

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 8th day of December 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
Norberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk

ABSENT:

Gabriel Villarreal	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Eddie Martinez	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3

VISITORS: Said Alfonso Figueroa, Triunfo Gonzalez, Romeo Salinas, Auddy M. Hernandez, Nellie R. Treviño, Juan J. Meza, Maria I. Gutierrez, Roger Miller, Gilberto Guerra, Jesse Ramirez, Dorothy Pizaña, Lupita Garza, Joyce Currington, Xavier Zapata, Deborah L. Zapata, Delia Mendoza, Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., and Luis L. Gonzalez.

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 MARY JAYNE VILLARREAL-BONOAN, COUNTY CLERK
INVOCATION BY REV. ROGER MILLER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

COMMUNICATIONS

Nellie R. Treviño announced that there are five retirees this month, Commissioner Gabriel Villarreal, Jr. with 27 years of service, Justice of the Peace Jose Clemente Gutierrez, with 23 years of service, Rolando Villarreal with 36 years of service, EMT Juan Ned Garza, with over 14 years of service and Derly Guzman of the maintenance department with 8 years of service.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, 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 TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve Treasurer's report as presented 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.

ORDER APPROVING CHECKS ISSUED

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve checks issued 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.

REPORT BY LUIS L. GONZALEZ, COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR / COLLECTOR

Mr. Gonzalez reported \$18,070.61 collected from Hotel Motel Tax, and \$923,358.47 in tax collections for 63.56%.

PRESENTATION ON HEALTHY COUNTY EMPLOYEE REWARDS BENEFITS FOR ZAPATA COUNTY

Nellie R. Treviño made a presentation on the Healthy County Employee Rewards Benefits for Zapata County. Zapata County got 1st place in the large county division during a contest last month. The County received a check for \$800.00 for participating.

UPDATE BY SERVPRO REGARDING RE-ROOFING PROJECT

David Myers of ServPro gave the Court an update on the ongoing re-roofing project at the Zapata County Courthouse. Mr. Myers delivered pictures of the re-roofing repairs that have been made so far. (Handout attached for the record.)

PRESENTATION BY GILBERT GUERRA ON TEXAS FLEET FUEL

A presentation was made by Gilbert Guerra on Texas Fleet Fuel, the company has been in existence for 75 years. They provide fuel for over 1,900 government agencies. Stripes will be changing to Sunoco and will not be accepting Valero cards. (Handout attached for the record.)

ZAPATA COUNTY FOOD BANK DANCE FUND RAISER UPDATE AND STATUS REPORT

County Treasurer Romeo Salinas gave the Court an update and status report on the Zapata County Food Bank Dance (Fund Raiser) requested by Honorable Jose E. Vela, Commissioner Pct. 1. (Report attached for the record.)

ORDER ALLOWING DR. VICHENG NAN, M.D. FROM VICTORY KIDNEY CLINIC TO USE OFFICE SPACE AT ZAPATA COUNTY CLINIC

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to allow Dr. Vicheng Nan, M.D. from Victory Kidney Clinic, P.A. to use office space to see patients at the Zapata County Clinic requested by Honorable Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

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

ORDER APPROVING ASSIGNMENT OF ZAPATA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT WITH FULL LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY TO ASSIST ZAPATA COUNTY CODE ENFORCEMENT STAFF

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the assignment of the Zapata County Sheriff's Department with full law enforcement authority, to assist Zapata County Code Enforcement Staff presently without a required certified peace officer requested by Honorable Jose E. Vela, Commissioner, Pct. 4.

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

ORDER APPOINTING COMMISSIONER GARZA AS A MEMBER OF COMMISSIONERS COURT TO THE ZAPATA COUNTY APPRAISAL BOARD

Motion was made by Judge Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to appoint Commissioner Garza as the member of the Commissioners Court to the Zapata County Appraisal Board requested by Honorable Joseph Rathmell, Zapata County Judge.

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

ORDER APPROVING MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN LAREDO COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND ZAPATA COUNTY GED/ESL CLASSES

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve a memorandum of agreement between Laredo Community College and Zapata County GED/ESL classes requested by Honorable Joseph Rathmell, County Judge.

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

ORDER TO CANCEL DECEMBER 22, 2014 REGULAR ZAPATA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve to cancel the December 22, 2014 Regular Zapata County Commissioners Court Meeting requested by Honorable Norberto Garza, Commissioner, Pct.4.

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

ORDER APPROVING HIRING A TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE TO WORK TWO MONTHS IN 2015 FOR PARKS & BUILDINGS PRECINCT 4

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Judge Rathmell, to approve hiring of a temporary employee to work 2 months in 2015 for Parks & Buildings Pct.4 requested by Honorable Norberto Garza, Commissioner, Pct. 4.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PROPOSAL FROM DAMPCO LLC FOR INSTALLATION
OF NEW DRAINS FOR ZAPATA COUNTY COURTHOUSE
FRONT ENTRANCE AND STEPS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve proposal from Dampco LLC. for installation of new drains for the Zapata County Courthouse front entrance and steps requested by Maria G. Gutierrez, Maintenance Supervisor.

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

ORDER ACCEPTING RESIGNATION OF PARAMEDIC IRIS A. FAUSTO

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to accept the resignation of paramedic, Iris A. Fausto, from slot #21, effective immediately, and to hire a replacement paramedic requested by Chief Juan J. Meza, Zapata County Fire Department.

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

ORDER ACCEPTING RETIREMENT OF EMT INTERMEDIATE JUAN NED GARZA

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve and accept the retirement of EMT Intermediate Juan Ned Garza from slot #10, effective December 13, 2014, and to hire a replacement for January 1, 2015 at the salary of \$12.39 requested by Chief Juan J. Meza, Zapata County Fire Department.

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

**ORDER APPROVING MANDATORY DIRECT DEPOSIT FOR ALL PRESENT
ZAPATA COUNTY EMPLOYEES AND FUTURE EMPLOYEES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve mandatory direct deposit for all present Zapata County employees and future employees by Zapata County requested by Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer.

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

ORDER APPROVING COUNTY TREASURER TO PAY JURORS CASH

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the County Treasurer to pay jurors cash when summoned for Jury Duty requested by Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer.

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 DOROTEO GARZA, DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN,
REGARDING PAYMENT OF ELECTION EXPENSES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to table request by Doroteo Garza, Zapata County Democratic Party Chairman, regarding payment of election expenses incurred by Zapata County Democratic Party during the 2014 Elections.

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

**ORDER APPROVING 10 YEAR LEASE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF
TWO AIRPORT T-HANGARS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve a 10 year lease for the construction of two new airport T hangars with Buddy Issaks and Jorge Madrigales, at no cost to the County, including hiring an inspector of the County's choice, as requested by Charlie Avaritt, Zapata County Airport. Mr. Figueroa will prepare the lease.

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

**ORDER APPROVING VELEÑO-RAMIREZ INVOICES AND
CHANGE ORDER #3 TO EXTEND SERVICES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve Veleño-Ramirez invoices and Change Order #3 to extend services requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

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

ORDER APPROVING CDBG #713521 ALAMO-MIRAFLORES PROJECT INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve CDBG #713521 Alamo-Miraflores Project invoices requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

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

ORDER APPROVING FOUR SEASONS PROJECT INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve Four Seasons Project invoices requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

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 VELA,
TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

Chief Meza commented that the Fire Department has 3 investigators and certified inspectors and certified peace officers who take care of their own ordinances.

**ORDER AUTHORIZING COUNTY ATTORNEY TO PREPARE PAPER WORK AND
FINALIZE OFFER TO PURCHASE PROPERTY NORTH OF EXISTING SEWER
PLANT TO MEET TCEQ BUFFER REQUIREMENTS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to authorize the County Attorney to prepare paperwork and finalize the purchase of property north of the existing sewer plant to meet TCEQ buffer requirements as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., Premier Engineering.

Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.072, Real Property.

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

**ORDER AUTHORIZING COUNTY JUDGE TO MAKE COUNTER OFFER ON
ACQUISITION OF PASTURELAND IN ZAPATA COUNTY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to authorize County Judge to make counter offer on the acquisition of pastureland in Zapata County proposed by Javier Santos, Trustee for the Fernando Salinas Charitable Trust as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.072, Real Property.

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 Vela, 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.

JOSEPH RATHMELL, COUNTY JUDGE
ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

ATTEST:

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