

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

Be it remembered, that on this the 12th day of May, A. D., 2008, 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. Rosalva Guerra	County Judge
Jose Emilio Vela	Commissioner, Precinct No. 1
Gabriel Villarreal	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Joseph Rathmell	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Norberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
Saíd Alfonso Figueroa	County Attorney
Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk

VISITORS:

Doroteo Garza, Ramiro V. Martinez, Mario Gonzalez-Davis, Laura Guerra, Hector Uribe, Joel Ruiz, Abe Gonzalez, Juan J. Meza, Jose F. Mendoza, Dorothy Pizaña, Mark Alvarenga, Elvia A. Garcia, Romeo Garcia III, Cynthia V. Buruato, Estela D. Solis, Zaragoza Rodriguez, IV, Donald Lee, David Quin, Marco Serna, Angel Garza, Karan Westerman, Guillermo Saenz, Luis L. Gonzalez, Aida Garcia, Evelyn Palacios, Carlos M. Ramirez, and Cynthia L. Villarreal.

WHEREUPON, the following Orders and Proceedings were had by said Court, to-wit:

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:00 A. M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ORDER APPROVING TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the Treasurer's Financial Report as presented by County Treasurer Romeo Salinas.

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

ORDER APPROVING OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 11, 2008

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the Minutes of **February 11, 2008** 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.

**ORDER ALLOWING EXCLUSIVE USE OF BASEBALL FIELDS
BY LITTLE LEAGUE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to allow exclusive use of baseball fields to Little League during Little League Season. Court order will be issued to prohibit use by anyone other than Little League. Item to discuss baseball field issues was requested by Hector Garcia.

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

**ORDER APPROVING COUNTY VEHICLE AND FUEL FOR
VETERANS' TRANSPORTATION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve county vehicle/fuel for veterans' transportation. Sheriff Gonzalez will provide transportation, Mr. Uribe will be issued a Valero gas card for fuel in the amount of \$12,000 from line-item 10-409-427 as requested by Manuel Uribe, Veterans Service Officer.

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

**ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION FOR OPERATION
BORDER STAR GRANT #1982101**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve resolution for Operation Border Star Grant # 1982101 as requested by Sheriff Sigifredo Gonzalez, Jr.

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

**ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION OPERATION STONEGARDEN
GRANT # 00456112 PROJECT: BORDER PROTECTION AND EQUIPMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve resolution Operation Stonegarden Grant # 00456112 Project: Border Protection and Equipment as requested by Sheriff Sigifredo Gonzalez, Jr.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION FOR MENTAL
HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve presentation of Proclamation for Mental Health Awareness month as requested by Romeo Garcia, Border Region MHMR Program Manager.

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

ORDER APPROVING PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION FOR ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve presentation of Proclamation for Elder Abuse Prevention Month as requested by Gustavo Salinas, Community Initiates Specialist, Region 11 for Adult Protective Services in Edinburg, Texas.

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 CARMEN REYES TO APPROVE LAURA BENAVIDES AND MARIA GUADALUPE GONZALEZ FOR EXTRA HOURS AT NUTRITION CENTER

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to TABLE request to approve Laura Benavides for four (4) extra hours at (\$8.30/hr) at the Nutrition Center, and Maria Guadalupe Gonzalez at \$6.25/hr. for 26 hrs./pay period as requested by Carmen R. Reyes, Nutrition Supervisor.

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

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON REQUEST BY CARMEN R. REYES TO CREATE FUND TXDOT GRANT

No action was taken on request by Carmen R. Reyes to create fund TXDOT Grant for a total of \$43,750 to build a two-vehicle shelter with storage for program vans. The total is to be financed from \$35,000 TXDOT grant plus \$8,750 from Grants matching account 10-590-488 as requested by Carmen R. Reyes, Nutrition Supervisor.

ORDER APPROVING NEW BURN BAN FOR COUNTY OF ZAPATA PROHIBITING OUTDOOR BURNING

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve a new burn ban for the County of Zapata prohibiting outdoor burning as requested by J. J. Meza, Fire Chief.

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

ORDER APPROVING APPROPRIATION FROM SPECIAL ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND BALANCE FOR GRADER PAYMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve appropriation from the Special Road and Bridge Fund balance in the amount of \$83,334. into

account 15-621-559 for Grader payment (lease purchase) as originally approved on February 12, 2007 as requested by Teo Garza, County Auditor and Ramiro Martinez, County Consultant.

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

ORDER APPROVING APPROPRIATION FOR BACKHOE LEASE PAYMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve appropriation of \$13,591. into account 80-600-449 Backhoe lease payment as originally approved in 2006-2007 budget as requested by Teo Garza, County Auditor and Ramiro Martinez, County Consultant.

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

ORDER APPROVING RATIFICATION OF FOWL CONTROL ADDENDUM TO RABID DOG ORDINANCE

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve ratification of Fowl Control Addendum to the Rabid Dog Ordinance as requested by County Attorney Said Alfonso Figueroa.

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

ORDER APPROVING HIRING OF LORENA VELA AS TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE FOR MATERNITY LEAVE FOR DALIA VILLARREAL

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve hiring of Lorena Vela as temporary employee for maternity leave for Dalia Villarreal as requested by Anna M. Guerra, J.P. for Pct. 1.

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 JOEL RUIZ FOR COUNTY NOT TO USE PART OF JOEL RUIZ'S PROPERTY OUT OF SHARE FOUR

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to TABLE the request by Joel Ruiz to take action for the county not use part of Joel Ruiz's property out of Share 4.

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

**ORDER TO DENY REQUEST BY JOEL RUIZ TO HAVE ILLEGAL GATES
REMOVED ON JUAREZ AVENUE AND GUTIERREZ STREET IN SAN YGNACIO**

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to deny the request by Joel Ruiz to have illegal gates removed on Juarez Avenue and Gutierrez Street in San Ygnacio.

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

**ORDER APPROVING RETURN OF BULLETIN BOARD WITH QUARTER INCH
WHITE PLATE GLASS TO OWNER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to return bulletin board with 1/4 inch white plate glass to owner as requested by Joel Ruiz.

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

REPORTS/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION BY JOEL RUIZ

Offer of 4.57 acres tract for town park as requested by Joel Ruiz

Mr. Ruiz offered Zapata County a 4.57 acre tract of land for town park at the rate of \$1.15 square foot.. The property is on Morales Street and has a nature trail.

County has an unused Boat Ramp as requested by Joel Ruiz

Mr. Ruiz presented areal pictures of an unused boat ramp, Commissioner Villarreal advised that this is government property. Mr. Ruiz is requesting that the gates on Juarez Street be opened.

**Entertainment at the San Ygnacio Plaza on Saturday night and other night of the week
as requested by Joel Ruiz**

Mr. Ruiz reported that he will be showing free movies for the youth of San Ygnacio on Saturday evenings at the town plaza.

**ORDER AUTHORIZING COUNTY JUDGE TO APPROVE LOWEST BIDDER THAT
MEETS REQUIREMENTS FOR AIRPORT ROAD BOND EQUIPMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to authorize County Judge to approve the lowest bidder that meets the following requirements: suitable equipment, operator is qualified, liability insurance, and that the equipment would be available in a timely manner, for Airport Road Bond Equipment rentals as requested by Mario Gonzalez-Davis.

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

**ORDER APPROVING MARIO GONZALEZ-DAVIS TO NEGOTIATE
AND PURCHASE LOTS OR EASEMENTS REQUIRED FOR ROAD BOND
PAVING-DRAINAGE PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve Mario Gonzalez-Davis to negotiate and purchase lots or easements required for Road Bond Paving - Drainage Project in all precincts. Funding from Land Acquisition Fund as requested by Mario Gonzalez-Davis.

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

**ORDER APPROVING FUNDS FOR ZAPATA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
FOR CONTINUING OPERATIONS FROM HOTEL MOTEL TAX**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve \$19,750.00 plus an additional \$11,057.05 (to Bass Masters) to fund the Zapata County Chamber of Commerce for continuing operations from the Hotel Motel Tax, the Chamber is to open a separate operating account as requested by Commissioner Joe Rathmell, Pct. 3.

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

**ORDER APPROVING RENEWAL OF CONTRACT WITH LINEBARGER, GOGGAN,
BLAIR AND SAMPSON, LLP FOR COLLECTION OF COURT FINES AND FEES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve renewal of contract with Linebarger, Goggan, Blair and Sampson, LLP for Collection of Court Fines and Fees as requested by Gustavo Martinez, Attorney for Linebarger, Goggan, Blair and Sampson. Mr. Figueroa is to review the contract.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PERMISSION TO USE ZAPATA COUNTY PAVILION FOR
ZAPATA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC BANQUET**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve permission to use the Zapata County Pavilion for the Zapata High School Athletic Banquet on May 21, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. as requested by Nina Gutierrez.

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

ORDER APPROVING FUNDS FOR DIESEL FOR DUMP TRUCKS AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT USED AT SAN YGNACIO LANDFILL

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve funds for diesel fuel for dump trucks/heavy equipment used at the San Ygnacio landfill to be funded from line item #10-595-330 as requested by Juan Alvaro Garza.

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

ORDER APPROVING PURCHASE OF BRUSH CHIPPER FROM VERMEER EQUIPMENT COMPANY

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the purchase of a brush chipper from Vermeer Equipment Company at a price of \$35,200 from account 15-621-595 - Caliche Pct. 4 as requested by Commissioner 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 STREET LIGHT AT ROMA STREET

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve one (1) street light at Roma St. for Pct. 4 as requested by Commissioner 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 TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE FOR PRECINCT FOUR

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve one temporary employee for Pct. 4 as requested by Commissioner 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 STREET LIGHT AT 142 PUMP ROAD

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve one (1) street light at 142 Pump Rd. as requested by Commissioner Joseph Rathmell, Pct. 3.

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

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON REQUEST BY COMMISSIONER JOSEPH RATHMELL TO CLARIFY TYPES OF DEBRIS THAT RESIDENTS ARE ABLE TO DISPOSE OF AT CITIZENS COLLECTION CENTER

No action was taken on request by Commissioner Joseph Rathmell, Pct. 3, to clarify the type of debris that residents are able to dispose at the Citizens Collection Center/Bins.

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

ORDER APPROVING INSTALLATION OF FOUR SECURITY LIGHTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve four (4) security lights: one (1) at the east end of Trinity Street, last pole on the left side and three (3) at Las Palmas Circle, in front of house No. 6, 13, and 20 marked by orange ribbon as requested by Commissioner Gabriel Villarreal, Pct. 2.

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

ORDER APPROVING STREET LIGHT BETWEEN 16TH AND 20TH STREET

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve one (1) street light between 16th & 20th Street in Medina Addition as requested by Commissioner Gabriel Villarreal, Pct. 2.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL STREET LIGHTS
FOR PRECINCT ONE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve additional street lights for Precinct #1; proposed sites include: corner of Fourth and Flores Ave. (Flores Addition); Villarreal Ave. between Gonzalez and Lozano Streets (Nicholson Addition); corner of Ave A and 3rd Street (Falcon); Falcon Lake Estates East on Willow Cove as requested by Commissioner Jose Emilio Vela, Pct. 1.

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

**NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THE REQUEST BY COMMISSIONER JOSE EMILIO
VELA TO AUTHORIZE TEMPORARY RELOCATION OF ZAPATA COUNTY
LIBRARY STAFF**

No action was taken on the request by Commissioner Jose Emilio Vela, Pct., to authorize a temporary relocation of the Zapata County Library Staff due to health risk at the existing building

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

ORDER APPOINTING AND TRANSFERRING LAURA G. GUERRA TO NUTRITION CENTER AS DIRECTOR OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve appointment and transfer of Laura G. Guerra to the Nutrition Center as Director of Health and Human Services to administer newly funded programs under the South Texas Development Council and Texas Department of Transportation funding as requested by Commissioner Jose Emilio Vela, Pct. 1, effective May 13, 2008.

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

ORDER APPROVING PURCHASE OF ROLLER SHELVES FOR COUNTY CLERK'S RECORDS ROOM FROM CHARLES SCOTT AND/OR HART INTERCIVIC IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$4,730

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve the purchase of roller shelves for County Clerk's records room from Charles Scott and/or Hart InterCivic in the estimated amount of \$4,730. To be paid from the County Clerk's Records Management and Preservation Fund. The stand alone shelves will be used to accommodate record books 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.

ORDER APPROVING INCREASE OF MILEAGE RATE TO .505 CENTS PER MILE AS PER MILEAGE GUIDE

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve to increase the mileage rate to .505 cents per mile as per mileage guide adopted under Texas Government Code Ann. 660.043 (c) (Vernon Supp. 2004) Susan Combs, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts as requested by Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer, effective May 12, 2008.

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

ORDER APPROVING CONTRACT SERVICES WITH FLORES AUDITING FIRM TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO BALANCE CURRENT YEAR FUNDS AND OPERATIONS

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve and contract services with Mr. Jorge Flores (Flores Auditing Firm) to provide assistance to balance current year funds and operations at the County Treasurer's Office (cost will be under \$10,000) as requested by Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of Commissioner Vela, Villarreal and Garza. Commissioner Rathmell Abstained. Motion Carried.

ORDER APPROVING REQUEST TO APPROVE LOWEST BID FOR PROPOSAL OF AIR CONDITIONING UNIT NEEDED AT SHERIFF'S JAIL 911 SYSTEM AND COUNTY AVAYA TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve Ferny's Air Conditioning as the lowest bidder for proposal of Air Conditioning unit needed at the Sheriff's Jail 911 system and County Avaya Telephone System as requested by Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer.

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

PRESENTATION BY U.S. ENERGY SAVINGS CORPORATION FOR PROCUREMENT PROPOSAL FOR ELECTRIC POWER SUPPLY FOR ZAPATA COUNTY

Mr. Raymond Rodriguez, U.S. Energy Savings Corporation, gave a presentation for Procurement Proposal for Electric Power Supply for Zapata County as requested by Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer.

PRESENTATION OF PROCUREMENT PROPOSAL BY P3 (PUBLIC POWER POOL) FOR ELECTRIC POWER SUPPLY FOR ZAPATA COUNTY

Donald Lee, Executive Director of P3 (Public Power Pool) from Austin, gave a presentation of Procurement Proposal for Electric Power Supply for Zapata County as requested by Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer.

ORDER APPROVING ISSUANCE OF LETTER OF CREDIT ON COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL OF SOUTH TEXAS ON BEHALF WITH ITS BANK DEPOSITORY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 30,000.00

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the issuance of a Letter of Credit (LOC), pending contract approval, on Community Action Council of South Texas on behalf of its bank depository in the amount of \$30,000 to be used to fund ongoing community health center, public rural transportation and meals on wheels services in Zapata County as requested by Juan M. Cantu, Executive Director.

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

ORDER APPROVING APPRAISAL FROM MR. VICENTE SEGURA FOR LUCIA RAMIREZ'S PROPERTY

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the appraisal as presented by Vicente Segura for the property owned by Lucia Ramirez in the amount of \$102,000 as requested by Lucia Ramirez and Hilda G. Flores.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REQUEST TO ADOPT RESOLUTION TO
SUPPORT INCREASE IN STATUTORY COUNTY PURCHASING
LIMIT FROM \$25,000 TO \$50,000**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, to oppose request to adopt resolution to support increase in statutory county purchasing limit from \$25,000 to \$50,000. Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the request to adopt resolution to support an increase in the statutory county purchasing limit from \$25,000.00 to \$50,000.00 as requested by County Judge Rosalva Guerra.

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

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the invoices as presented by Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer.

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

REPORTS / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

**Zapata County Medical Group April 2008 monthly report
as requested by Mike Chapa, Indigent Director**

Mr. Mike Chapa presented a written report for April 1 - 31, 2008 Mr. Chapa reported that Dr. Edmundo Garcia continues to come to Zapata. An ambulance crew will be in Zapata to make final arrangements to set up a private ambulance service, scheduled no later than June 7. The cash returned to the County is now \$557,126.64.

Policy Manual Updates/Status as requested by Nellie Treviño

Nellie Treviño gave an update/status report on the Policy Manual Updates. Some of the changes discussed included the possibility of leaving county offices open during lunch hour; sick leave pool, compensatory time, over-time and military duty. Also discussed was the possibility of giving additional annual leave to Zapata county employees that have been with the County for over ten years.

Status report and demonstration on County Website as requested by Roxy Elizondo

Roxy Elizondo demonstrated the Zapata County Website that she is currently working on. The preview website can be found at <http://www.cms.co.zapata.tx.us>.

**Quarterly Status Report for active projects in Zapata County by Mario Gonzalez-Davis
as requested by County Judge Rosalva Guerra**

Mario Gonzalez-Davis gave the quarterly status report for active projects in Zapata County. Written report attached to the minutes.

Report on Higher Education Technology Center

Report by Romeo Salinas reported that while he was attending the delegates convention in Laredo, he asked Congressman Cuellar and Representative Guillen a personal question regarding how we were going to get students into the Higher Technology Center, and was informed that no one would offer classes unless they are a taxing entity.

Cynthia Villarreal stated that Freshman must have at least 12 college hours. Mr. Uribe stated that these classes will save parents a lot of money because students will get through college faster.

**Guadalupe and Lilia Martinez Library (Zapata County Branch)
as requested by Aide R. Garcia and Cynthia Villarreal**

Cynthia Villarreal and Aida Garcia reported that A.L. Benavides Elementary will be relocated for one year at the old Zapata Central during demolition and reconstruction of new A.L. Benavides Elementary. Ms. Villarreal thanked A.L. Benavides Library which also serves as public library. The Library Program will be housed at the Lilia and Guadalupe Martinez Library.

**Update report pertaining to natural gas facilities and drilling near county residential areas
as requested by Commissioner Jose Emilio Vela, Pct. 1**

Commissioner Vela asked if we have an ordinance regarding protection of the residents that live near the drilling operating premises near the pavilion. Mr. Figueroa stated that part of the negotiation was that the area should be fenced.

**As per IRS ruling cellular phones should be a taxable benefit to all County Personnel
as requested by Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer**

Romeo Salinas reported that as per IRS ruling, all cell phones provided by Zapata County to county personnel are considered a benefit and must be taxed.

**Copy of Certificate of Compliance successfully completed 76.75 hours of education
requirement as requested by Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer**

Romeo Salinas submitted a copy of Certificate of Compliance and reported that, pursuant to Section 83.003 of the Texas Local Government Code he has successfully completed 76.75 hours of education requirements.

**Copy of 2007 Certificate of Compliance Public Funds Investment Act under
Chapter 2256 of the Texas Government Code, PFIA, Section
as requested by Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer**

Romeo Salinas, submitted a copy of a 2007 Certificate of Compliance Public Funds Investment Act under Chapter 2256 of the Texas Government Code, PFIA, Section 2256.008. Investment Training and reported that he had successfully completed 74 hours of education requirements.

Communications

Judge Guerra suggested that all departments that collect money provide a quarterly report of the current year's collections together with a copy of the previous year's collections to compare the amounts collected.

ORDER APPROVING LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve line item transfers from: 10-598-330 fuel \$1,000 to 10-598-427 travel \$1,000 to meet budget requirements as requested by Hector F. Lopez, Jr.; from 80-600-450 \$5,162.00 to 80-600-330 \$5,162.00; from 80-600-569 \$5,294.52 to 80-600-330 \$5,294.52 to meet budget requirements as requested by Carlos Treviño, Jr., Water/Sewer Director; from 10-475-310 Office Supplies \$2,000 to 10-475-392 Miscellaneous to meet budget requirements as requested by Said Alfonso Figueroa, County Attorney; transfer \$7,637.29 from 10-409-730 to 10-409-4700; transfer \$4,714.94 from 15-621-593 to 15-621-555; transfer \$54,964 from 10-409-706 to 10-409-465; and transfer \$5,478.70 from 10-409-400 to 10-435-400 as requested by Teo Garza, County Auditor.

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.

ROSALVA GUERRA, COUNTY JUDGE
ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

ATTEST:

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