

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 11th day of October 2022, 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
Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	Zapata County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of Commissioners Court

ABSENT:

Jose A. Solis	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Norberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4

VISITORS: Xavier Villarreal, Javier A. Mendoza, Rosalva Gutierrez, Delia Mendoza, Joseph Peña, Raymundo Del Bosque, Velma Barrera, Leticia G. Alaniz, Dalia Yvette Ramirez.

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 COMMISSIONERS COURT
INVOCATION BY REV. ROGER MILLER, COMMISSIONERS COURT CHAPLAIN
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

COMMUNICATIONS

Judge Rathmell announced the early voting hours.

Covid-19 report:

7 positive cases for a total of 2,570

22 probable cases for a total of 1,677

No deaths reported since the last meeting.

Congressman Cuellar was here to announce grant of \$160,387.00 for continued expansion and renovation of Gateway Clinic. He will also be here on October 12 to make announcement of TxDOT funding for Zapata County in the amount of \$58.6M, projects to be determined.

Judge Rathmell commented on a statement by the Sheriff on a certain individual not getting a pay raise. Judge Rathmell clarified that the individual did receive the across-the-board raise.

Commissioner Mendoza clarified on an item on the last meeting where it was stated that a trash trailer was purchased for precinct 1. The trash trailer was, in fact purchased for precinct 3.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Karran Westerman announced that the Zapata County Chamber of Commerce will be having a Zapata Past and Present Women of the Year event on October 18 at 6:00 p.m. Past and Present Business Women of the Year are Hortencia Medina, Janet Villarreal, Claudia Garcia, and Sara Garza.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve invoices in the amount of \$1,363,432.49, 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. Motion Carried 3/0.

ORDER APPROVING TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve Treasurer's Report as requested by Hon. Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer. Check issued for FY 2021-2022 totaled \$21,338,846.13.

The above motion, being put to a vote was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court. Motion Carried 3/0.

ORDER APPROVING CHECKS ISSUED

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve check issued in the amount of \$1,363,432.49, 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. Motion Carried 3/0.

TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Tax Assessor/Collector reported Hotel-Motel Tax collections in the amount of \$11,077.90 for the month of September with a year-to-date total of \$140,163.16. Net tax collections were \$168,685.71, with a rate of 91.70%.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON ITEM #10 TO REVIEW ALLOCATION OF GRAPPLER BY PRECINCTS

Discussion: There are 3 grappler trucks, 1 is in the shop. Commissioner Mendoza shares with Elizondo. Commissioner Garza will not share. Commissioner Elizondo's grappler truck will be ready this week.

ORDER APPROVING CONSTRUCTION OF ROOFS OVER CATTLE PENS AT LOPEÑO LIVESTOCK DIPPING VAT

Motion was made by Commissioner Elizondo, seconded by Judge Rathmell, to approve construction of roofs over cattle pens at the Lopeño livestock dipping vat for the proposed amount of \$6,400.00 as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of Commissioner Elizondo, seconded by Judge Rathmell. Commissioner Mendoza abstained. Motion carried 2/0.

ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY JUDGE RATHMELL REGARDING AGREEMENT GRANTING AEP TEXAS, INC A NON-EXCLUSIVE FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN, AND OPERATE LINES AND APPURTENANCES AND APPLIANCES FOR CONDUCTING ELECTRICITY IN, OVER, UNDER, AND THROUGH STREETS, AVENUES, ALLEYS AND PUBLIC PLACES OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Motion was made by Judge Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to table request by Judge Rathmell, regarding an agreement granting AEP Texas, Inc, its successors and assigns a non-exclusive franchise to construct, maintain and operate lines and appurtenances and appliances for conducting electricity in, over, under, and through the streets, avenues, alleys, and public places of Zapata County Texas.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all present members of the Court. Motion carried 3/0.

ORDER APPROVING 2022-2023 SHERIFFS AND CONSTABLES FEES

Motion was made by Judge Rathmell, second by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the 2022-2023 Sheriffs and Constables Fees as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all present members of the Court. Motion carried 3/0.

ORDER APPROVING TO PURCHASE MOWER FROM CERTIFICATE OF OBLIGATION

Motion was made by Judge Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve to purchase a mower in the amount of \$7,115.00 from the Certificate of Obligation as requested by Hon. Olga Elizondo, Commissioner Pct. 2.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all present members of the Court. Motion carried 3/0.

ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY COMMISSIONER ELIZONDO REGARDING AJB TX RANCH CRUSHING PROPOSAL FOR ARENA

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to table request by Commissioner Elizondo regarding the AJB TX, Ranch Crushing proposal of \$3,000.00 for the arena a requested by Hon. Olga Elizondo, Commissioner Pct. 2.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all present members of the Court. Motion carried 3/0.

ORDER APPROVING REQUEST TO USE ZAPATA COUNTY PLAZA FOR ZAPATA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CANDY LANE

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve request for the use of the Zapata County Plaza for the Zapata County Sheriff's Office candy lane on Thursday, October 27, 2022, as requested by Sheriff Raymundo Del Bosque, Jr.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all present members of the Court. Motion carried 3/0.

ORDER APPROVING PERMISSION TO DECORATE ZAPATA COUNTY PLAZA FOR PUMPKIN PATCH

Motion was made by Judge Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve request for permission to decorate the Zapata County Plaza for a Pumpkin Patch as requested by Sheriff Raymundo Del Bosque, Jr.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all present members of the Court. Motion carried 3/0.

ORDER APPROVING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS AND GILBERTO GARZA LOZANO, M.D. FOR INMATE MEDICAL SERVICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve professional services agreement between Zapata County, Texas and Gilberto Garza-Lozano, M.D., for inmate medical services are requested by Sheriff Raymundo Del Bosque, Jr.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all present members of the Court. Motion carried 3/0.

ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY JOE PENA REGARDING PAYMENT TO MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS FROM OPERATION LONE STAR FOR 30 PORTABLE RADIOS, 30 MOBILE RADIOS AND INSTALLATION

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to table request by Joe Peña, regarding payment of \$363,590.40 to Motorola Solutions from Operation Lone Star for 30 portable radios, 30 mobile radios and installation as requested by Joe Pena, Sheriff's Office.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all present members of the Court. Motion carried 3/0.

ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT TO HAWK READY MIX

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve payment to Hawk Ready Mix in the amount of \$6,089.00. These are invoices for the Flores Avenue Drainage Channel Project Pct. 1 as requested by Triunfo Gonzalez, County Auditor.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all present members of the Court. Motion carried 3/0.

ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF DRAW REQUEST #1 TO GRANTWORKS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE WORK DONE ON WATER SYSTEM AND DRAINAGE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Motion was made by Judge Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve payment to GrantWorks for Draw Request #1 in the amount of \$9,450.00 for administrative work done on water system and drainage system improvements (CFC21-0191) as requested by Kendra M. Busse Rocha, Grantworks.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all present members of the Court. Motion carried 3/0.

ORDER APPROVING INSTALLATION OF STREET LIGHTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve installation of the following streetlights:

- a. 3792 NUS HWY 83 San Ygnacio
- b. 3804 NUS HWY 83 San Ygnacio
- c. 902 Falcon Street

as requested by Hon. Olga Elizondo, Commissioner Pct. 2.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all present members of the Court. Motion carried 3/0.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER MENDOZA,
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ELIZONDO,
TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

**NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
#24 TO DISCUSS REGARDING CHAPTER 312 ABATEMENT PROCESS AS
REQUESTED BY JEFF SNOWDEN, CAPEX CONSULTING GROUP**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to take no action on item requested by Jeff Snowden on discussion regarding Chapter 312 Abatement Process.

Executive session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 4, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with attorney).

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, 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