

**THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

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

Be it remembered, that on this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of September, A.D., 2016, 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
Olga M. Elizondo	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Eddie Martinez	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court

**ABSENT:**

Norberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
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**VISITORS:** Romeo Salinas, Said Figueroa, Triunfo Gonzalez, Nellie R. Trevino, Monica Alanis, Brian Martinez, Juan J. Meza, Maria I. Gutierrez, Paco Mendoza, Joyce Currington, Isela Wells, Luis L. Gonzalez, Fina Villarreal, Manuel Gonzalez, Rosalinda Gonzalez, N. Guzman, Ray Del Bosque, Delia Mendoza, Ramon Benavides, Dora Mtz. Castanon, and Laura Garza.

**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 AND  
EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Commissioner Vela and Commissioner Elizondo commented that they had attended the 911 remembrance at the school.

J.J. Meza commented that the Girls Scouts invited first responders to the American Legion. Boys and Girls Club visited the Fire Department and took them cupcakes.

Judge Rathmell stated that he along with County Clerk and other court staff attended the Probate School in San Antonio.

Commissioner Elizondo commented that the trash trailer trash pickup has been a success. However, most people are unable to pay the \$10 fee, therefore, she tries to collect at least \$5.

Commissioner Vela commented that the brush truck has been repaired.

**ORDER APPROVING INVOICES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve invoices as presented by Triunfo Gonzalez.

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 Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve Treasurer's Report 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.

**ORDER APPROVING CHECKS ISSUED**

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

**TAX / ASSESSOR COLLECTOR'S REPORT**

Luis L. Gonzalez, Tax Assessor/Collector, reported collections of Motel-Hotel Tax in an amount of \$13,103.75 for YTD total of \$161,470.82 and tax collections in an amount of \$106,634.54 for a total of 90% total collections.

**RECOGNITION OF VIELKA BELEN GUTIERREZ**

Vielka Belen Gutierrez was recognized for bringing back the title of Ms. Teen Galaxy International 2017 as requested by Hon. Olga M. Elizondo, Commissioner Pct. 2.

**ORDER APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING COUNTY AUDITOR TO REQUEST PROPOSALS FOR ZAPATA COUNTY COLLECTION CONTRACT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve and authorize County Auditor, Triunfo Gonzalez, to request proposals for the Zapata County Garbage Collection contract as requested by Hon. 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 DENY REQUEST BY JUDGE RATHMELL REGARDING CITY OF EL CENIZO'S REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE WITH HANDLING OF STRAY DOGS AND CATS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to deny request by Judge Rathmell, to consider the city of El Cenizo's request for assistance with the handling of their stray dogs and cats, due to over burden on Zapata County.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REPLACEMENT OF 2-WAY STOP WITH 4-WAY STOP  
AT INTERSECTION BETWEEN CARLA STREET AND 18<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE  
BY ZAPATA NORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the replacement of a 2-way stop with a 4-way stop at the intersection between Carla Street and 18th Avenue by Zapata North Elementary School as requested by Hon. 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 CATAPULT HEALTH, LLC TO CONDUCT HEALTH  
SCREENINGS FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES AND DEPENDENTS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve Catapult Health, LLC to conduct Health Screenings for county employees and dependents as recommended by TAC as requested by Nellie Treviño, Personnel Director.

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 NELLIE R. TREVINO REGARDING DISCUSSION  
OF TAC HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT RENEWAL FOR FY 2016-2017**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to table request by Nellie R. Trevino regarding discussion of the TAC Health Insurance Benefit Renewal for FY 2016-2017.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REPLAT OF LOT 9 AND 10 IN RAMIREZ ADDITION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the replat of lot 9 & 10 in Ramirez Addition to add a 20 foot sewer line easement 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 TO TABLE REQUEST BY MANUEL GONZALEZ REGARDING REPLAT OF  
LOTS 4 AND 5 OF BLOCK 12 IN MANUEL MEDINA ADDITION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to table request by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering, regarding replat of Lots 4 and 5 of Block 12 Manuel Medina Addition 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 USE OF PAVILION FOR GIRL SCOUTS ON OCTOBER 30**

Motion was made by Commissioner Elizondo, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the use of the pavilion for the Girl Scouts on October 30 from 1pm to 5pm as requested by Isela Wells, Girl Scouts Troop Leader.

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

**ORDER APPROVING LINE ITEM TRANSFERS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
FROM	Comm. Pct. 2	10-002-428	Travel Pct. 2	\$2,024.44
TO	Comm. Pct. 2	10-002-392	Parks Pct. 2	\$2,024.44

as requested by Hon. 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.

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
FROM	Comm. Pct. 3	10-003-429	Travel Pct.3	\$1,203.62
TO	Comm. Pct. 3	10-003-394	Parks Pct.3	\$1,203.62

as requested by Hon. 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.

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
FROM	Comm. Pct. 4	10-004-395	Parks & Buildings	\$5,000.00
TO	Comm. Pct. 4	10-004-310	Supplies	\$5,000.00

as requested by Hon. 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.

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
FROM	Treasurer Office	10-497-310	Office Supplies	\$50.00
TO	Treasurer Office	10-497-427	Workshops/ Travel Exp.	\$50.00

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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
FROM	Fire-Dept	10-543-330	Fuel	\$5,000.00
TO	Fire-Dept	10-543-460	Medication	\$5,000.00
FROM	Fire-Dept	10-543-205	Uniforms	\$841.00
TO	Fire-Dept	10-543-459	Building Repairs	\$841.00
FROM	Fire-Dept	24-406-427	Workshops/Travel	\$1,915.00
TO	Fire-Dept	10-543-400	Contract Services	\$1,915.00

as requested by Chief J.J. Meza, Fire Chief.

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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
FROM	District Clerks	10-450-310	Office Supplies	\$400.00
TO	District Clerks	10-450-427	Workshops/ Travel Exp.	\$400.00

as requested by Dora Mtz. Castañon, District Clerk.

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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
FROM	County Attorney's Office	10-475-310	Supplies	\$2,000.00
TO	County Attorney's Office	10-475-392	Misc./Maint. Expense	\$2,000.00
FROM	County Attorney's Office	10-475-462	Equipment Rental	\$1,500.00
TO	County Attorney's Office	10-475-392	Misc./Maint. Expense	\$1,500.00

as requested by Hon. Said A. Figueroa, County Attorney.

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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
FROM	JP Pct. 4	10-455-464	Equipment Rental	\$1,000.00
TO	JP Pct. 4	10-455-313	Supplies	\$1,000.00

as requested by Gigi Riojas, Justice of the Peace, Pct. 4.

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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
FROM	Adult Probation	10-597-330	Fuel	\$1,128.00
TO	Adult Probation	10-572-310	Supplies	\$1,128.00

as requested by Jennifer Lozano, Adult Probation.

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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
FROM	Environmental	10-595-330	Fuel	\$10,000.00
TO	Environmental	10-595-456	Repairs & Maintenance	\$10,000.00

as requested by Guillermo Saenz, Environmental Dept..

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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
FROM	County Extension	10-665-310	Supplies	\$692.01
TO	County Extension	10-665-427	Workshops/ Travel Exp.	\$692.01

as requested by Zar Rodriguez, County Extension.

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 VELA,  
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ,  
TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

**ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY JUDGE RATHMELL REGARDING DISCUSSION  
TO ACCEPT PARCEL OF LAND ON 12<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE BETWEEN LOT 2 OF BLOCK 2  
AND LOT A GUZMAN ADDITION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, second by Commissioner Martinez, to table request by Hon. Joseph Rathmell, County Judge, regarding discussion to accept a parcel of land

(drainage arroyo) on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue between Lot 2 of Block 2 and Lot A in Guzman Addition, until a feasibility study is conducted. *[Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)].*

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

**ORDER APPROVING EXCHANGE OF PARTIAL RELEASE OF UTILITY  
EASEMENT LOCATED AT LAS PALMAS SUBDIVISION IN EXCHANGE FOR  
ACQUIRING ADDITIONAL EASEMENT IN RETURN**

Motion was made by Commissioner Elizondo, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the exchange of a partial release of a Utility Easement located at Las Palmas Subdivision in exchange for acquiring additional easement in return and authorizing County Attorney Figueroa and Manuel Gonzalez to proceed as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. *[Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with 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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, 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 OF 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