

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

Be it remembered, that on this the 10th day of November, 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
Romeo Salinas	County Treasurer
Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk

VISITORS: Ramiro V. Martinez, Mario Gonzalez-Davis, Nellie Ramirez, Shirley Elliott, Darrell Elliott, Juan J. Meza, Jose F. Francisco Mendoza, Mike Dickerson, Dorothy Pizaña, Manuel Hinojosa, Paco Mendoza, and Peggy Umphres.

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

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:00. M.

PRAYER BY PASTOR ROGER MILLER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS

Judge Guerra thanked Commissioners' Court for the cooperation in the Sesquicentennial Celebration. She also read the Certificate of Proclamation that was sent to Zapata County by Gov. Perry.

A plaque was presented to Jose Francisco Mendoza by the Sesquicentennial Committee for his support and assistance in the celebration.

Commissioner Vela commented that the county employees that worked were volunteers and did not get paid. He felt that they should be paid. Judge Guerra agreed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF OCTOBER 14, 2008

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the Minutes of **October 14, 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**

Mr. Luis Lauro Gonzalez, Tax Assessor Collector, reported that \$11,905,343.10 were collected for the month of October. Collections for the Hotel Motel Tax were in the amount of \$17,909.07.

**ORDER ACCEPTING RESIGNATION OF LARRY RAMIREZ AND TO ALLOW
FIRE CHIEF TO HIRE ONE PARAMEDIC**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve and accept the resignation of Larry Ramirez and to allow the Fire Chief to hire one paramedic at \$ 12.39 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 RESOLUTION PROHIBITING CERTAIN
FIREWORKS IN ZAPATA COUNTY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve a resolution prohibiting certain fireworks in the area of Zapata County (County Wide) 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 TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT OF JUAN LONGORIA
FROM WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve termination of employment for Juan Longoria from the Wastewater Department. Juan Longoria abandoned his position on 08-04-2008 without proper notification to his immediate supervisor or his utility director and has not reported back to work since, as requested by Carlos Trevino, Jr. Water/Waste Water Director.

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

**ORDER APPROVING SERVICES OF JEFF SNOWDEN, CAPEX CONSULTING
GROUP TO PROVIDE UPDATE TO WATER AND WASTEWATER RATE STUDY AND
ASSIST COUNTY IN DEVELOPMENT OF WATER ORDINANCE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to engage the services of Jeff Snowden, CAPEX Consulting Group to provide an update to the Water and Wastewater rate study and to assist the County in the development of a Water Ordinance for the Water Plant. Fee will not exceed \$ 16,500.00 (10-409-730) as requested by 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 APPOINTMENT OF MANUEL GONZALEZ AS ENGINEER TO REPAIR JENNINGS ROAD AND PEDERNAL ROAD

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the appointment of Manuel Gonzalez as the engineer to repair the Jennings Road and the Pedernal Road as requested by 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 AND AWARDING BID FOR LOW BOY TRAILER TO RUSH TRUCKING COMPANY

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve and award bid for a low boy trailer to Rush Trucking Company at a price of \$64,000.00 as requested by 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 ZAPATA COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL 2008-2009

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the Zapata County Juvenile Probation Policy and Procedure Manual as requested by Sandy J. Pippin-Gomez, Chief Juvenile Probation.

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

ORDER NAMING ARGUS ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, LLC, AS INSPECTOR FOR ENFORCEMENT OF ZAPATA NOISE ORDINANCE ABATEMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve and name Argus Environmental Consultants, LLC, as inspector for the enforcement of the Zapata County Noise Ordinance Abatement 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 PERMISSION TO USE COUNTY PLAZITA FOR "LA RANCHERITA" GRAND OPENING

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve and grant permission to use County Plazita for "La Rancherita" Grand Opening as requested by Paco Mendoza, Executive Director, Zapata County Chamber of Commerce.

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

ORDER APPROVING RESIGNATION OF PATRICIA GARZA, SITE MANAGER AT SAN YGNACIO NUTRITION CENTER AND APPROVE TO HIRE ROSARIO GARZA AS SITE MANAGER

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the resignation of Patricia Garza, site manager, at the San Ygnacio Nutrition Center and approve to hire of Rosario Garza as site manager at \$7.25 per hour for 6 hours a day, effective immediately as requested by Carmen Reyes.

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 LIGHT AT
307 JUAREZ AVENUE IN SAN YGNACIO, TEXAS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve installation of a street light at 307 Juarez Avenue in the town of San Ygnacio, 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 INSTALLATION OF SECURITY LIGHTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve installation of security lights at 1510 Alamo and Guerrero Street, pole exists on Guerrero Street; 816 Diaz Street between 7th and 10th Street, pole exists; Laredo Street, between 4th and 7th Street, pole exists, as requested by Norberto Garza, Commissioner, Pct. 4.

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 JUDGE ROSALVA GUERRA
TO APPROVE CURRENT TCDRS PROVISION PLAN WITH NO CHANGES FOR
MEMBERS OR APPROVE AUTHORIZATION TO CHANGE TCDRS PLAN
PROVISIONS AS PREPARED BY TCDRS REPRESENTATIVE
(ACTION WAS TAKEN 10/14/2008)**

**ORDER APPROVING REQUEST FOR BIDS FOR DURA-LAST ROOFING
SYSTEM OR EQUIVALENT FOR COUNTY JAIL. AIRPORT HANGAR
AND LIBRARY BUILDINGS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the request for bids for a Dura-Last Roofing System or equivalent for the County Jail, Airport Hanger and Library buildings 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 BID FOR PRECINCT 4 PARK PAVILION

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the bid of \$76,692 by Fig-Co Steel Buildings, being the lowest bidder for the Pct. 4 Park Pavilion 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 COUNTY'S PARTICIPATION IN RAMP TXDOT
AVIATION GRANT PROGRAM TO COVER 50% OF
GENERAL AIRPORT MAINTENANCE EXPENSE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the County's participation in the RAMP TxDOT Aviation grant program to cover 50% of the cost of

general airport maintenance expenses up to \$50,000.00 of State matching funds 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 TO TABLE REQUEST BY COMMISSIONER JOE RATHMELL, ZAPATA COUNTY EDC, TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE NAMING RIGHTS FOR SCENIC OVERLOOK PAVILION AT FALCON LAKE PARK AND BOAT RAMP TO CHESAPEAKE ENERGY CORP.

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza to table request by Commissioner Joe Rathmell, Zapata County Economic Development Center, Inc. to consider and approve naming rights for the Scenic Overlook Pavilion at the Falcon Lake Park & Boat Ramp to Chesapeake Energy Corp. in consideration for the financial gift of \$25,000.00 donated on September 24, 2008. (The gift represents the estimated cost of construction for the pavilion).

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

ORDER APPOINTING RAMIRO V. MARTINEZ TO SERVE AS DIRECTOR ON THE ZAPATA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to appoint Ramiro V. Martinez to serve as Director on the Zapata County Economic Development Center, Inc. Board of Directors as requested by Commissioner Joe Rathmell, Zapata County Economic Development Center Inc.

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

ORDER APPROVING AUDIT FOR ZAPATA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve and order audit for Zapata Economic Development Center (funds to be used out of account number 10-409-737) as requested by County Judge, Rosalva Guerra. Audit will be delivered to the Court by Friday, November 14, 2008.

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

ORDER APPROVING CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK FOR ZAPATA COUNTY MUSEUM SUBMITTED BY BOBBY WHATLEY

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the contract for construction management at risk for the Zapata County Museum, submitted by Bobby Whatley, Vice President, of PM2I, as recommended by Manuel Hinojosa, Architect 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 CONTRACT WITH MOTOROLA FOR CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF COMMUNICATION TOWER UNDER FY 2007 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve contract with Motorola for the construction and installation of the communication tower located at 23rd Avenue and Jackson Street under the FY 2007 State Homeland Security Grant Program in the amount not to exceed \$240,897.99 as requested by County Sheriff Sigifredo Gonzalez, Jr. Contract will be approved pending review of final contract by County Attorney Said Alfonso Figueroa and Sheriff Sigifredo Gonzalez, Jr., the contract shall include the demolishing of old tower. Committee to review contract: Commissioner Norberto Garza, Said Alfonso Figueroa, and 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 FOR ZAPATA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE TASK FORCE -OPERATION BORDER STAR GRANT #1982102

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve a resolution for Zapata County Sheriff's Office Task Force- Operation Border Star - Grant # 1982102 as requested by County 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 TO HIRE AN ASSISTANT TO RENE GARCILAZO

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve to hire an assistant for Rene Garcilazo, on contract basis for three months at minimum wage, as requested by Rene Garcilazo.

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

ORDER APPROVING TO HIRE BETO MEJIA, TEMPORARILY, AS CONSTABLE FOR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE FERNANDO MUÑOZ TO FILL VACANCY

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve hiring of Beto Mejia, temporarily, as Constable for Justice of the Peace Fernando Muñoz to fill vacancy as requested by J.P. Fernando Muñoz.

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

MONTHLY REPORT OF ZAPATA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER, INC.

Peggy Umphres-Moffett, Zapata County Economic Development Center, Inc., submitted her written monthly report. The new office will be located at 1st Avenue and Delmar and will be shared with the Texas Workforce. Ms. Umphres-Moffet also reported that the audit will be delivered by Friday, November 14, 2008.

PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL ON PROPOSED HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL FOR BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD INSURANCE PLANS

Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer presented proposal for Health Insurance Renewal for Blue Cross and Blue Shield Insurance Plans.

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza to approve proposed Health Insurance Renewal for Blue Cross and Blue Shield Insurance Plans effective December 1, 2008 to November 30, 2009 as requested by Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer. With the removal of the broker, there will be a 0.30% decrease in premiums.

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

REPORT ON STATUS OF ROMEO T. FLORES PARK FROM NEGRETE & KOLAR

Andres Mata with Negrete & Kolar gave report on status of the Romeo T. Flores Park. Mr. Mata reported that the retaining wall and steel structures are in place. Fabric canopy will soon be in place. Pool is almost completed. Sidewalks have been installed. Picnic tables with canopies will soon be in place. Ball parks are in place. A problem with the soil was encountered and is being addressed. The pool area will be fenced. Expected completion date is January 2009.

ORDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION TO COVER BORDER HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve and adopt a resolution to cover the Border Hazard Mitigation Plan as requested by Larry Dovalina.

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

County Judge Rosalva Guerra, announced that the Falcon Sesquicentennial Committee donated a cake for everyone to enjoy, it is located at the rotunda.

MOTION TO RECESS UNTIL 2:05 P.M. WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GARZA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER VELA

COMMISSIONER VILLARREAL AND COUNTY ATTORNEY SAID ALFONSO FIGUEROA WERE EXCUSED FOR THE AFTERNOON

MOTION TO RECONVENE AT 2:05 P.M. WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER VELA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GARZA

ORDER APPROVING CONTRACT FOR MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR ZAPATA HIGHER EDUCATION ADVANCE TECHNOLOGY CENTER ORCA AND EDA PROJECT

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the contract for Management Services for the Zapata Higher Education Advance Technology Center ORCA and EDA Project as submitted by Mario Gonzalez,-Davis 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 CONTRACT FOR ARCHITECT SERVICES FOR ZAPATA
HIGHER EDUCATION ADVANCE TECHNOLOGY CENTER ORCA
AND EDA PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the contract for Architect Services for the Zapata Higher Education Advance Technology Center ORCA and EDA Project as submitted by ERO International 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.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Rathmell 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-BONAN
COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO CLERK
OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF
ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS