

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA
IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS**

Be it remembered, that on this the 9th day of July, A. D., 2012, 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
	Jose Emilio Vela	Commissioner, Precinct No. 1
	Gabriel Villarreal	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
	Eddie Martinez	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
	Norberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
	Saíd Alfonso Figueroa	County Attorney
	Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk

VISITORS: Romeo Salinas, Triunfo Gonzalez, Mario Gonzalez,-Davis, Auddy Hernandez, Brian J. Martinez, J.J. Meza, Maria I. Gutierrez, Victor J. Gonzalez, Maricia Perez Rodriguez, Roger Miller, Steve Andrews, Joyce Currington, Carlos Treviño, Jr., Hector Uribe, Elva Garcia, Ed Romero, Bryan Braegger, Mike Harttz, Maria E. Gutierrez, Diana C. Villarreal, Fortunato Paredes, Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., Delia Mendoza, and Luis L. Gonzalez.

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

INVOCATION BY REV. ROGER MILLER, KING'S WAY CHURCH

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**ORDER APPROVING MINUTES FOR MEETING OF
JUNE 11, 2012**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the Minutes of June 11, 2012 as presented by Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan, County Clerk.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Brian Martinez reminded the Court of the upcoming auction. The auction will take place on July 28, 2012 and will be conducted by South Texas Auction.

Commissioner Vela informed the Court that he received an email from Ramiro Hernandez regarding Little League. Four teams will be coming to Zapata for All-Star, other competitions will also be taking place.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Luis Lauro Gonzalez, Zapata County Tax Assessor/Collector, reported that the tax office collected \$12,876.91 in Hotel Motel Tax fees and \$166,021.67. in tax collections for the month of June.

Commissioner Vela questioned Mr. Gonzalez regarding the Statements of Residence, Mr. Gonzalez stated that problems would continue until all voters come to make the changes and update information on record.

ORDER APPROVING TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve Treasurer's Report as presented 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.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve invoices as presented by Triunfo Gonzalez, County Auditor. Commissioner Vela questioned the computer expenses paid by Sheriff's Office to J.D. Networks.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of Commissioner Martinez, Villarreal, and Garza. Commissioner Vela voted against. Motion carried.

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW OF GRANDE GARBAGE

Mr. Patricio Hernandez stated that he had brought in \$237,000.00 in exclusive franchise fees for solid waste collections and approximately \$300,000.00 in land fillfees for the year. He also stated that 30% of the accounts are delinquent. The Court discussed options for collections. (Report attached for the record.)

MONTHLY REPORT OF ZAPATA FAMILY MEDICAL CLINIC

Mr. Ed Romero introduced Elva Garcia as the new manager for Zapata Family Medical Clinic. He further reported that 894 patients had been seen. They are currently working on Electronic Medical Records (EMR). The clinic is currently operating as a 24 hour physician clinic. Mr. Romero also stated that there is a possibility of contracting for ambulance services. Chief Meza of the Zapata County Fire Department advised the Court that Zapata County would not save money due to the EMS personnel still necessary. Mr. Romero reported that the remodeled area is completed and will be available for use by doctors for a rental fee of \$175.00.

**REPORT AND UPDATE BY DR. DAVID BROWN ON ZAPATA TECHNOLOGY
ADVANCED EDUCATION CENTER**

Dr. David Brown, Dean of Zapata Technology Advanced Education Center, reported that the technology has been completed. All equipment is up to specs. Summer Session I is finished and was very successful with 92 students enrolled. Dr. Brown introduced Mr. Robert Perez who holds a degree in Computers and Web Design. Mr. Perez is the New Chief Information Officer and will teach computer literacy classes at the Tech Center.

**UPDATE ON ZAPATA TECHNOLOGY ADVANCED EDUCATION CENTER
WEATHERPROOFING**

Dr. Brown reported that the weather proofing of the Tech Center is complete and there are no more leaks and the equipment is safe. Chief Meza also stated that he spoke to Dean Ramon and EMT training is ready to go.

**PRESENTATION BY TEXAS ANIMAL HEALTH COMMISSION AS REQUESTED BY
ROBERTO ADAMS, TAHC
(No one present for presentation.)**

**PRESENTATION AND STATUS REPORT ON MAPPING AND GEOGRAPHIC
INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS) FOR ZAPATA COUNTY**

Marissa Rodriguez and Victor Gonzalez, Jr., showed a power point presentation on the mapping and Geographic Information System (GIS) for Zapata County as requested by Peggy Umphres Moffett, President & CEO. (Power Point Presentation attached for the record.)

**ORDER APPROVING AN ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING
PER MONTH**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve an additional Commissioners Court meeting a month to be held on the 4th Monday of every month effective August 2012 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 AND ACCEPTING RESIGNATION LETTER OF PETE
VILLARREAL AND HIRE REPLACEMENT PARAMEDIC**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve and accept the resignation letter of Pete Villarreal and to hire a replacement paramedic at \$12.39 an hour as requested by Chief J.J. Meza, Zapata County Fire Department.

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

ORDER APPROVING CONSOLIDATION OF ALL ELECTION DAY POLLING PLACES FOR PRIMARY RUN-OFF ELECTION OF JULY 31, 2012

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve consolidation of all election day polling places for the Primary Run-Off Election to be held July 31, 2012 only, to one polling place located at the Zapata County Courthouse, 200 E. 7th Ave., Building "B", Zapata, Texas. Consolidation is requested in an effort to save on election costs as requested by Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan, County Clerk.

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

CONSERVATION EASEMENTS PROPOSED FOR PRECINCT FOUR

No action on request by Hector Uribe, Attorney at Law, regarding conservation easements proposed for Precinct 4 as requested by Hector Uribe, Attorney at Law.

ORDER APPROVING COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT BALANCES FROM SHADY HAVEN WATER BILL ACCOUNTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve collection of delinquent balances from Shady Haven (4 Seasons) water bill accounts by whatever means available as requested by Carlos Treviño, Jr., 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 DECLINE OF EMPLOYMENT WITH ZAPATA COUNTY WATERWORKS BY MARCELO RAMIREZ, JR.

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded, by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the decline of employment with Zapata County Waterworks by Marcelo Ramirez, Jr., Tuesday, June 12, 2012 by phone conversation as requested by Carlos Treviño, Jr., 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 EMERGENCY PURCHASE OF 2000 FORD F-150 PICK-UP FOR WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the emergency purchase of a 2000 Ford F-150 pick-up truck for the Wastewater Department in the amount of \$3,900.00, funding to be obtained from line item 08-602-336 as requested by Carlos Treviño, Jr., 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 HIRING OF ARNOLDO ALANIS TO FILL VACANCY IN WATER METER READING DEPARTMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the hiring of Arnolando Alanis to fill a vacancy in the Water Meter Reading Department. Mr. Alanis

will occupy slot #18, at a starting salary of \$9.23 per hour as requested by Carlos Treviño, Jr., 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 HIRING OF AMADOR SANCHEZ, JR. TO FILL VACANCY IN WATERWORKS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the hiring of Amador Sanchez, Jr., to fill a vacancy in the Waterworks Distribution Department. Mr. Sanchez will fill slot #22, at a starting salary of \$10.37 per hour as requested by Carlos Treviño, Jr., Water Plant Manager.

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

PLAN OF ACTION TO COLLECT AND HANDLE DELINQUENT WATERWORKS ACCOUNTS

Plan of action is to have attorney prepare a plan of action to collect and handle delinquent Waterworks accounts.

Discussion: List of delinquent accounts has been compiled and letters have been sent. If there is no response after given time frame a lawsuit will be filed. Linebarger sends collection letters for free. If a law suit is filed, then Linebarger will collect fee from the County.

ORDER APPOINTING COMMITTEE FOR REVIEW OF ALL SOLICITED RPT'S FOR ZAPATA COUNTY INSURANCE

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to appoint a committee for the review of all solicited RPF'S for the Zapata County Insurance as requested by Nellie Treviño, Personnel Director.

Committee members are: Triunfo Gonzalez, County Auditor; Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer; Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan, County Clerk; J.J. Meza, Fire Chief; and Nellie Treviño, Personnel Director.

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

ORDER APPROVING THE ENGINEERS RECOMMENDATION AND AWARD THE FALCON MESA PAVING CONTRACT FOR TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE CDBG GRANT NO. 711520

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the engineers recommendations and award the Falcon Mesa paving contract for Texas Department of Agriculture, CDBG Grant No. 711520 to Reim Construction, being the lowest bidder with a bid of \$418,117.75, as requested by Mario Gonzalez-Davis, Project 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 ENGINEERING CONTRACT FROM
JAKE RATHMELL DBA SOUTH TEXAS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEMS ON
TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD CLEAN WATER LOAN PROJECT
TO PREMIER ENGINEERING**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the transfer of engineering contract from Jake Rathmell DBA South Texas Development Systems on the Texas Water Development Board Clean Water Loan Project, to Premier Engineering as requested by Mario Gonzalez-Davis, Project Manager.

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

**ORDER DESIGNATING MANUEL GONZALEZ OF PREMIER ENGINEERING
AS ZAPATA COUNTY'S DESIGNATED CONTACT PERSON WITH
TWDB-CLEAN WATER LOAN
MARIO GONZALEZ-DAVIS WILL CONTINUE BEING DESIGNATED
CONTACT PERSON REPRESENTING ZAPATA COUNTY IN ALL
TWDB-CLEAN WATER LOAN PROJECT ACTIVITIES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to designate Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering, as Zapata County's designated contact person with TWDB-Clean Water Loan for all project coordination, engineering and administrative duties. Mario Gonzalez-Davis will continue being the designated contact person representing Zapata County in all TWDB - Clean Water Loan Project activities as requested by Mario Gonzalez-Davis, Project Manager.

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

**ORDER APPOINTING ZAPATA COUNTY FACILITIES DIRECTOR MARIA E.
GUTIERREZ TO MANAGE MOLD REMEDIATION AND REMEDIATION BUILD-
BACK INTERIORS CONTRACT WORK OF ZAPATA COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN
ORDER TO MAINTAIN QUALITY AND COST CONTROL OF WORK AND AFTER
CONSULTATION WITH COUNTY OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS TO
JOINTLY DEVELOP AND PUBLISH WITH SAID CONTRACTORS A SCHEDULE
AND SEQUENCE OF WORK TO BE PERFORMED IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE
DISRUPTION OF DAY TO DAY OPERATIONS OF COURTHOUSE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to appoint Zapata County facilities director, Maria E. Gutierrez, to manage the mold remediation and remediation build-back interiors contract work of the Zapata County Courthouse in order to maintain quality and cost control of the work and also, after consultation with county officials and department heads, to jointly develop and publish with said contractors a schedule and sequence of work to be performed in order to minimize the disruption of the day to day operations of the courthouse, and any other matters incident thereto as requested by Fortunato Paredes, Escamilla, Poneck and Cruz.

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

ORDER APPROVING INSTALLATION OF SPEED HUMP

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the installation of a speed hump at 715 Bravo in the Town of Zapata, as requested by Hon. Gabriel Villarreal, Commissioner Precinct 2.

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 LIGHTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the installation of the following street lights:

- a. 1911 2nd Street (Corner of Miraflores and 2nd)
- b. Dead end on 4th Street (existing pole)
- c. 1506 Medina
- d. Hwy 16 and 12th Street
- e. 1203 Ramireño

as requested by Hon. Norberto Garza, Pct. 4.

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

ORDER APPROVING LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the following line item transfer:

From: Nutrition Program	38-647-336	Raw Food	\$5,000.00
To: Nutrition Program	38-647-330	Fuel & Lubricants	\$5,000.00

in order to meet budget needs, as requested by Hon. Joseph Rathmell, County Judge and Rosalinda Gonzalez, Nutrition Program Director.

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 Vela, to approve the following line item transfer:

From: Recycling Department	10-598-527	Work Shop & Travel	\$1,445.00
To: Recycling Department	10-598-456	Repairs and Maintenance	\$1,445.00

to purchase a trash trailer, as requested by Laura Garza, Recycling Department.

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

ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION FOR SECTION 5310 ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, and seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a Resolution for Section 5310 Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities Public Transportation as requested by Rosalinda Gonzalez, Nutrition Program Director.

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

**ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR EXPANSION OF
BROADBAND NETWORK IN ZAPATA COUNTY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve a Resolution of Support for the expansion of the broadband network in Zapata County and the support of Border to Border Communications, Inc., the technology implemented and the positive impacts it has created as requested by Peggy Umphres Moffett, President & CEO ZEDC.

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 Villarreal, 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
ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

ATTEST:

MARY JAYNE VILLARREAL-BONOAN
COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO CLERK
OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF
ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS