

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 28th day of January, A.D., 2019, 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
Olga M. Elizondo	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Eddie Martinez	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Norberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4

ABSENT:

Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court (Attending Clerks Winter Conference)
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VISITORS: Romeo Salinas, Triunfo Gonzalez, Nellie R. Trevino, Monica Alanis, Angel Garza, Joyce Currington, Juan J. Meza, Roger Miller, Sammy Luera, Jesse Rodriguez, Luis Daniel Villarreal, Ramona Martinez, Leslie Vela, Daniel D. Arriaga, Manuel Gonzalez, and Amparo Montes 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**

COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Mendoza commented on the skeet shoot and infrastructure done at the arena.

Joyce Currington a reporter with Zapata County News, announced that the newspaper is offering a directory.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, 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 CHECKS ISSUED

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, 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 ON BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF ZAPATA

Leslie Vela gave a brief report on the Boys and Girls Club of Zapata. December's attendance was approximately 120 members with an average of 22 children per day. San Ygnacio's daily attendance is approximately 21 children.

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION-ZAPATA 2018 YEAR IN REVIEW AND PRESENTATION

Jesus Rodriguez, Extension Agent representing Texas A&M AgriLife Extension-Zapata, presented the court with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension-Zapata 2018 Year in Review. The highlights were educational programs, services and opportunities afforded to the people of Zapata County.

January: ZCISD elementary schools hosted pep rallies to kick off the Walk Across Texas Program. Over 1,100 students participated in all four elementary schools. The 10th Annual Falcon Lake Prospect Show was held at the Oswaldo and Juanita Ramirez Exhibit Hall allowing 4-H members from Zapata and surrounding areas to exhibit livestock projects.

March: Healthy South Texas Youth Ambassadors provided a booth for National Nutrition Month at Zapata High School with information of hypertension and game day meals. Also, over 200 Zapata 4-H members participated in the County Fair. The livestock auction brought in over \$300,000 for our youth.

May: In collaboration with ZCISD, AgriLife Extension provided Dinner Tonight for the community at Zapata High School. The theme was 5 De Mayo and Chef David Medina demonstrated 3 traditional Mexican recipes that were sampled by some of the participants who attended.

June: The Walk Across Texas 8-week physical activity program kicked off.

July: Healthy South Texas Youth Ambassadors of Zapata received sponsorship from IBC Bank to attend the annual Healthy Texas Youth Summit in San Antonio, Texas.

August: Water well screening was offered to county residents. Wells were sampled for bacteria, salinity and suspended solids. Also, in collaboration with ZCISD Curriculum Department and ZCISD elementary schools, AgriLife Extension trained 13 2nd grade elementary school teachers on the Learn, Grow, Eat & GO curriculum.

November: A backyard fruit tree workshop, Fruit Trees 101 was held for Zapata residents. Also, in collaboration with Zapata County a Dinner Tonight Healthy Cooking School was provided during the Zapata County Employee Holiday Luncheon.

December: Assisted Zapata North Elementary School 2nd grade teachers and students harvest from their school garden as part of the Learn, Grow, Eat & GO curriculum.

Mr. Rodriguez thanked Zapata County Commissioners Court for their support.

ORDER APPROVING AMENDMENT TO AMUSEMENT REDEMPTION MACHINE ORDINANCE TO REFLECT INCREASE IN PERMIT FEES FROM \$750.00 TO \$1,000.00 PER MACHINE PER YEAR

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Judge Rathmell, to approve an amendment to the Amusement Redemption Machine Ordinance to reflect an increase in the permit fees from the current \$750.00 per machine per year to \$1,000.00 per machine per year due June 1, 2019 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 SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ZAPATA COUNTY AND COUNTY INFORMATION RESOURCE AGENCY (CIRA)

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a Service Agreement between Zapata County and the County Information Resource Agency (CIRA) for standard website hosting at \$800.00 per year 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.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THE FOLLOWING ITEM

13. To allow Zapata County Waterworks to suspend billing and to wave late fees for all furloughed federal government employees until U.S. Government shutdown ends as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

ORDER APPROVING CHANGES TO SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT BUDGET

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the following changes to the Sheriff's Department Budget (10-560) and (10-567)

- Civil Process/Patrol Fernando M. Hernandez, Jr. slot #18 to slot #6 salary has been set at \$38,662 per year.
- Captain Salvador A. Elizondo slot #16 to slot #8 salary has been set at \$41,519 per year.
- Investigator Adrian Lopez slot #28 to slot #11 salary has been set at \$35,165 per year.
- Deputy Sheriff Enrique Pena slot #27 to slot #13 salary has been set at \$31,773 per year.
- Deputy Sheriff Jose A. Montes slot #20 to slot #18 salary has been set at \$33,301 per year.
- Deputy Sheriff Leonel E. Guerra slot #25 to slot #28 salary has been set at \$34,078 per year.
- Deputy Sheriff Jose R. Martinez slot #29 to slot # 25 salary has been set at 33,706 per year.
- Deputy Sheriff Luis A. Garcia slot #13 to slot #29 salary has been set at 32,463 per year.
- Sergeant Erika O. Martinez slot #6 to slot #16 salary has been set at \$39,519 per year.
- Detention Officer Jesus Hinojosa 10-567 slot #20 to 10-567 slot #15 salary set at \$24,869 per year.
- Salary from department 10-567 slot #1 \$39,519 per year move to department 10-560 slot #16.
- Salary from department 10-560 slot #16 \$40,230 per year move to department 10-567 slot #1 Lieutenant.

as requested by Sheriff Alonso Lopez, County Sheriff.

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

ORDER APPROVING PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF LOCK DOOR KIT FOR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PRECINCT 1 OFFICE

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the purchase and installation a security lock door kit for Justice of the Peace Pct. 1 Office. The amount of \$1,555.34 is to be paid from the Courthouse Security Fund as requested by Hon. Paco Mendoza, Commissioner Pct. 1.

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

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THE FOLLOWING ITEM

To clarify the use of county crews and equipment within Zapata County cemeteries as requested by Hon. Olga M. Elizondo, Commissioner Pct. 2. Discussion: Cemeteries can be maintained, would need to form a crew specifically for that duty.

ORDER APPROVING ESTIMATE FOR REPAIRS TO SAN YGNACIO CIVIC CENTER

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve an estimate in the amount of \$7,000 for repairs to the San Ygnacio Civic Center 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.

ORDER APPROVING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN ZAPATA COUNTY AND ZAPATA COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (ZCISD) FOR ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF AD VALOREM TAXES

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve an Interlocal Agreement between Zapata County and the Zapata County Independent School District (ZCISD) for the assessment and collection of ad valorem taxes as requested by Adriana C. Figueroa, Tax Assessor/Collector.

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

ORDER APPROVING REIMBURSEMENT TO ZAPATA COUNTY FOR REMOUNT OF AMBULANCE UNIT #127

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve reimbursement to Zapata County on the remount of ambulance unit #127 in the amount of \$43,197.00, monies to come out of Tobacco Fund as requested 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 PURCHASE OF NEW DESK TOP COMPUTER

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the purchase of a new desk top computer for the purchase price of \$1,215.65 from the Computer Fund as requested by Fire Chief J.J. Meza, 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 WEBINAR FOR ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS, SUPERVISORS AND CREW LEADERS AND REPORT ON WORKER'S COMPENSATION CLAIMS FOR 2017-2018

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve a mandatory webinar on Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. for all elected officials, supervisors and crew leaders. Personnel Director Nellie R. Treviño, reported that Worker's Compensation claims are reported late by elected officials, supervisors and crew leaders.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PURCHASE OF COMPACTOR FOR SAN YGNACIO
LANDFILL**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve to rent compactor for the San Ygnacio landfill, for no more than \$10,000 for 1 month as requested by Guillermo Saenz, Environmental Department. Two bids were received, as follows: Holtz Cat \$550,941.43 and Bo-Mag for \$443,630.40, action will be taken at a late date.

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 AND REVIEW STATUS FOR GOLF
COURSE SEWER LINE PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve payment of invoice in the amount of \$7,250 payable to Guzman Backhoe Services and invoice in the amount of \$12,781.60 payable to Premier Engineering to be paid out of Royalty Fund for Golf Course Sewer Line as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. Approximately 308 linear feet (at \$12.95 per foot) of line were installed.

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

**ORDER APPROVING RETAINAGE FEE FOR SAN YGNACIO WATER TANK
REPLACEMENT PROJECT AND STATUS REPORT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve retainage fee in the amount of \$3,499.00 for San Ygnacio Water Tank Replacement Project as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. Project is 100% complete.

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

ORDER APPROVING CHANGES TO PAVING STREET IMPROVEMENTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve addition of Falcon Lane to paving street improvements and status review as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. TxDot is assisting the county via County Assistance Program.

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

ORDER APPROVING INSTALLATION OF STREET LIGHT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve installation of street light at the following location:

- a. 2102 Carla Street

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

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

**ORDER REJECTING OFFER BY PATRICIO HERNANDEZ DBA GRANDE
GARBAGE, INC. AND AUTHORIZING LEGAL COUNCIL TO CONTINUE
NEGOTIATIONS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to reject offer by Patricio Hernandez DBA Grande Garbage, Inc., and authorize legal counsel to continue negotiations to settle pending lawsuit 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 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