

**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 December, 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, Auddy Hernandez, Nellie R. Treviño, Brian J. Martinez, Juan J. Meza, Nellie R. Treviño, Maria I. Gutierrez, Roger Miller, Joyce Currington, Sean Kamber, Alfonso Casso, Jr., Juan Soliz, Dr. Jesse J. Olivarez, Jan Williams, Ricardo Ramirez, Mark Alvarenga, Maricia Perez Rodriguez, Peggy U. Moffett, Luis L. Gonzalez, Facundo Paredes, Manuel Gonzalez, Jose Peña, and Hector Uribe.

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

**ORDER APPROVING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 13, 2012, NOVEMBER 19, 2012 AND
NOVEMBER 26, 2012**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the Minutes of **November 13, 2012, November 19, 2012 and November 26, 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

Dr. David Brown, ZTEC Dean, reported that several core curriculum courses will be offered via distance education for the Spring 2013 semester. This is the wrapping up of projects and making use of the available technology. Dr. Brown stated that EDC has funds available.

Mr. Hector Uribe advised the court that Legislature will convene on January 8, 2013. This session will include a budget surplus. Mr. Uribe will come back at the first regular meeting in January 2013 with a legislative agenda which will include additional regulations for 8 liners.

Peggy Umphres-Moffet reminded the court that a power breakfast will be held on Wednesday, December 12. The key speaker will be Hector Uribe, who will discuss the legislative process.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

MONTHLY REPORT OF ZAPATA FAMILY MEDICAL CLINIC

Mr. Sean Kamber of Laredo Medical Center presented Commissioners Court with the monthly report for November 2012. The number of patient has increased, however, this is a seasonal situation that will continue during the Winter months.

Mr. Alfonso Casso, Jr., with the South Texas Food Bank, addressed the court regarding the Kid's Café. He explained that the Kid's Café consists of an after school program that provides snacks between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. The Guadalupe and Lilia Martinez Foundation will contribute \$10,000.00, the County will match the \$10,000.00. The Café will be housed at the Boys and Girls Club location.

Auddy Hernandez, of the County Judge's office, invited the court to the winter distribution by Buckner Foundation. Blankets and jackets will be donated, distribution will take place at the middle school gym on December 11, 2012 between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m.

Luis Lauro Gonzalez, Zapata County Tax Assessor/Collector, reported that the tax office collected \$9,468.04 for Motel - Hotel Tax and total tax collections in the amount of \$1,477,066.80.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

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

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

ORDER APPROVING CHECKS ISSUED

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, 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 all members of the Court.

ORDER APPROVING TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, 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.

REPORT ON STATUS OF BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF ZAPATA

Mr. Ricardo Ramirez, President of Boys and Girls Club, and Mark Alvarenga reported that funds for Boys and Girls Club of Zapata have been exhausted. Since reporting that the club was going to be closed, many concerns have been expressed. The club depends on donations, fund raisers and United Way. Average expenses are approximately \$11,000.00 per month. It was proposed that the County take over the building which would include repairs, utilities and insurance. The budget for 2013 would be reduced to approximately \$8,800 per month. The club currently serves over 100 children.

ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY COMMISSIONER VELA REGARDING PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY RISING COMMUNITIES ALLIANCE TO COORDINATE ZAPATA COUNTY KIDS CAFÉ IN COLLABORATION WITH SOUTH TEXAS FOOD BANK AT ZAPATA BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB BUILDING

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to table request by Commissioner Vela regarding proposal submitted by Rising Communities Alliance to coordinate Zapata County Kids Café in collaboration with South Texas Food Bank at the Zapata Boys and Girls Club building.

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

Discussion: Alliance Members are Jose Peña, Jan Williams and Karen Garcia. The alliance would work together with the South Texas Food Pantry and proposed to take charge of the needs of the community by providing nutritional meals for children. They assist by finding donations which would allow for the services to be provided. The alliance stated that they had visited the Boys and Girls Club, but they were unable to communicate with the employees.

ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY COMMISSIONER VILLARREAL REGARDING CUTTING OF GUTIERREZ STREET IN SAN YGNACIO FOR INSTALLATION OF WATER METER AND SET FEES FOR COST OF REPAIRS

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to table request by Commissioner Villarreal, regarding cutting of Gutierrez Street in San Ygnacio for installation of water meter and set appropriate fees for cost of repairs. Item will be tabled to allow Mr. Manuel Gonzalez sufficient time to come up with the figures.

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

ORDER APPROVING CANCELLATION OF DECEMBER 26, 2012 COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve to cancel the December 26, 2012 Commissioners Court meeting 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.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON REQUEST BY JUDGE RATHMELL TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF ZAPATA COUNTY INVOICES IN THE EVENT THAT DECEMBER 26 MEETING IS CANCELLED

ORDER APPOINTING ROGER MILLER AS VOLUNTEER CHAPLAIN OF ZAPATA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve appointment of Roger Miller as volunteer chaplain of Zapata County Commissioners Court 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 REAFFIRMING RENTAL GUIDELINES AND FEES FOR ZAPATA COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER PREVIOUSLY APPROVED DURING JANUARY 2005 COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve and reaffirm the rental guidelines and fees for the Zapata County Community Center previously approved during the January 10, 2005 Commissioners Court meeting. Mr. Villarreal is authorized to comply with all laws and existing rules at all rental centers 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 PAYMENT OF KEY GOVERNMENT FINANCE, INC. INVOICE
IN ORDER TO AVOID LATE CHARGES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve payment of Key Government Finance, Inc. invoice in order to avoid late charges 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 HIRING OF JESUS R. RAMIREZ IN SLOT #1 SPECIAL ROAD
AND BRIDGE PRECINCT 2**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve hiring of Jesus R. Ramirez in Slot #1, Special Road and Bridge, Precinct 2, at \$8.00 per hour 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 PAY OF \$8.60 PER HOUR FOR FERNANDO MARTINEZ IN
SLOT #5 SPECIAL ROAD AND BRIDGE PRECINCT 2.**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve pay of \$8.60 per hour to Fernando Martinez, in slot #5, Special Road and Bridge, Precinct 2, Labor/Maintenance 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 SUBMISSION OF "AUTHORIZATION TO MAINTAIN TCDRS
PLAN PROVISIONS PLAN YEAR 2013" WITH NO CHANGES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the submission of the "Authorization to Maintain TCDRS plan Provisions Plan Year 2013" with no changes, 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.

**ORDER APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 TO R.P. CONTRACTORS INC. (TWDB
CLEAN WATER LOAN PROGRAM) ZAPATA COUNTY WATERWORKS SLUDGE
DE-WATERING FACILITY CONTRACT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve Change Order No. 1 to R.P. Contractors. Inc. (TWDB Clean Water Loan Program) Zapata County Waterworks Sludge De-watering Facility Contract. The Change Order will add upgrades and repairs to two existing clarifiers and deduct-seeding and water of the disturbed project site area as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

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

**ORDER APPROVING HIRING OF ARMANDO GONZALEZ AT SAN YGNACIO
LANDFILL SLOT #6 AS TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the hiring of Armando Gonzalez at the San Ygnacio Landfill slot #6 as a temporary employee, at \$8.00 per hour as requested by Guillermo Saenz, Environmental Director.

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

**ORDER APPROVING CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT WITH J.C. STODDARD
CONSTRUCTION TO DO DOME ROOF REPLACEMENT OF ZAPATA COUNTY
COURTHOUSE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$420,000 WITH SUBSTANTIAL
COMPLETION OF WORK TO BE DONE WITHIN 160 DAYS AFTER GIVING
NOTICE TO PROCEED ON PROJECT AND ANY MATTERS INCIDENT THERETO**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve construction service contract with J.C. Stoddard in an amount not to exceed Four Hundred and Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$420,000.00) with substantial completion of the work to be done within one hundred sixty days (160) after giving notice to proceed on the project and any matters incident thereto as requested by Fortunato Paredes, Attorney at Law, Escamilla, Poneck, and Cruz, LLP)

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 AT 810 JUAREZ

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the installation of a speed hump at 810 Juarez as requested by Hon. Norberto Garza, Commissioner Precinct 4.

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

**ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF "LOCAL BORDER SECURITY
PROGRAM FY 2013"**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve a Resolution in support of "Local Border Security Program FY 2013" as requested by Mario Elizondo, Zapata County Sheriff's Office.

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 Martinez, 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