

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 27th day of April, A.D., 2020, 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, Said A. Figueroa, Triunfo Gonzalez, Juan J. Meza, Jose A. Solis, Selma Garza, Raul Villarreal, Juan Vasco, Daniel D. Arriaga, and Joyce Currington.

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

Judge Rathmell reported on COVID-19, 198 persons have been tested, 183 negative results, 8 pending, 7 positive cases and 2 have been released from isolation. One of the positive cases is an individual with dual residency in Zapata and Webb County, she has been released from isolation. Gateways clinic, county clinic and Mary Plattner are all doing testing.

Chief Meza thanked the court for doing a good job by ordering social distancing, masks, and curfew. He announced that mobile testing will be available on April 29 – 30, 2020 at community center. Those wanting to be tested will need to make an appointment and can register by calling or going online. Tests will be at no cost to the patient. Tests will be administered by the National Guard, they have requested 25 meals including breakfast and lunch, to be provided by Juan Sendejo. They also requested 45 hotel rooms.

Selma Garza addressed the court and stated that she did not agree with last week's decision of opening the golf course. Grownups do not need to be out there because they are being exposed. But, they came and threw a tantrum. Judge Rathmell explained that the parks were opened by Governor Abbott and feels that outdoor activities are beneficial. Ms. Garza suggested to open barber shops and salons since the golf course is open and do Zumba outside. She also asked about the curfew, she saw Chief Del Bosque's report on stops, curfew at 10 p.m., means curfew at 10 p.m.

Yvonne Garza from Hidalgo County asked about the game rooms. She hopes they have strict rules, people do not listen and do not follow rules.

Governor Abbot will make recommendations today.

Commissioner Elizondo was called and visited a game room; they have plexiglass every 6 feet. They will have staff depositing money and moving patrons as required.

Judge Rathmell will request input from business owners. Owners are taking steps to protect patrons.

Raul Villarreal addressed the court; they will take necessary measures and follow guidelines. Employees will be requested to wear nose and mouth coverings. Employees will be trained in social distancing and sanitizing stations.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices in the amount of \$206,479.44 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 Martinez, 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.

NO REPORT – BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB IS CLOSED

8. Boys and Girls Club Report as requested by Hon. Paco Mendoza, Commissioner, Pct. 1. The club is closed, employees are working. They have a grab and go program for kids.

ORDER APPROVING EXTENSION OF THIRD AMENDED SHELTER IN PLACE ORDER FOR ZAPATA COUNTY UNTIL MAY 11, 2020

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve extension of the Third Amended Shelter in Place Order for Zapata County, until May 11, 2020, with no changes 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 EXTENSION OF THIRD AMENDED ORDER REGARDING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE GATHERINGS UNTIL MAY 11, 2020

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve extension of Third Amended Order regarding public and private gatherings in Zapata County, until May 11, 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 EXTENSION OF CLOSURE OF ALL SENIOR NUTRITION CENTERS RUN BY ZAPATA COUNTY AND PROVIDE ALL ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS WITH HOME DELIVERED MEALS

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve extension of closure of all Senior Nutrition Centers run by Zapata County and provide all eligible participants with home delivered meals 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 EXTENSION OF CLOSURE OF ALL PUBLIC SPACES
RUN BY ZAPATA COUNTY UNTIL MAY 11, 2020**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve extension of closure of all public spaces run by Zapata County until May 11, 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 PURCHASE OF TIGERCAT 48" VELOCITY PLUS
LAWN MOWER AND 20-GALLON AIR COMPRESSOR**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the purchase of TigerCat 48" Velocity Plus lawn mower and a 20-gallon air compressor, totaling \$9,078.00 from Cemetery Fund 020-800-336 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 TITLE CHANGE OF DISTRIBUTION CREW FOREMAN
AND PAY INCREASE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve a title change of Distribution Crew Foreman and a pay increase from \$11.85 per hour to \$13.85 per hour (slot #25) for Mr. Jesus E. Gonzalez. Mr. Gonzalez has been assigned new leadership duties within the 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 TRANSFER OF ROEL IVAN GUZMAN
FROM ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT TO WATER DEPARTMENT
OPERATOR TRAINEE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the transfer of Mr. Roel Ivan Guzman from the Environmental Department to the Water Department Operator Trainee vacancy (slot #23) at a rate of \$9.98 per hour effective May 11, 2020 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 INITIATION OF STAGE III-MANDATORY
WATER USAGE RESTRICTION AND REQUEST COURT'S ASSISTANCE
IN ENFORCING RESTRICTION MEASURES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the initiation of Stage III – Mandatory Water Usage Restrictions and to request the court's assistance in enforcing restriction measures 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.

**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 REQUIRING ALL EMPLOYEES TO CLOCK IN USING THE COUNTY
SELECTED SOFTWARE/TIME CLOCK**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approving order requiring that all employees clock in using the county selected software/timeclock, with the exception of members of commissioners court, county officials, County Auditor, Triunfo Gonzalez; Fire Chief, Juan J. Meza; Juvenile Supervision, Sandy Pippin-Gomez; Water Plant Director, Ralph Trevino; Human Resources Director, Nellie R. Trevino, Environmental Control, Martin Saenz, and IT Specialist, Rene Garcilazo. Human Resources is working under direction of TAC to establish guidelines for law enforcement officers in order to establish their requirements as requested by Nellie R. Treviño, HR Director.

Closed Session/Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, and Section 551.074 (B) Personnel Matters.

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