

**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 May, 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
Norberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court

ABSENT:

Eddie Martinez	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
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VISITORS: Triunfo Gonzalez, Nellie R. Trevino, Monica Alanis, Roger Miller, Alejandro Barrera, Jr., Joyce Currington, Manuel Uribe, Carlos Gonzalez, Joel Lopez, Anna Holcomb, Jesse Rodriguez, Ramona Martinez, Raymundo Del Bosque, Joseph Peña, Amalia Dominguez, 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

Judge Rathmell, commented on Memorial Day and that counties and cities honor all those who gave their lives for our country. He also commended the following volunteers that decorated the plazita and cemetery.

Chief Deputy Raymundo Del Bosque, Jr./Friends and Family	Amelia Del Bosque	Yvette De Leon
Joe Peña	Javier Pacheco	Manuel Uribe
Jorge Dovalina	Procopio Hinojosa, Jr.	Jorge Garcia
Joanna Dovalina	Irma Alvarez	Beto Arambula
Sgt. Mireles/ JROTC	Bobby and Anna Holcomb	Diana Gonzalez
Coach Jaime Resendez, and wife Jessica Resendez	Sylvia Del Bosque	Liza Garcia
Javier Ramirez	Victor Salinas	Fidencio Mendoza, Jr.
	Joyce Currington	Felix Garcia
	Karran Westerman	Ico Gonzalez
	Claudia Garza	Mr. Galindo

Commissioner Elizondo stated that Mr. Bruni and Joe Pena placed flags at the San Ygnacio cemetery. She added that the name of Roberto Silva will be added to the monument.

Joyce Currington added that there was a small ceremony at the Zapata County Cemetery.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Amalia Dominguez addressed the Court and expressed concerns regarding the cost of water and garbage fees being increased. She stated that the cost of water and sewer had increased when the County took over the San Ygnacio Water Plant.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices in the amount of \$1,600,167.80 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 in the amount of \$1,331,786.49 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

Boys and Girls Club Report was given by Ramona Martinez. Ms. Martinez reported that infrastructure remains the same, however, they are looking at hiring extra staff. There were 50 participants the morning the report was given. The kids had a blast during the Easter events. Students of the month were Devany Herrera, Valdemar Flores and Nicole Paxton. Employee of the month was Leslie Arriaga. The backpack program is coming from the Guadalupe and Lilia Martinez Foundation; 400 backpacks will be distributed in Zapata and 125 in San Ygnacio. Commissioner Mendoza commended Ramona Martinez and Leslie Vela.

ORDER APPROVING AMENDMENT FOR TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AIRPORT PROJECT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve amendment for the Texas Department of Transportation Airport Project Participation Agreement as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge. They are working on expansion with federal grants and hoping for more air traffic. Monies are also for acquisition of land for expansion.

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

ORDER REAPPOINTING KARRAN WESTERMAN AS MEMBER TO RIO GRANDE REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to reappoint Karran Westerman as a member to the Rio Grande Regional Water Authority 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 TO TABLE REQUEST BY COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ REGARDING
REVIEW OF RSL PROPOSED RATE CHANGES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to table request by Commissioner Martinez regarding review of RSL Proposed Rate changes and take possible action.

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

**DISCUSSION ON REQUEST TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE ACQUISITION ON LOS
EBANOS GOLF COURSE**

Carlos Gonzalez, ZCISD Superintendent, addressed the Court and stated that his understanding was that the County is interested in buying the Golf Course. He commented that if the Golf Course closes it will impact the students. The school would greatly appreciate if the County would buy it. SB33 is going before the legislative session, if it passes the school would not be able to purchase. The school has \$30,000 available to help with operating expenses. ZCISD Golf team members would have free access if accompanied with an adult.

The Golf Course is owned 100% by the family of Renato Ramirez and is not self-sustaining.

Ricky Ramirez addressed the Court and clarified that they do not own the water rights. There is a water pump and back flow water is used to water the greens. The Golf Course is located on 65 acres and the additional acreage can be developed by the County. There is also a building on the property that is being leased out. There are currently 2 persons employed to perform maintenance.

If purchased, the sale would be owner financed at 0% interest. There is no liability and no debt is owed by the Golf Course. There is also no shut down deadline.

Joel Lopez also addressed the Court and commented that it would be a great gesture for the community by the County, if the Golf Course was purchased. Losing it would be detrimental to our community. He added that we also need basketball courts and flag football for the students.

ORDER APPROVING INSTALLATION OF SECURITY LIGHT

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

- a. 1405 Miraflores

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 Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the following line item transfers to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Texas A&M AgriLife Ext.	10-665-310	Office Supplies	\$300.00
TO	Texas A&M AgriLife Ext.	10-665-427	Workshops & Travel	\$300.00
FOM	Texas A&M AgriLife Ext.	10-665-312	Communications & Programs	\$350.00
TO	Texas A&M AgriLife Ext.	10-665-427	Workshop & Travel	\$350.00

as requested by Jesus Rodriguez, AgriLife Agent.

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 approve the following line item transfers to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Zapata County Water Works	80-600-443	Electricity	\$7,000.00
TO	Zapata County Water Works	80-600-336	Rep. Maint. Supplies	\$7,000.00
FROM	Zapata County Water Works	80-600-488	Inspection Fees	\$7,000.00
TO	Zapata County Water Works	80-600-336	Rep. Maint. Supplies	\$7,000.00
FROM	Zapata County Water Works	80-600-589	Equipment	\$8,000.00
TO	Zapata County Water Works	80-600-341	Chlorine & Chemicals	\$8,000.00

as requested by Carlos Trevino, Zapata County Water Works.

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 approve the following line item transfers to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Zapata County Public Library	10-650-427	Travel	\$1,500.00
TO	Zapata County Public Library	10-650-463	Books	\$1,500.00
FROM	Zapata County Public Library	10-650-427	Travel	\$1,000.00
TO	Zapata County Public Library	10-650-335	Computers	\$1,000.00

as requested by Amalia Navarro, Zapata County Librarian.

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 AUTHORIZING COUNTY JUDGE AND COUNTY ATTORNEY
TO PROCEED WITH ACQUISITION OF LOS EBANOS GOLF COURSE AND
BEGIN WITH APPRAISAL**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to authorize County Judge and County Attorney to proceed with acquisition of Los Ebanos Golf Course and begin with appraisal as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

Closed/Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5 Subchapter D, Section 551.071/551.072 (A)(B) Consultant with Attorney / 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 Mendoza, 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