

**THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

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

Be it remembered, that on this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of February 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, Auddy M. Hernandez, Nellie R. Treviño, Juan J. Meza, Maria I. Gutierrez, Roger Miller, Paco Mendoza, Joyce Currington, Ardian Mounetou, Ricardo Villarreal, Delia Mendoza and Luis Lauro Gonzalez.

**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**

Nellie Treviño, Personnel Director, announced that she spoke to the Health Commission and vaccines will be available to BCBS insurance participants. They will be here for the school district and will be at the Courthouse late February.

**NO MINUTES PRESENTED AT THIS TIME**

**ORDER APPROVING INVOICES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices as presented by Triunfo Gonzalez, County Auditor. Commissioner Vela commented on an invoice in page 39, which notes the tax office's share of expenses, ¼ of said expense belongs to the school.

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 Elizondo, 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.

**ORDER APPROVING CHECKS ISSUED**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, 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 TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR'S REPORT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve Tax Assessor/Collector's Report. Mr. Gonzalez reported collections for Motel Hotel Tax in the amount of \$26,792.74; tax collections for a YTD total of 74.44%. The tax office has received monies for tax sale from Linebarger, Goggan, Blair and Sampson, however they still need to disburse funds as requested by Hon. Luis Lauro Gonzalez, Tax Assessor/Collector.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT TO R&G INC., DBA SERVEPRO OF NORTHWEST DALLAS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve payment to R&G Clark Inc. DBA ServePro of Northwest Dallas in the amount of \$83,390.05 (EIGHTY-THREE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED NINETY DOLLARS AND FIVE CENTS) 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 TO REDUCE DAILY FEE FOR VISITING DOCTORS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve to reduce the daily fee for visiting doctors from \$175.00 (ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE DOLLARS) to \$50.00 (FIFTY DOLLARS) as requested by: Honorable Joseph 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 REAPPOINTMENT OF KARRAN WESTERMAN AS MEMBER TO RIO GRANDE REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the reappointment of Karran Westerman as a member to the Rio Grande Regional Water Authority 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 APPOINTMENT OF MR. ROBERTO MONTES AND  
MRS. ROSA G. BIGLER AS TWO ADDITIONAL MEMBERS TO  
THE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED LIST OF 2015-2016 ZAPATA COUNTY  
HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve Mr. Roberto Montes and Ms. Rosa G. Bigler as two additional members to the previously approved list of the 2015-2016 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 HIRING OF OVAN ELIZONDO AS  
BACKHOE OPERATOR / WELDER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve hiring of Ovan Elizondo, backhoe operator/welder in vacant #4, dept. #13 at budgeted \$9.59 per hour as requested by Hon. Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Pct. 3.

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

**ORDER APPROVING IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION OF PAYROLL  
DEDUCTIONS FOR EMPLOYEES VOLUNTARILY PARTICIPATING  
IN 457 PLAN OFFERED BY FIRST FINANCIAL**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the immediate implementation payroll deductions for those employees voluntarily participating in 457 plans offered by First Financial as requested by Hon. Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Pct. 3. (Mr. Salinas will not pay for programming; however, this item was approved and will be brought back with cost of programming.)

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

**ORDER APPROVING HIRING OF LABOR/MAINTENANCE EMPLOYEE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, approving hiring of labor/maintenance employee at \$8.82 an hour slot #15-014-slot #4 as requested by Hon. 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 IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM**

18. To hire part-time temporary employees for Precinct 2 to assist in preparation for the Zapata County Fair and to assist in the cleanup as requested by Hon. Olga M. Elizondo, Commissioner Pct. 2

**ORDER APPROVING PURCHASE OF NEW COMPUTER FROM TECHNOLOGY  
FUND FOR PRECINCT 4 JUSTICE OF THE PEACE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the purchase of a new computer from the technology fund for the Pct 4, Justice of the Peace as requested by Hon. Ramon Benavides, JP, Pct. 4.

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

**ORDER APPROVING HIRING OF ABIGAIL LOZANO AS NEW JUSTICE OF THE  
PEACE PRECINCT 4 SECRETARY**

Motion was made by Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the hiring of Abigail Lozano as the new Justice of the Peace, Pct. 4 Secretary as requested by Hon. Ramon Benavides, JP, Pct. 4.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION OF  
FRANCISCO ZARATE VS. COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL OF  
SOUTH TEXAS, EL AL**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve payment of pending litigation on Francisco Zarate vs. Community Action Council of South Texas et al for:

- a. Rosalva Guerra in the amount of \$1,750.86
- b. Doroteo N. Garza in the amount of \$9,510.20
- c. Angel Garza in the amount of \$6,966.27

with the condition that it be the final payment and monies strictly used for attorney's fees as requested by Nellie Trevino, Personnel Department.

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

**NO ACTION TAKEN IN THE FOLLOWING ITEMS**

22. To approve use of the pavilion for the Zapata Middle School Valentine's Dance on February 11, 2015 from 6.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. as requested by Patricia Gonzalez, ZCISD.

23. To approve the use of the Pavilion for the Zapata Middle School Graduation Banquet on May 22, 2015 as requested by Patricia Gonzalez, ZCISD.

**ORDER APPROVING USE OF ZAPATA COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER  
FOR ANNUAL WINTER TEXAN-SENIOR CITIZEN APPRECIATION DAY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the use of the Zapata County Community Center for the Annual Winter Texan-Senior Citizen Appreciation Day. The Chamber will either clean up after the event or pay \$250.00 to the Community Center for County to clean up. Event will take place on Thursday February 19,

2015 from 12.00 to 5.00 p.m. as requested by Paco Mendoza, 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 AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR  
FUNDING UNDER TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to authorize the submission of a resolution to apply for funding under the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program. The application will be for grant funds in the amount of \$271,042.00 to provide Street Improvements at Precinct 4 -Medina Addition Street as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr. P.E. Premier Civil Engineer.

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

**ORDER APPROVING VELEÑO/RAMIREZ PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT  
AND INVOICE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the following project progress report, changes, and invoice:

a. Veleño/Ramirez project will need easement, had additional cost for MEP'S of \$3,720.82, to be paid out of electricity line-item.  
as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., P.E. Premier Civil Engineering.

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

**ORDER APPROVING MIRAFLORES/ALAMO PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT  
AND INVOICE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Elizondo, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the following project progress report, changes, and invoice:

b. Miraflores/Alamo project needs a gutter to be able to capture matter on 4<sup>th</sup> and Miraflores to be constructed by Rapid Haul for the cost of \$3,500, which will be paid by Pct. 2 and 4 (\$1,750.00 each).  
as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., P.E. Premier Civil Engineering.

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

**ORDER APPROVING FALCON LAKE EAST III PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT  
AND INVOICE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez to approve the following project progress report, changes, and invoice:

c. Falcon Lake East III project Change Order #3, for select fill for lift station embankment at the cost of \$4,875.00 to be paid by Water Development Board.  
as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., P.E. Premier Civil Engineering.

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

**ORDER APPROVING FOUR SEASONS PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT  
AND INVOICE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez to approve the following project progress report, changes, and invoices:

d. Four Seasons project payment request for \$75,656.50, to be paid out of Four Seasons Project fund.  
as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., P.E. Premier Civil Engineering.

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

**ORDER APPROVING LAS PALMAS PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT  
AND INVOICE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the following project progress, changes, and invoices:

e. Las Palmas project Contractor's Application for Payment No. 4 submitted for the amount of \$13,303.57. Project is 40% completed.  
as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., P.E. Premier Civil Engineering.

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

**ORDER APPROVING ENGINEERING FEES FOR LAS PALMAS PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the following project progress, changes, and invoices:

e. Las Palmas project engineering fees in the amount of \$21,600.00.  
as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., P.E. Premier Civil Engineering.

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

**ORDER APPROVING ENGINEERING FEES FOR FOUR SEASONS PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez to approve the following project progress, changes, and invoices:

d. Four Seasons project engineering fees in the amount of \$15,607.15.  
as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., P.E. Premier Civil Engineering.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REPLAT OF LOT 1-3 THE OAKS AT FALCON ESTATES  
INTO LOT 1A AND LOT 2A THE OAKS AT FALCON ESTATES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the replat of lot 1-3 The Oaks at Falcon Estates into Lot 1A and Lot 2A, The Oaks at Falcon Estates as requested by Adrian Mounetou, Howland Engineering and Surveying.

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

**ORDER APPROVING LINE ITEM TRANSFER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the following line item transfer in order to meet budget requirements as requested by: Hildegardo E. Flores, ZC Museum of History Director

	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>LINE ITEM</b>	<b>FUND</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>FROM</b>	ZC Museum of History	10-668-482	Contracted Services	\$1,500.00
<b>TO</b>	ZC Museum of History	10-668-336	Supplies & Services	\$1,500.00

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 MARTINEZ,  
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GARZA,  
TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION**

**NO ACTION WAS TAKEN IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM HEARD IN  
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

29. To consider the advertisement of property deeded to Zapata County for public purchase.

*Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.072 (Real Property)*

**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.

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JOSEPH RATHMELL, 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