

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 25th day of November, 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
Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court

VISITORS: Romeo Salinas, Triunfo Gonzalez, Monica Alanis, Juan J. Meza, Nellie R. Treviño, Daniel Arriaga, Joyce Currington, Ralph Treviño, Ramona Martinez, and Leslie Vela.

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 ANNA G. MOLINA, DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO
CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

COMMUNICATIONS

Judge Rathmell commented that the new rescue truck for the Fire Department will be delivered soon. Fire truck will come in February or March of 2020.

Commissioner Elizondo stated that they attended the Texas Agrilife meeting. She stated that there is a new program for ranchers where a device is attached to the gate and in direct communication to the Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Martinez added they the court will now be able to regulate the maquinas using the Houston model. Fees cannot exceed \$1,000 per eight-liner. Judge Rathmell stated that most counties have opted not to have the eight-liners in their counties, therefore, that is the reason why we have so many. Should surrounding counties opt to have them, then our revenues would go down. Zapata County has the power to eliminate them, and it's something the court could consider in the future.

Judge Rathmell also commented that the mandatory annual Thanksgiving luncheon will take place on Wednesday. Speakers from TAC, TxDOT, US Census and United Way will be here.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices in the amount of \$728,940.19, plus additional expenses incurred in P.O. # 1419132 in the amount of \$25,140 for plexiglass at the Regional Jail plus approximately \$50,000 for emergency repairs to A/C unit at jail 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 in the amount of \$1,013,503.21 as presented and 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.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB REPORT

Leslie Vela reported on the Boys and Girls Club activities. They still have the same staff and the Club is doing very well. Halloween contests and other activities were held. Trunk or Treat was a great success with many volunteers and participants. Attendance has decreased due to extracurricular activities.

**ORDER APPROVING PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATION SERVICES FROM
ESSER AND COMPANY CONSULTING LLC**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve and contract Professional Administration Services from Esser and Company Consulting LLC to close out TXCDBG 7214095, TXCDBG 7215085, and TXCDBG 7216511, for an amount not to exceed \$10,000 per grant, to be completed by May 2020 and authorize County Judge to sign 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 PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATION SERVICES FROM
ESSER AND COMPANY LLC**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve contract for Professional Administration Services from Esser and Company Consulting LLC for TXCDGB 7217511, for an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 and authorize County Judge to sign 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 FY2020 STATEWIDE AUTOMATED VICTIM NOTIFICATION
SERVICE (SAVNS) MAINTENANCE GRANT CONTRACT BETWEEN OFFICE OF
ATTORNEY GENERAL AND ZAPATA COUNTY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to the FY2020 Statewide Automated Victim Notification Service (SAVNS) Maintenance Grant Contract between the Office of the Attorney General and Zapata County, for an annual fee of \$5,431.48 to be paid out of the jail funds, 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 2020 TEXAS VINE (VICTIM INFORMATION &
NOTIFICATION EVERYDAY) PROGRAM**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve 2020 Texas VINE (Victim Information & Notification Everyday) Program Service Agreement for a fee not to exceed \$ 1763.76 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 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR REPAIR OF ZAPATA COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER ROOFING

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve request for proposals for the repair of the Zapata Community Center roofing and include artifacts building leaks as well, 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 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR REPAIRS OF STUCCO FAÇADE OF ZAPATA COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve request for proposals for repair of the exterior stucco facade of the Zapata County Community Center 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 PAYMENT OF MEMBERSHIP DUES TO SOUTH TEXAS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the payment of membership dues to the South Texas Development Council in the amount of \$3,837.80 for the period covering October 1, 2019-September 30, 2020 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 TRANSFER OF JUAN ALEJANDRO GARCIA

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the transfer of Juan Alejandro Garcia from 10-001-slot #1 Labor/Maintenance, to Special Road and Bridge, 15-011-slot #2 to be assigned as crew leader, Pct. 1 at \$14.57 per hour effective November 25, 2019 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.

ORDER APPROVING PURCHASE OF LAPTOP COMPUTER FOR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PCT. 4 AND PURCHASE OF LAPTOP AND DESKTOP COMPUTER FOR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PCT. 2

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the purchase of a laptop computer for Justice of the Peace Pct. #4 from the Technology Fund as requested by Hon. Ramon Benavides, Justice of the Peace Pct. 4; and approve the purchase of a laptop and a desktop compute for Justice of the Peace Pct. 2 from the Technology Fund as requested by Hon. Juana Maria Gutierrez, Justice of the Peace Pct. 2. Grand total not to exceed a total of \$4,920.98.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TO PLACE ADVERTISEMENT IN LOCAL
NEWSPAPER TO INFORM PUBLIC OF UPCOMING
SMART METER EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve to place an advertisement in the local newspaper to inform the public of the upcoming Smart Meter Exchange Program as requested by Ralph Treviño, Water Plant Manager.

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

**ORDER APPROVING MODIFICATION OF ZAPATA COUNTY WATERWORKS
MASTER SERVICE AGREEMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve to modify the Zapata County Waterworks Master Service Agreement as requested by Ralph Treviño, Water Plant Manager. Modification will be made to normal business hours of existing service agreement. (Modification attached for the record) Discussion: There are illegal connections where meters will be installed afterhours and uninstalled during business hours, case number have been issued.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TO HIRE JOSE A. PEÑA, JR.,
AS FULLTIME EMPLOYEE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve to hire Jose A. Peña, Jr. as a fulltime employee at the rate of \$9.48 per hour plus benefits (\$30,273.58). Mr. Peña is currently a temporary hire and has been since May 2019. Mr. Peña will be assigned to the distribution department as requested by Ralph Treviño, Water Plant Manager.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TO GO OUT FOR BIDS FOR REPAIRS AND
MAINTENANCE ON THREE WATER TANKS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve to go out for bids for repairs and maintenance on three water tanks as requested by Carlos Treviño, Water Plant Manager.

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 Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the installation of a street light at the following address:

- a. 112 Apple

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.

ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATE IN THE SOUTH TEXAS DEVELOPMENT AND CONFIRMING APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE FROM COUNTY OF ZAPATA TO SERVE ON BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SOUTH TEXAS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve Resolution to support and participate in the South Texas Development and confirming the appointment of Judge Rathmell and Commissioner Garza to represent the County of Zapata to serve on the Board of Directors of the South Texas Development Council for the period of October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020 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 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION TO TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT FOR 2019 GRANT FROM THE LOCAL PARKS SMALL COMMUNITY FUND PROGRAM

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Garza, to approve Resolution authorizing the submission of an application to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for a 2019 Grant (\$150,000 grant) from the Local Parks Small Community Fund Program as requested by Carlos Colina-Vargas, Grant Writer.

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

ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION FOR VILLA-ZAPATA INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CROSSING

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve resolution for Villa-Zapata International Bridge Crossing as requested by Carlos Villarreal.

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