

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 23th day of March 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, Joyce Currington, Maria I. Gutierrez, Roger Miller, Gene Mandery, Jose R. Treviño III, Ramon E. Montes, Juan H. Navarro, Carlos Treviño, Jr., Luis L. Gonzalez, Delia Mendoza, Raymundo Del Bosque, Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., Laura Garza, Aaron Canales, Juan Jose Garza,

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

Commissioner Vela addressed the Court stating that he and Romeo Salinas are members of the STDC Advocacy Committee and recently attended a meeting. The County received a grant of \$69,000 to assist the indigent with utilities.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve minutes of January 12, 26, February 9 and 23, 2015 as presented by Hon. Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan, Zapata County Clerk.

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

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve invoices as presented by Triunfo Gonzalez, with the exception of an item on page 1 in an amount of \$960.00 from line item 024-406-427 which has a 0 balance.

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

No Treasurer’s Report due at this time.

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, with the exception of an item on page 1 in an amount of \$960.00 from line item 024-406-427 which has a 0 balance.

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

TAX / ASSESSOR COLLECTOR’S REPORT

No Tax / Assessor Collector’s Report due at this time.

PRESENTATION BY REAL ENERGY SOLUTIONS FOR ENERGY PROVIDER

Joseph Briseño of Real Energy Solutions made a presentation by Real Energy Solutions (RES) for energy provider after current contract expires with existing energy provider. A cost analysis was put together; he feels that a wholesale rate would be beneficial and would bring the County savings of approximately \$20,000 per year. The cost would be 0.01599 per KWH with no aggregate fees. The County is currently participating in a power pool. (Additional information on Real Energy Solution is attached.)

**ORDER APPROVING INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN WEBB COUNTY AND ZAPATA COUNTY REGARDING
HOUSING OF WEBB COUNTY INMATES AT ZAPATA COUNTY JAIL**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve an Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement between Webb County and Zapata County regarding housing of Webb County inmates at the Zapata County jail as requested by Alonso M. Lopez, County Sheriff.

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

**ORDER APPROVING ESTIMATE FOR REPAIRS TO A/C COMPRESSOR
AT ZAPATA COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve estimate for repairs to A/C compressor at the Zapata County Community Center as

provided by Ferny's A/C & Refrigeration in the amount of \$4,950.00 as requested by Laura Garza, Community Center Manager.

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

ORDER APPROVING AND REAFFIRMING COSTA RICA PLAT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve and reaffirm the Costa Rica plat 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 LAS PALMAS PROJECT CHANGES,
INVOICES AND STATUS UPDATE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve Las Palmas project changes, invoices and status report, including an invoice from Guzman-Juarez Dozer in the amount of \$28,607.63, with option to bore, to be paid out of USDA funding. Only improvements covered by USDA funding will be made. Inspection service was also approved, no amount was stated. Project is 42% complete as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., Premier Engineering.

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the installation of speed hump between Juarez and Zapata on 19th Street 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.

**ORDER APPROVING PROCLAMATION HONORING MARY PLATTNER, NP
AS "CITIZEN OF THE YEAR"**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve proclamation honoring Mary Plattner, NP for being chosen "Citizen of the Year" by a local citizens committee. She will be honored on Saturday, March 28, 2015 at the Steak House Restaurant 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 RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL AS
AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve a resolution recognizing April as Autism Awareness Month as requested by Nellie R. Treviño, Personnel Director. The First Annual Autism Walk will take place on April 4.

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

**CLARIFICATION BY COUNTY AUDITOR ON AGENDA ITEMS 7 & 9
OF ABOVE APPROVED INVOICES AND CHECKS ISSUED**

Mr. Triunfo Gonzalez, County Auditor, revisited items 7 and 9. He stated that donations are made and are deposited into the line item in question; therefore, said line item is not negative.

County Attorney, Said A. Figueroa, suggested a line item be created so donations can be deposited.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GARZA,
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ,
TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GARZA,
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ,
TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION**

**ORDER AUTHORIZING COUNTY TREASURER TO MAKE PAYMENT
AS PER OFFICAL COUNTY RECORDS AND AUTHORIZE
COUNTY AUDITOR TO CONDUCT AUDIT FOR ONE ADDITIONAL YEAR**

Motion was made by Judge Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to authorize County Treasurer to make payment as per official County records.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of Judge Rathmell, and Commissioners Vela and Elizondo. Commissioners Martinez and Garza voted against. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Judge Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to authorize County Auditor to conduct an audit for one additional year.

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

Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)

**ORDER TO DENY REQUEST BY COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ
REGARDING PROPOSED PURCHASE OF STATE-OWNED
PROPERTY AT SOUTHWEST CORNER OF U.S. HIGHWAY 83
STATE HIGHWAY FM 496**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to deny request by Commissioner Martinez regarding proposed purchase of state-owned property at the southwest corner of U.S. Highway 83 and State Highway FM 496 in accordance with Transportation Code, Section 202.021, in which County and other local governmental entities have a priority to purchase this property for fair market value.

Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.072 (Real Property) and Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).

**ORDER AUTHORIZING COUNTY ATTORNEY TO PREPARE
CORRECTED DRAINAGE EASMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to authorize County Attorney to prepare a corrected drainage easement in Precinct 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.

Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.072 (Real Property) and Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).

COMMISSIONER GARZA WAS EXCUSED

**ORDER APPROVING FISCAL YEAR 2013 SINGLE AUDIT BY CANALES,
GARZA & BAUM, PLLC**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the fiscal year 2013 Single Audit by Canales, Garza & Baum, PLLC as requested 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.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, 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