included with report submitted by Hon. Romeo Salinas.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

### **ORDER APPROVING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH SOUTH TEXAS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ZAPATA COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve execution of Memorandum of Understanding with the South Texas Development Council for the development of the Zapata County Hazard Mitigation Plan pending the designation of five members to serve as Hazard Mitigation Committee for Zapata County as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge. County Treasurer Romeo Salinas and Fire Chief Meza volunteered; Rogie Gonzalez was selected by Chief Meza. The plan summarizes all hazards and there is no cost to the county.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

### **ORDER APPROVING TO HIRE ROGELIO BARRON IN POSITION NUMBER 15-621 SLOT #6**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the hiring of Rogelio Barron in position number 15-621-slot #6 with a starting salary of \$8.00 per hour to replace Ernesto Guerra and to be stationed at the Zapata County Cemetery as requested by Hon. Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Pct. 3. Mr. Mendoza was not expecting to replace anyone for cemetery; however Commissioner Martinez would like to hire someone to be at cemetery.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

### **ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY FIRE CHIEF MEZA ON INSPECTION REPORT FOR ZAPATA COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to table request by Juan J. Meza, Fire Chief, regarding inspection report for the Zapata County

Community Center, which was conducted on January 7, 2014. Chief Meza advised the court that fire alarm system needs to be updated; sheetrock needs to be placed all the way to the roof. Specifications and an estimate will be obtained, as requested by Juan J. Meza, Fire Chief.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

### **MONTHLY REPORT BY ZAPATA COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR FOR DECEMBER 2013**

Luis Lauro Gonzalez, Zapata County Tax Assessor/Collector, reported Hotel/Motel Tax in the amount of \$10,838.59. Tax collections were \$781,936.52.

#### **THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to table and discuss the following items in Executive Session:

12. To approve an ordinance regulating certain commercial establishments that sell tobacco, salts, incense and drugs capable of being inhaled or ingested and paraphernalia for inhalation or ingestion as requested by Hector Uribe, Attorney at Law.

13. To approve an ordinance for the County of Zapata, Texas, regulating psychoactive bath salts, psychoactive herbal incense and similar substances as requested by Hector Uribe, Attorney at Law.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

#### **ORDER AWARDING CONSTRUCTION BID FOR PROJECT OF FALCON LAKE ESTATES EAST PHASE III SEWER IMPROVEMENTS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to award construction bid to the lowest bidder, being Rapid Haul, with a bid of \$192,098.30 as recommended by Premier Engineering, for the construction project of Falcon Lake Estates East Phase III Sewer Improvements as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering Surveying.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of Commissioner Vela, Garza and Martinez. Commissioner Martinez abstained. Motion carries.

#### **ORDER AWARDING CONSTRUCTION BID FOR PROJECT OF VELEÑO AND RAMIREZ ROAD SEWER IMPROVEMENTS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to award construction bid to REIM Construction, being the lowest bidder with a bid of \$891,123.50 as recommended by Premier Engineering for the construction project of the Veleño and Ramirez Road Sewer Improvements as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering Surveying.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

**ORDER APPROVING CONSTRUCTION BID FOR PROJECT OF LAS PALMAS  
SEWER IMPROVEMENTS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to award construction bid to Guzman – Juarez Backhoe, being the lowest bidder with a bid of \$922,217.50 as recommended by Premier Engineering for the construction project of Las Palmas Sanitary Sewer Improvements as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering Surveying.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of Commissioner Garza, Vela, and Villarreal. Commissioner Martinez abstained. Motion carries.

**ORDER APPROVING LINE ITEM TRANSFER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the following line-item transfer:

	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>LINE ITEM</b>	<b>FUND</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>FROM</b>	Non-Department	10-370-900	Misc. Income	\$9,531.00
<b>TO</b>	Indigent Dept.	10-640-336	Computer Programs	\$9,531.00
<b>FROM</b>	Non-Department	10-370-900	Misc. Income	\$2,880.00
<b>TO</b>	Indigent Dept.	10-640-427	Workshop & Travel	\$2,880.00

as requested by Hon. Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GARZA,  
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ,  
TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GARZA,  
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ,  
TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION**

**ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY HECTOR URIBE REGARDING ORDINANCE  
REGULATING CERTAIN COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS THAT SELL  
TOBACCO, SALTS, INCENSE AND DRUGS CAPABLE OF BEING INHALED OR  
INGESTED AND PARAPHERNALIS FOR INHALATION OR INGESTION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to table request by Hector Uribe, Attorney at Law, regarding an ordinance regulating certain commercial establishments that sell tobacco, salts, incense and drugs capable of being inhaled or ingested and paraphernalia for inhalation or ingestion.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

**ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY HECTOR URIBE REGARDING ORDINANCE FOR  
ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS REGULATING PSYCHOACTIVE BATH SALTS,  
PSYCHOACTIVE HERBAL INCENSE AND SIMILAR SUBSTANCES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to table request by Hector Uribe, Attorney at Law, regarding an ordinance for the County of Zapata, Texas, regulating psychoactive bath salts, psychoactive herbal incense and similar substances.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

**ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, and being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

There being no further business for disposition at this term, the Court adjourned.

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JOSEPH RATHMELL, COUNTY JUDGE  
ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

ATTEST:

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MARY JAYNE VILLARREAL-BONOAN  
COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO CLERK  
OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF  
ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS