

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 26TH day of January A. D., 2015, 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:

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|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Hon. Joseph Rathmell | County Judge |
| Jose Emilio Vela | Commissioner, Precinct No. 1 |
| Olga M. Elizondo | Commissioner, Precinct No. 2 |
| Eddie Martinez | Commissioner, Precinct No. 3 |
| Norberto Garza | Commissioner, Precinct No. 4 |
| Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan | County Clerk |

VISITORS: Triunfo Gonzalez, Romeo Salinas, Auddy M. Hernandez, Nellie R. Treviño, Brian J. Martinez, Maria I. Gutierrez, Juan J. Meza, Roger Miller, Joyce Currington, Michelle Sequilla, Xavier Villarreal, Carolyn Arnold, Jesus D. Romero, Jason DeWattre, Delia Mendoza, Luis Lauro Gonzalez, Laura Garza and Manuel Gonzalez, Jr.

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 ROGER MILLER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

COMMUNICATIONS

Judge Rathmell commented on the Lions Club 5K run. Commissioner Vela and Fire Chief J.J. Meza were among the participants.

Brian Martinez addressed the Court regarding the contract with the Circus. They have agreed on the terms of the Court, will pay the \$500 fee and execute the contract.

Commissioner Elizondo stated the API will come before the Court regarding the use of the Rodeo Arena.

Nellie Ramirez, Personnel Director, commented on the Annual Skeet Shoot and Cook-Off. A record number of shooters have already signed up for this year's event. The shoot will take place at the Ramirez Ranch.

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.

TREASURER'S REPORT

No report due at this time.

ORDER APPROVING CHECKS ISSUED

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, 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.

PRESENTATION OF VALERO ACCOUNT

A presentation was made by Michelle Sequilla, Valero Representative, with update of the Zapata County Valero account. Ms. Sequilla reported that Valero is going to remain Valero in Zapata and there are 50 Valeros within a 50 mile range. When the time comes to change, the company will give the County plenty of notice. At present time, a discount is given off the pump fee. Report requested by Romeo Salinas, County Treasure.

REPORT ON TELEPHONE BILL AUDIT BY CARLOYN ARNOLD

A report was made by Carolyn Arnold, Communication Consultant, on results of telephone bill audit. The County will be saving approximately \$6,387.28 in unused lines. AT&T verified circuits and only half of the circuits were measured correctly. Ms. Arnold stated that she is working with the president of AT&T. Late payment charges were also handled via PUC Complaints and the County will get \$14,450.80. AT&T and Time Warner Cable will refund \$15,084.38 in tax refunds; Time Warner only refunds three months, however, Border to Border will not refund taxes. Local services were changed from Tariff rates to TexAn rates for a monthly savings of \$3,127.17. Also reduced was the long distance cost per minute from .99 cents to .045 cents, for monthly savings of \$1,900.00 per month and a refund of \$2,353.94. There is also a PUC Complaint pending in the amount of \$29,752.62 + interest.

UPDATE ON AIREVAC SERVICES IN AND AROUND ZAPATA COUNTY

Jesus D. Romero and Jason Dewattre of AirEvac gave an update on AirEvac Service in and around Zapata County. Mr. Romero addressed the Court and stated that he works very well with Chief Meza, Nellie Treviño, and Romeo Salinas. So far 60 employees have enrolled in the AirEvac Services. The services are available for the general public. They are working on a blanket plant for all residents. In the last four years the company has seen increments in clientele. In 2013 – 2014 utilization was doubled. There are 120 bases in 28 states; 8 to 10 new bases are opened per year.

REPORT ON BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

Ramiro Hernandez presented Commissioners' Court with the Boys and Girls Club report. Mr. Hernandez noted that Dinela Vela, Horacio Cuellar and another participant qualified the Texas Alliance grant. Kid's Café served over 37,000 meals in Zapata and over 5,000 in San

Ygnacio. Fees collected were \$25,654. The club is applying for USDA Grant to extend the kitchen for the club. They are looking at expanding the building. A total of 26 employees were hired, mostly high school students and there are 20 volunteers.

Little League registration has started and the fields will be ready. A grant for \$15,000 was received from the Guadalupe and Lilia Martinez Foundation for the Kid's Café. Commissioner Vela requested that port-a-potties be used when using the fields.

NO ONE PRESENT FOR THIS ITEM

12. Zapata County Extension agent activity report as requested by Justin Ramirez, Agrilife Extension Service.

ORDER APPROVING APPOINTMENT OF ZAPATA COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEMBERS

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the appointment of the Zapata County Historical Commission members, as follows:

1. Dr. Hildegardo Flores
2. Olga M. Flores
3. Amparo Montes
4. Annabel Alvarez
5. Laura Garza
6. Anna Holcomb
7. Rosa Elena Martinez
8. Audelia Hernandez
9. Hector Uribe

as requested by Honorable Jose E. Vela, Commissioner Pct. 1.

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

ORDER APPROVING FEES FOR USE OF SAN YGNACIO COMMUNITY CENTER

Motion was made by Commissioner Elizondo, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the fee of \$250.00 for the use of the San Ygnacio Community Center for all events as requested by Honorable Olga M. Elizondo, Commissioner Pct. 2.

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

ORDER APPROVING REQUEST TO ALLOW LAURA GARZA TO HANDLE ALL EVENT BOOKINGS FOR SAN YGNACIO COMMUNITY CENTER

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve request to allow Laura Garza to handle all event bookings for the San Ygnacio Community Center as requested by Honorable Olga M. Elizondo, Commissioner Pct. 2.

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

**ORDER APPROVING USE OF ZAPATA COUNTY PAVILION AND
HENRY MARTINEZ HALL IN SAN YGNACIO FOR MONTLY TMC
HEADSTART PROGRAM MEETINGS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the use of the Zapata County Pavilion and Henry Martinez Hall in San Ygnacio for monthly TMC Headstart program meetings after coordinating with Laura Garza, at no charge to the Headstart Program as requested by Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Pct. 3.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of Commissioners Martinez, Garza and Elizondo. Commissioner Vela voted against, Motion Carried.

**ORDER APPROVING USE OF ZAPATA COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER
FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION DANCE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the use of the Zapata County Community Center for school administrators dance on January 31, 2015 at no cost to the Zapata County Independent School District. The ZCISD will provide security.

Commissioners Vela and Martinez rescinded their motions.

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioners Martinez, to approve the use of the Zapata County Community Center for school administrators dance on January 31, 2015 at the cost of \$500.00 to cover electricity and cleaning costs. The ZCISD will provide security as requested by Honorable Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Pct. 3.

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

**ORDER APPROVING USE OF ZAPATA COUNTY PAVILION FOR
ZAPATA COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION BAKING, ARTS, & CRAFTS
COMMITTEE MEETING**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the use of the Zapata County Pavilion for the Zapata County Fair Association Baking, Arts, & Crafts Committee meeting with all participants. Dates requested are February 17th & 24th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. as requested by Erica. G. Uribe, ZCFA Baking Arts & Crafts Committee Chairperson.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REVIEW AND APPROVE VELEÑO PROJECT
PROGRESS, CHANGES AND INVOICE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the review and approve Veleño/Ramirez project progress, changes and invoices in the amount of \$26,250.00 as 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 REVIEW AND APPROVE MIRAFLORES / ALAMO
PROJECT PROGRESS AND INVOICE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the review and approve Miraflores/Alamo project progress and invoices in the amount of \$44,168.51 as 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 REVIEW AND APPROVE FALCON LAKE EAST III
PROJECT PROGRESS, CHANGES AND INVOICE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the review and approve Falcon Lake East III project progress, changes, and invoice in the amount of \$23,346.25 as 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 REVIEW AND APPROVE FOUR SEASONS
PROJECT PROGRESS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the review and approve Four Seasons project progress (no invoice) as 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 REVIEW AND APPROVE RAMIREZ ADDITION II PLAT

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the review and approve Ramirez Addition II Plat as 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 ZAPATA COUNTY AIRPORT ORDINANCE
ENACTING MODEL AIRPORT RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the Zapata County Airport Ordinance enacting model airport rules and regulations. As requested by Said Alfonso Figueroa, County Attorney.

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.

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