

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 26th day of May A. D., 2015, 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
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

VISITORS: Triunfo Gonzalez, Romeo Salinas, Juan J. Meza, Auddy M. Hernandez, Nellie R. Treviño, Brian Martinez, Maria I. Gutierrez, Roger Miller, Ramiro Hernandez, Steve Williams, Gerald Smith, Deborah Smith, Diane Kling, Don Kling, Mike Finger, Mamie Finger, Joyce Currington, Beatriz M. Lopez, R. Clark, Grace Clark, Frank Reeves, and Matt Miles.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS

Judge Rathmell and Commissioner Vela thanked Maria I. Gutierrez, Nellie Treviño, Brian Martinez, Roxy Elizondo, Manuel Medrano, IBC Zapata, Rosie and Craig Bigler and many others who assisted in preparations for the Memorial Day Celebration.

Commissioner Vela informed the Court that Conoco Phillips had an awards ceremony and Zapata County was one of the grant recipients.

Justice of the Peace Gutierrez has been sending community service participants to work at the maintenance department. Victor Uvalle commented that if a person would get hurt while performing community service duties they would have to sue to prove the County was negligent.

Commissioner Vela also commented that the Falcon Nursing Home will be sold at \$750,000.00.

**ORDER APPROVING COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES OF
MARCH 9 AND 23 AND APRIL 13, 2015**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve Commissioners Court Minutes of March 9 and 23, and April 13, 2015 as presented by Hon. 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.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices as presented by Triunfo Gonzalez. .

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

ORDER APPROVING CHECKS ISSUED

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, 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 Commissioner Garza, Martinez, and Elizondo. Commissioner Vela voted against. Motion carried.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE BY HECTOR URIBE

Legislative Update by Hector Uribe (NOT PRESENT), will be rescheduled for the next meeting.

**PROCLAMATION ON NATIONAL CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH
AWARENESS MONTH APPROVED MAY 11, 2015**

Judge Rathmell read the proclamation on National Children's Mental Health Awareness Month which was approved on May 11, 2015. Manuel Castillon was present and thanked Commissioner Vela for his contribution. He also stated that they are looking into purchasing property to build a facility. *(This item was not on the agenda for this meeting.)*

ORDER APPROVING AMENDMENT AND CLARIFICATION OF ARM ORDINACE

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve to amend and clarify certain written rules within the Zapata County ARM Ordinance as requested by Hon. Jose E. Vela, Commissioner Pct. 1. The amendment should also allow Commissioners Court to set the fees. Routine inspections are also to be conducted.

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

**ORDER APPROVING APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS TO JOIN
ZAPATA COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the appointment of two additional members, Guadalupe Jose Villarreal, Jr., and Ma. Concepcion Villarreal, to join the Zapata County Historical Commission as requested by Hon. Jose E. Vela, 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 REQUEST BY FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET
COMMITTEE TO USE ZAPATA COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER PARKING LOT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve request by Farmers & Artisans Market Committee to use Zapata County Community Center parking lot to hold their monthly event every first Saturday of each month as requested by Hon. Jose E. Vela, 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 TRANSFERS FOR PRECINCT 4

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the following transfers for Precinct 4:

a.	Baldomero Flores		
	From: 15-014-Slot#2	Equipment Operator	\$11.59 per hour
	To: 10-014-Slot#2	Equipment Operator	\$12.59 per hour
b.	Raul Ontiveros		
	From: 10-004-Slot#3	CDL Driver	\$11.12 per hour
	To: 15-014-Slot#1	Equipment Operator	\$12.59 per hour
c.	Homero Gonzalez		
	From: 10-004Slot#2	Labor/Maintenance	\$10.00 per hour
	To: 10-004-Slot#3	Driver	\$11.12 per hour
d.	Felix Garcia		
	From: 15-014-Slot#4	Labor/Maintenance	\$8.82 per hour
	To: 10-004-Slot#2	Truck Driver/Welder	\$10.00 per hour
e.	Mirta Medina		
	From: 10-004-Slot#5	Building & Maintenance	\$8.00 per hour
	To: 15-014-Slot#4	Labor/Maintenance	\$8.82 per hour
f.	Position to be vacant Building & Maintenance \$8.00 per hour.		

as requested by Hon. Norberto Garza, Commissioner Pct. 2.

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

ORDER APPROVING PAY INCREASE FOR VICTOR DANIEL MARTINEZ

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a pay increase for Victor Daniel Martinez from \$9.70 per hour to \$11.70 per hour. Mr.

Martinez has fulfilled all requirements of the State of Texas and is authorized to practice as a Class D Water Plant Operator. Funding will be obtained from line item 80-600-0227 License Stipends.

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

ORDER TO APPROVE ALLOWING FIRE CHIEF TO PAY NECESSARY EXPENSES FOR AMBULANCE UNIT REPAIRS OUT OF TOBACCO FUND

Motion was made by Commissioner Elizondo, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve allowing Fire Chief pay necessary expenses for all ambulance unit repairs from the Tobacco Fund in the amount of \$25,000.00 as requested by Fire Chief Juan J. Meza, Fire Department.

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

ORDER APPROVING THE 2015-2016 INSURANCE RENEWAL

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the 2015-2016 insurance renewal, to include cyber liability of personal information of employees effective May 1, as requested by Nellie R. Treviño, Personnel Director.

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 JUAN CRUZ REGARDING ESTABLISHING A WIND REINVESTMENT ZONE IN ZAPATA COUNTY

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to table request by Juan Cruz regarding the overview of Bordas Wind Energy and discussion/action regarding establishing a Wind Reinvestment Zone in Zapata County, including granting the authority to publish notice of the proposed reinvestment zone in the local newspaper for designation of such Wind Reinvestment Zone and matters related thereto as requested by Juan Cruz, J. Cruz & Associates.

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 Vela, to approve installation of a speed hump at the following address:

a. 315 Gonzalez Street – Falcon Shores Subdivision
as requested by Hon. Jose E. Vela, 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 LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

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

	Department	Line Item	Fund	Amount
From:	Zapata Community Center	10-518-427	Travel & Per Diem	\$1,000.00
To:	Zapata Community Center	10-518-454	Pavilion / Fair Ground Repair	\$1,000.00

as requested by Laura Garza, Community Center.

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 because of the 2015 Conference of the County Investment Academy 67th Annual County Treasurers Association of Texas Conference.

	Department	Line Item	Fund	Amount
From:	County Treasurer	10-497-310	Office Supplies	\$2,565.00
To:	County Treasurer	10-497-427	Workshops & Travel Expenses	\$2,565.00

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 WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GARZA,
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ,
TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GARZA,
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ,
TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION**

**ORDER AUTHORIZING JUDGE RATHMELL TO HANDLE ALL MATTERS
PERTAINING TO OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES AT THE
HELPING HANDS FOOD PANTRY AS NEEDED**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to authorize Judge Rathmell to handle all matters pertaining to operational procedures at the Helping Hands Food Pantry as needed as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney and Section 551.074 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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, 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