

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 9th day of October, A.D., 2018, 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
Paco Mendoza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 1
Eddie Martinez	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Norberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court

ABSENT:

Olga M. Elizondo	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
------------------	------------------------------

VISITORS: Juan J. Meza, Monica Alanis, Romeo Salinas, Triunfo Gonzalez, Daniel D. Arriaga, Jason Denattre, James Farrell, Hector Lopez, Jr., Roger Miller, Joyce Currington, Fortunato Paredes, Jesus Rodriguez, Berta Gonzalez, Janie Mendoza, Sonia Montes, Estela A. Lopez, Rorik Peterson, Henry, Maggie Amesquita, and Manuel 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 AND
EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT
INVOCATION BY REV. ROGER MILLER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

COMMUNICATIONS

Hector Lopez, Jr. addressed the Court requesting a statue of his father, the late Hector Lopez, Sr., who retired after serving 28 years as Justice of the Peace in Precinct 1. Mr. Lopez Jr. gave a brief summary of the life of Judge Lopez. He would like for the statue to be placed next to the statue of Kike Camarena in the Courthouse rotunda.

Judge Rathmell suggested that the Historical Commission develop a plan to honor all public officials.

Judge Rathmell commented that Victoria Ramirez, the mother of the County's Personnel Director passed away.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

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

TAX / ASSESSOR COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Tax Assessor/Collector's office reported Hotel-Motel tax collections in the amount of \$6,306.18 for year-to-date collections in an amount of \$98,614.10 and tax collections in the amount of \$9,152,792.11 for at a year-to-date rate of 88.38%, \$1,017,891.34 are still outstanding.

REPORT ON ZAPATA COUTY'S CLAIM FOR VALDALISM LOSS AT OSWALDO H. AND JUANITA G. RAMIREZ EXHIBIT HALL

Damages for vandalism at the Oswaldo H. and Juanita G. Ramirez Exhibit Hall were \$10,812.00. The \$5,000 deductible will be collected from the persons responsible for the vandalism.

ORDER APPROVING BID FOR NEW FENCING AND REPAIRS ON EXISTING FENCE AT ZAPATA COUNTY LIBRARY

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the bid of Lalo Mendoza, being the lowest bidder, with a bid of \$4,548.60, for new fencing and repairs on existing fence at Zapata County Library as requested by Hon. 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 DESIGNATION OF STREETS OR AREAS FOR ALLOCATION OF PREPAID ASPHALT FROM ZAPATA COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza to approve designation of streets and/or areas and decide the allocation of prepaid asphalt from the Zapata County Independent School District as recommended by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering, as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge. (List of streets recommended is attached)

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

ORDER TO TABLE REQUST BY COMMISSIONER GARZA REGARDING PROPOSAL FOR SECURITY SYSTEM

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to table request by Commissioner Garza regarding proposal for a security system for 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.

ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY FIRE CHIEF MEZA REGARDING PURCHASE OF FIRE TRUCK AND RESCUE TRUCK

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to table request by Fire Chief Meza regarding purchase of a fire truck and a rescue truck.

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 REGARDING DETERMINATION OF COMPENSATION FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES THAT WORKED TO FILL SAND BAGS

Motion was made by Garza, seconded by Mendoza, to table request by Chief Meza regarding determination of compensation for county employees that worked to fill sand bags.

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

ORDER APPROVING TO HIRE ATILANO FLORES AS TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE AT ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve to hire Atilano Flores, as a temporary employee, (probationary period) in slot #11 at the Environmental Department as requested by Guillermo Saenz, Environmental Department.

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

ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER OF ARMANDO GONZALEZ FROM SLOT #9 TO SLOT #7 AT ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve to transfer Armando Gonzalez from slot #9 to slot #7 at the Environmental Department as requested by Guillermo Saenz, Environmental Department.

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

ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER OF DANIEL ARAMBULA FROM SLOT #8 TO SLOT #9 AT ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve to transfer Daniel Arambula from slot #8 to slot #9 at the Environmental Department as requested by Guillermo Saenz, Environmental Department.

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

ORDER APPROVING TO HIRE SERGIO CAVAZOS, JR. AS BELT PRESS OPERATOR/TRAINEE AT WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the hiring of Sergio Cavazos, Jr. as a Belt Press Operator/Trainee at the Waste Water Treatment Plant in vacant slot #4 at a salary of \$10.00 per hour effective October 8, 2018 as requested by Eloy Chapa, Jr. /Carlos Treviño, Wastewater Department.

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

REPORT ON TRENCH REPAIRS ON PHELPS WATER LINE BREAK

Manuel Gonzalez reported that the trench has been repaired on the Phelps water line break.

**APPROVAL OF INVOICES AND STATUS REVIEW ON ZAPATA COUNTY
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve payment of invoices to Terracon in the amount of \$19,690.00, EJDCD in the amount of \$475,373.55 and \$14,079.76 to Premier Engineering for Zapata County Wastewater Treatment Plant as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. Mr. Gonzalez reported that the project is 90% completed.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF INVOICES FOR SAN YGNACIO
WATER PLANT WATER TANK PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve two invoices payable to Premier Engineering in the amount of \$992.35 and \$900.00 for San Ygnacio Water Plant water tank project 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.

**STATUS REVIEW ON PROGRESS FOR 11TH AND LOZANO STREET
PAVING PROJECT**

Mr. Gonzalez gave a brief status review on progress for 11th and Lozano Street paving project. Project is advancing in a timely manner.

**ORDER APPROVING ANNUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN SCAN
AND ZAPATA COUNTY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the annual agreement between Serving Children and Adults in Need (SCAN) and Zapata County for use of office space and utilities as requested by Sonia Sanchez Montes, SCAN.

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 COURTHOUSE FOR
DEA DRUG TAKE BACK PILL EVENTS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the use of the Zapata County Courthouse for DEA Drug Take Back Pill Events on October 27, 2018 and on April 2019 as requested by Sonia Sanchez Montes, SCAN.

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 MENDOZA,
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GARZA,
TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER MENDOZA,

**SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GARZA,
TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION**

**ORDER APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT AUTHORIZED AND
GOVERNED BY CHAPTER 312 OF THE TEXAS TAX CODE
WITH RELOJ DEL SOL WIND FARM, LLC**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a Tax Abatement Agreement authorized and governed by Chapter 312 of the Texas Tax Code with Reloj del Sol Wind Farm, LLC, and any matters incident thereto; as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

Closed Session/Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5 Subchapter D, Section 551.071(A)(B) Consultation with Attorney.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of Commissioners Martinez, Garza, and Mendoza. Judge Rathmell abstained. Motion carried.

**ORDER APPROVING TO AMEND COUNTY BUDGET LINE ITEM 60-680-138
TO ADD EQUIPMENT TO SPECIAL ROAD AND BRIDGE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to amend county budget line item 60-680-138 to add equipment for Special Road and Bridge to meet the needs of every individual precinct as requested by Hon. Paco Mendoza, Commissioner Pct. 1.

Closed Session/Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5 Subchapter D, Section 551.071(A)(B) 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 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
OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

ATTEST:

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