

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

Be it remembered, that on this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 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

**ABSENT SEPTEMBER 8, 2008 ONLY:**

Jose Emilio Vela	Commissioner, Precinct No. 1
Romeo Salinas	County Treasurer

**VISITORS:** Doroteo Garza, Ramiro V. Martinez, Mario Gonzalez-Davis, Nellie Treviño, Teresa Hein, Maria Eugenia Gutierrez, Alonzo M. Lopez, Jose F. Mendoza, Jose A. Dodier, Luis L. Gonzalez, San Juanita Sanchez, Amanda Gonzalez, Delia Mendoza, Alicia C. Villarreal, Diana C. Villarreal, Gilberto Gamez, Jacob Rathmell, Peggy Umphres Moffett, Aurelio Villarreal, Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., Karran Westerman, J. Gilberto Gonzalez, Dorothy Pizaña, Juan Alvaro Garza, Jr., Hector F. Lopez, Jr., Juan Jose Meza, Roberta Meza, Maria I. Gutierrez, Olga M. Flores, Hildegardo E. Flores, Rodney Cooper, H. Yvonne Trapp, Avon Hatfield, Celia Balderas, Teresa Hinojosa, Edna Umphres, Amelda Garcia, Carmen Reyes, Rosalinda Gonzalez, Rosa Elena Martinez, Angel Garza, Rolando Villarreal, Xavier Villarreal, Joel Ruiz, Antonio Mendoza, Dora M. Ramos, Abigail Lopez-Rubio, Rebecca Ramirez Palomo, Marco Serna, Sylvia Mendoza, Laura D. Guerra, Hector M. Medina, Mike Dickerson, Jerica Sanchez, Craig Bigler, and Michael R. Bonoan.

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

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:28 A. M.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF MAY 16, JULY 11,  
AUGUST 11 AND AUGUST 12, 2008**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve the Minutes of **May 16, July 11, August 11 and August 12, 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.

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORT BY LUIS LAURO GONZALEZ  
TAX ASSESSOR COLLECTOR**

Luis Lauro Gonzalez, Tax Collector Assessor Collector, reported ad valorem tax collections in the amount of \$99,422.73 and highway and boat fees in the amount of \$13,836.11. Written report is attached.

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORT BY DORA M. RAMOS DISTRICT CLERK**

Dora M. Ramos reported a total of \$16,717 collected for the month of August 2008. Written report is attached.

**ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY RAMIRO V. MARTINEZ TO ADOPT  
COUNTY BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009**

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to TABLE the request by Ramiro V. Martinez, County Consultant to adopt the County Budget for Fiscal Year 2008-2009.

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 RAMIRO V. MARTINEZ TO APPROVE  
TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009**

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to TABLE request by Ramiro V. Martinez, County Consultant, to approve the tax rate of \$0.736096 per \$100 valuation for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 by executing an "Order Setting the Tax Rate for FY 2008-2009".

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 RAMIRO V. MARTINEZ TO SET SALARIES  
AND NUMBER OF POSITIONS BY APPROVING GENERAL ORDER OF  
PERSONNEL FOR FY 2008-2009**

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to TABLE request by Ramiro V. Martinez, County Consultant, to set the salaries and the number of positions by approving the General Order of Personnel for FY 2008-2009.

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 RAMIRO V. MARTINEZ TO APPROVE  
OPERATIONAL GENERAL ORDER FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009**

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to TABLE request by Ramiro V. Martinez, County Consultant, to approve the "Operational General Order for Fiscal Year 2008-2009.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TWO SECURITY LIGHTS ONE BETWEEN 1307 AND 1303 MAHOGANY STREET AND ONE AT 2402 BRAZOS STREET**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve two (2) security lights, one between 1307 and 1303 Mahogany Street and one at 2402 Brazos Street, in Zapata, Texas 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 SECURITY LIGHT ON 19<sup>TH</sup> STREET ACROSS FROM 1813 ALAMO STREET ON EXISTING POLE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve security light on 19<sup>th</sup> Street, across from 1813 Alamo Street on existing pole 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 SECURITY LIGHT AT 402 ZAPATA STREET BETWEEN 4<sup>TH</sup> AND ZAPATA STREET ON EXISTING POLE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve a security light at 402 Zapata Street, between 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Zapata Street on existing pole as requested by Commissioner 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 TWO SECURITY LIGHTS ONE ON 1413 BRAVO STREET AND ONE AT 1415 BRAVO STREET ON EXISTING POLE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve two (2) security lights, one at 1413 Bravo Street and one at 1415 Bravo Street, between 4<sup>th</sup> and Bravo Street, on existing pole as requested by Commissioner Norberto Garza, Pct. 2.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TO RATIFY AUTHORITY OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO CLEAN EASEMENTS IN STREETS AND ROADS TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS WHICH COULD RESULT IN LIABILITY FOR COUNTY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve to ratify the authority of County Commissioners to clean easements in streets and roads to prevent accidents which could result in liabilities for the County 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 CHANGE ORDER IN PHASE I PAVING PROJECT PRECINCT THREE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a change order in Phase I, paving project, Precinct Three. Siesta Lane, Madison Lane, Oak Lane, Clearview Lane, County Road/Park Lane, Bluff Road, South Jab, Pump Road and Mesquite Drive

will be deleted from the contract with Coastal Resources 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.

**ORDER APPROVING REQUEST FOR BIDS ON PHASE I PAVING PROJECT IN  
PRECINCT THREE FOR STREETS IN FALCON LAKE ESTATES WEST**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve request for bids on Phase I paving project in Precinct Three for the following streets in Falcon Lake Estates West: Cerrito Drive, Ladera Drive, Monte Drive, Loma Drive and County Road as requested by Commissioner 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 \$37,000 FOR PURCHASE OF ASPHALT TO OVERLAY  
STREETS IN PRECINCT FOUR**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve \$37,000 for the purchase of asphalt to overlay streets in Precinct Four. This is to be paid from Caliche Pct. 4, 15-621-595 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 AUTHORIZING SAID ALFONSO FIGUEROA, COUNTY  
ATTORNEY TO SEEK DEVELOPMENT OF ORDINANCE TO ENACT A  
CURFEW IN ZAPATA COUNTY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to authorize Said Alfonso Figueroa, County Attorney, to seek the development of an ordinance to enact a curfew in Zapata County to reduce the number of juveniles out late at night 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 AUTHORIZING COUNTY TREASURER AND COUNTY AUDITOR TO  
CLOSE ALL ACCOUNTS AND MAKE ALL NECESSARY LINE ITEM TRANSFERS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to authorize County Treasurer and County Auditor to close all accounts and make all necessary line item transfers as requested by County Auditor Doroteo N. Garza.

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

**ORDER AUTHORIZING RATHMELL ENGINEERS AND PBS&J,  
PROJECT ENGINEERS TO TAKE BIDS ON ZAPATA COUNTY  
WATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to authorize Rathmell Engineers and PBS&J, Project Engineers, to take bids on the Zapata County

Water Treatment Plant Project on October 15, 2008 as requested by Water/Sewer Director, Carlos Treviño, Jr.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REQUEST BY PROJECTS COORDINATOR MARIO GONZALEZ-DAVIS AND MANUEL HINOJOSA ARCHITECT TO ADVERTISE FOR CONSTRUCTION MANGER FOR ZAPATA COUNTY MUSEUM**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve request by Mario Gonzalez-Davis Projects Coordinator and Manuel Hinojosa, Architect to advertise for Construction Manger for the Zapata County Museum.

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

**ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION ACCEPTING FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR \$2,023,540 BETWEEN ZAPATA COUNTY AND TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR BORDER COLONIA ACCESS PROGRAM 3<sup>RD</sup> CALL**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a resolution accepting the Funding Agreement for \$2,023,540 between Zapata County and Texas Department of Transportation for Border Colonia Access Program 3<sup>rd</sup> Call as requested by Project Coordinator 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 EXTENSION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH RATHMELL ENGINEERING AND PUIG ENGINEERING SERVICES FROM 2<sup>ND</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> CALL FOLLOWING TXDOT 3<sup>RD</sup> CALL REGULATIONS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the extension of professional services from 2<sup>nd</sup> call to 3<sup>rd</sup> call, following the TxDOT 3<sup>rd</sup> call regulations as requested by Project Coordinator Mario Gonzalez-Davis.

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

**ORDER APPROVING EXTENSION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH MARIO GONZALEZ-DAVIS FOR ADMINISTRATION AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FROM 2<sup>ND</sup> CALL TO 3<sup>RD</sup> CALL FOLLOWING TXDOT 3<sup>RD</sup> CALL REGULATIONS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve extension of professional service contract with Mario Gonzalez-Davis for administration and construction management services from 2<sup>nd</sup> call to 3<sup>rd</sup> call, following the TxDot 3<sup>rd</sup> call regulations as requested by Project Coordinator Mario Gonzalez-Davis.

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

**ORDER AWARDING CONTRACT TO LOWEST BIDDER FOR HOUSING PRESERVATION GRANT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to award contract to Three (3) General Construction and to David Reyna, the lowest bidders for the Housing Preservation Grant, for Phase II to build five homes as requested by Dioni M. Hernandez.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TO HIRE SECRETARY TO REPLACE VACANT POSITION AT FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve to hire Lorena Navarro as secretary to replace the vacant position at the Fire Department at \$10.00 per hour as requested by Fire Chief Juan Jose Meza.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PROCLAMATION FOR PATRIOT DAY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve to proclaim September 11, 2008 as "Patriot Day" in Zapata County as requested by Fire Chief Juan Jose Meza.

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 CHIEF JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER SANDY J. PIPPIN-GOMEZ TO APPROVE PAYMENT INCREASE TO JUVENILE REFEREE RICARDO SOLIZ**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to TABLE the request by Chief Probation Officer Sandy J. Pippin-Gomez, to approve the payment increase to Juvenile Referee, Ricardo Soliz, from line item 31-570-410, in the amount of \$1,000.00, resulting in \$9,585.00.

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 MANUEL GONZALEZ, JR. TO APPROVE NECESSARY CHANGES AND COSTS TO COMPLETE ZAPATA COUNTY RAW WATER INTAKE PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to TABLE request by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., to approve the necessary changes and their cost to complete the Zapata County Raw Water Intake Project.

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

**ORDER APPROVING EXTENDED LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR SENAIDA GRANGER AND TO HIRE TEMPORARY SUBSTITUTE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve extended leave of absence for Senaida Granger and to hire a temporary substitute, effective September 8, 2008, as requested by Tax Assessor/Collector Luis L. Gonzalez.

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

**ORDER APPROVING ESTER GARCIA (TEMPORARY) FOR PATRICIA GARZA**

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve Ester Garcia (temporary) for Patricia Garza, starting Sept. 9, 2008 at \$6.55 per hour at 30 hours per week as requested by Nutrition Center Director, Carmen R. Reyes.

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

**ORDER APPROVING HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR FY 2008-2009**

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve the proposed holiday schedule for FY 2008-2009, as recommended by Elected and Appointed Officials as requested by Nellie Treviño.

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

**ORDER APPROVING USE OF ZAPATA COUNTY PAVILION BY ZAPATA HIGH SCHOOL MARIACHI HALCON**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the use of the Zapata County Pavilion by the Zapata High School Mariachi Halcon on November 2, 2008 as requested by County Judge Rosalva Guerra.

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

**ORDER APPROVING 07-08 FUNDING REQUEST FOR ZAPATA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the 07-08 funding request for the Zapata County Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$68,858 as requested by Zapata County Chamber of Commerce and Convention & Visitor Center.

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 ZAPATA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND CONVENTION AND VISITOR CENTER TO APPROVE 08-09 FUNDING**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to TABLE request by Zapata County Chamber of Commerce and Convention and Visitor Center to approve the 08-09 funding request for the Zapata County Chamber of Commerce of \$180,000.00.

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 ZAPATA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER, INC. TO APPROVE 08-09 FUNDING**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to TABLE request by the Zapata County Economic Development Center, Inc. to approve the 08-09 funding request and investment to the Zapata County Economic Development Center of \$105,000.00.

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

**ORDER ADOPTING ZAPATA COUNTY SESQUICENTENNIAL PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 7 - 9, 2008 AS SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION DAYS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to adopt the Zapata County Sesquicentennial Proclamation designating November 7-9, 2008 as Sesquicentennial Celebration days as requested by Nellie Treviño and Roberto Montes.

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

**ORDER ADOPTING ZAPATA COUNTY GOODWILL AMBASSADOR RESOLUTION NAMING RICARDO (RICKY) MUÑOZ, RENE MARTINEZ, SERGIO SERNA AND GRUPO INTOCABLE AS AMBASSADORS TO ZAPATA COUNTY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to adopt Zapata County Goodwill Ambassador Resolution naming Ricardo (Ricky) Muñoz, Rene Martinez, Sergio Serna and Grupo Intocable as Ambassadors to Zapata County as requested by Nellie Treviño and Roberto Montes.

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

**ORDER ADOPTING ZAPATA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE TASK FORCE- OPERATION LONE STAR GRANT #1982101 FOR FY 08-09**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to adopt the Zapata County Sheriff's Office Task Force-Operation Lone Star- Grant # 1982101 for FY 08-09 as requested by Captain Sermino and Sheriff Sigifredo Gonzalez.

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 Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the following line item transfers:

FROM:	Compactor Repairs	10-595-484	\$4,000.00
TO:	Repairs & Maintenance	10-595-456	\$4,000.00
FROM:	San Ygnacio Landfill Permit	10-595-482	\$2,000.00
TO:	Materials Disposition	10-595-483	\$2,000.00

to meet budget requirements as requested by Environmental Health Inspector Juan Alvaro Garza.



FROM:	Travel	10-665-427	\$658.43
TO:	Supplies	10-665-310	\$658.43

as requested by County Extension Dept. Head, Rosa Icela Mejia.

FROM:	Paving for Cemetery Pct.1	15-621-605	\$6,179.69
TO:	Operating Supplies & Fuel	15-621-330	\$6,179.69
FROM:	Paving for Cemetery Pct. 3	15-621-596	\$24,799.73
TO:	Operating Supplies & Fuel	15-621-330	\$24,799.73

to meet budget requirements as requested by County Shop Foreman, Jose F. Mendoza.

FROM:	Juvenile Detention	31-570-512	\$5,000.00
TO:	Workshops/Travel	31-570-427	\$5,000.00
FROM:	Juvenile Detention	31-570-512	\$2,000.00
TO:	Supplies	31-570-310	\$2,000.00

to meet budget requirements as requested by Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, Sandy J. Pippin-Gomez.

FROM:	Vehicle Expense	10-475-454	\$1,418.00
TO:	Misc.	10-475-392	\$1,418.00
FROM:	Travel Expense	10-475-427	\$618.00
TO:	Misc.	10-475-392	\$618.00
FROM:	Books & Periodicals	10-475-390	\$528.00
TO:	Misc.	10-475-392	\$528.00

as requested by County Attorney, Saíd Alfonso Figueroa.

FROM:	Electricity	80-600-443	\$3,000.00
TO:	Fuel & Lubrication	80-600-330	\$3,000.00

as requested by Water/Sewer Director, Carlos Treviño, Jr.

FROM:	Fuel & Lubricants	10-550-331	\$1,274.36
	Workshops/Travel	10-550-428	\$608.18
	Repairs	10-550-455	\$553.83
TO:	Supplies	10-550-311	\$2,436.37

need to buy equipment for his new unit as requested by Henry Martinez, Jr.

#### I & A PROGRAM

FROM:	Repairs & Maintenance	37-645-336	\$350.00
TO:	Travel	37-645-427	\$350.00

#### NUTRITION PROGRAM

FROM:	Travel	38-647-427	\$300.00
TO:	Non-Food Consumable	38-647-467	\$300.00

to meet budget requirements as requested by Nutrition Center Director, Carmen R. Reyes.

FROM:	Chlorine & Chemicals	08-602-341	\$6,000.00
TO:	Repairs & Maintenance	08-602-336	\$6,000.00

to meet budget requirements as requested by Wastewater Dept. Supervisor, Eloy Chapa.

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

**MOTION TO RECESS UNTIL SEPTEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2008 MADE BY COMMISSIONER GARZA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER VILLARREAL**

**MOTION TO RECONVENE WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER VILLARREAL, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER VELA**

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
Romeo Salinas	County Treasurer

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER SEPTEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2008 AT 9:02 A.M.**

**ORDER APPROVING REQUEST BY ZAPATA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND CONVENTION AND VISITOR CENTER TO APPROVE 08-09 FUNDING REQUEST**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the 08-09 funding request for the Zapata County Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$123,000.00 as requested by Zapata County Chamber of Commerce and Convention and Visitor Center.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REQUEST BY ZAPATA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER, INC. TO APPROVE 08-19 FUNDING REQUEST**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the request by Zapata County Economic Development Center, Inc. approving the 08-09 funding request and investment to the Zapata County Economic Development Center of \$80,000.00, with the stipulation that there will be one full time employee only, there will be audits, and open vacancies will be filled.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of Commissioner Rathmell and Vela, and Judge Guerra.

Commissioners Villarreal and Garza voted AGAINST, Motion carried.

**ORDER ADOPTING ELECTRONIC MILEAGE GUIDE UNDER TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE ANN. 660.043 (c) (VERNON SUPP. 2004) RATE .525 AND AUTOMATICALLY ADOPT ANY FUTURE CHANGES MADE BY STATE COMPTROLLERS MILEAGE GUIDE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to adopt the electronic mileage guide under the TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. 660.043 (c) (Vernon Supp. 2004) rate .585 and to automatically adopt any future changes made by the State Comptrollers mileage guide as requested 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 REVISED SHERIFF'S AND CONSTABLE'S FEES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2009**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve revised Sheriff's and Constable's Fees for Calendar Year 2009 as requested by County Sheriff Sigifredo Gonzalez.

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 COUNTY SHERIFF SIGIFREDO GONZALEZ TO APPROVE SALARY ADJUSTMENTS FOR SHERIFF'S OFFICE DUE TO REORGANIZATION**

**ORDER AUTHORIZING SHERIFF TO PURCHASE PATROL CARS FROM LINE ITEM 10-695-532 (RADIO TOWER) IN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$130,000**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to authorize sheriff to purchase patrol cars from line item 10-695-532 (radio tower) in an amount not to exceed \$130,000 as requested by County Sheriff Sigifredo Gonzalez.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT INCREASE TO JUVENILE REFEREE RICARDO SOLIZ IN AMOUNT OF \$1,000.00**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve payment increase to Juvenile Referee, Ricardo Soliz from line item 31-570-410, in the amount of \$1,000.00, resulting in \$9,585.00 as requested by Chief Juvenile Probation Officer Sandy J. Pippin-Gomez.

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

**MOTION TO RECESS UNTIL SEPTEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2008 MADE BY COMMISSIONER RATHMELL, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER VILLARREAL**

**MOTION TO RECONVENE WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER VELA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER VILLARREAL**

**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
Romeo Salinas	County Treasurer

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER SEPTEMBER 10, 2008 AT 1:30 P.M.**

**ORDER ADOPTING COUNTY BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to adopt and approve the County Budget for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 as presented and as requested by County Consultant Ramiro V. Martinez.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009**

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the tax rate of \$0.736096 per \$100 valuation for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 by executing an "Order Setting the Tax Rate for FY 2008-2009" as requested by County Consultant Ramiro V. Martinez, as follows:

<b>General fund.....</b>	<b>0.589359</b>
<b>Interest and Sinking Fund. ....</b>	<b>0.056092</b>
<b>Special Road &amp; Bridge. ....</b>	<b>0.075300</b>
<b><u>F.M./Flood Control. ....</u></b>	<b><u>0.015345</u></b>
<b>TOTAL TAX</b>	<b>0.736096</b>

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

**ORDER SETTING SALARIES AND NUMBER OF POSITIONS BY APPROVING GENERAL ORDER OF PERSONNEL FOR FY 2008-2009**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the request by County Consultant Ramiro Martinez to set the salaries and the number of positions by approving the General Order of Personnel for FY 2008-2009. There are is a total of 384 employees in all funds, including 279 employees in the General Fund. Commissioner Vela clarified that employees Adolio Bustamante and Ernesto J. Guerra should be under his budget. Employees received either \$1,000 or \$500 appropriated and covered in the budget as presented. Commissioner Villarreal asked Mr. Martinez about the 3% for hazardous employment. Mr. Martinez clarified that the 3% was included in the budget as approved and he would need another month to take it off and

rework the budget. Commissioner Rathmell also stated that the 3% was not a “given,” however they would let it go for this year, but would be discussed in future budgets.

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

**ORDER APPROVING OPERATIONAL GENERAL ORDER FOR  
FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell, to approve request by County Consultant Ramiro V. Martinez to approve the “Operational General Order for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. Sylvia Mendoza was added as Appointed Official on page 3. Mr. Martinez recommended that the county contribution for the Water Development Board Loan (for Water Plant and Sewer Plant) be placed in an interest bearing CD.

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

**COMMENTS**

Said Alfonso Figueroa, County Attorney commended the Court for the work as a team in the interest of our County.

**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.

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ROSALVA GUERRA, COUNTY JUDGE  
ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

ATTEST:

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