

**THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

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

Be it remembered, that on this the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October, A.D., 2018, 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
Paco Mendoza	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 and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court

**VISITORS:** Romeo Salinas, Alfonso Figueroa, Triunfo Gonzalez, Monica Alaniz, J.J. Meza, Nellie R. Treviño, Daniel Arriaga, James Farrell, Jr., Robert and Susan Reissig, Roger Miller, Rick Jimenez, Belen Del Bosque, Irene Morales, Maria E. Gutierrez, Melissa Peña, Maclovia Martinez, Joyce Currington, Armando Guerra, Juana Maria Gutierrez, Christopher Rincon, Laura Garza, and Shirley J. Bell.

**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 AND  
EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT**

**INVOCATION BY. REV. ROGER MILLER  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Judge Rathmell thanked county employees who made a plate sale to assist Julie Duran with medical bills. Julie's father, Jason Duran, who works at the Zapata County Waterworks thanked Zapata County, ZCISD, and Zapata County Waterworks for helping out. Approximately \$3,000.00 were raised.

Jason Delattre announced that Fire Chief Meza was recognized and presented with the Roscoe Gibson Award by the Texas Fire Marshalls Association.

Judge Rathmell met with Chief Ray Del Bosque to discuss the Commission of Jail Standards finding. The jail passed inspection; however, the facility will be requiring major renovations within the next 2-5 years.

Commissioner Elizondo commented that a new insurance company opened in town. She added that a car show was held at the pavilion.

### **ORDER APPROVING INVOICES**

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

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.

### **BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB REPORT**

Ramona Martinez gave a brief report on the Boys and Girls Club. (Report is attached for the record.)

### **ORDER APPROVING IMPROVEMENTS AT THE ZAPATA COUNTY MUSEUM**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve improvements to the Zapata County Museum; they will start with the fence, other improvements will be dealt with in the future 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 THE FOLLOWING ITEM**

10. To approve and clarify access points from county right of way to IBWC land as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

Discussion: The county's jurisdiction ends where the street ends. This is a civil dispute, not a county matter. Shirley Bell presented an incident report to the Court.

### **ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY COMMISSIONER MENDOZA REGARDING REQUEST TO USE OSWALDO & JUANITA RAMIREZ EXHIBIT HALL FOR COWBOY FAST DRAW ASSOCIATION TEXAS CIRCUIT SHOOTOUT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to table request by Commissioner Mendoza regarding request to use the Oswaldo & Juanita Ramirez Exhibit Hall for the Cowboy Fast Draw Association Texas Circuit Shootout on Saturday, January 12, 2019 as requested by Hon. Paco Mendoza, 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 ESTABLISHING A LINE OF CREDIT WITH ZAPATA NATIONAL BANK FOR PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FOR SPECIAL ROAD AND BRIDGE DEPARTMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve to establish a line of credit in the amount of \$500,000.00 with Zapata National Bank for the purchase of equipment for Special Road and Bridge Department 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 PURCHASE OF 2 ZERO-TURN MOWERS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve to purchase 2 Zero-Turn mowers using line item 15-621-456 – Repairs and Maintenance, Special Roads and Bridge as requested by Hon. Olga M. Elizondo, Commissioner Pct. 2.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REPAIRS AT JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PRECINCT 2 OFFICE BUILDING EXTERIOR**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve repairs of the Justice of the Peace Precinct 2 office building exterior. Material and labor in the amount of \$4,420 as quoted by Jorge Mendoza Construction, to be paid out of Building Maintenance line item as requested by Hon. Juana Maria Gutierrez, Justice of the Peace Pct. 2.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PURCHASE OF MATERIALS TO REPAIR EXTERIOR OF JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PRECINCT 2 OFFICE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Elizondo, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the purchase of material to repair the exterior of Justice of the Peace Precinct 2 office in the amount of \$10,213.80, to be paid out of Courthouse Security as requested by Hon. Juana Maria Gutierrez, Justice of the Peace Pct. 2.

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

**ORDER APPROVING RESIGNATION OF MIGUEL A. GUERRERO AND ALLOW CHIEF MEZA TO HIRE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve and accept the resignation from Miguel A. Guerrero and to allow Chief Meza to hire as requested by Fire Chief J.J. Meza, Fire Department.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REQUEST FOR BID PROPOSALS FOR REPAIR TO FALCON NUTRITION CENTER AND ZAPATA COMMUNITY CENTER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve request for bid proposals for repairs to the Falcon Nutrition Center and Zapata Community Center, and to put together a priority list of buildings that need repairs as requested by Nellie R. Treviño, Personnel Director.

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

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Judge Rathmell announced that Amusement Redemption owner Mr. Jimenez, is going to match \$3,000 for Julie Duran.

**ORDER APPROVING SECURITY SYSTEM FOR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE  
PRECINCT 4**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the proposal for a security system in the form of digital cameras for Justice of the Peace Pct. 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.

**ORDER APPROVING A ONE YEAR CREDIT TO ZCISD IN  
THE AMOUNT OF \$591.53**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a one year credit only to ZCISD in the amount of \$591.53 for over payment due to water meter charges since 2006 after the demolition of Zapata South Elementary School as requested by Carlos Treviño, Water Plant Director.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF STREETS IN SAN YGNACIO  
FOR HAUNTED HOUSE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the temporary closure of Uribe Street between Agua Ave. and Gutierrez Street and Gutierrez Street between Uribe Street and Washington Ave. in San Ygnacio on October 30-31 from 6 p.m. – 11 p.m. for the San Ygnacio Haunted House as requested by Christopher Rincon, San Ygnacio Festival Coalition Committee.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER OF SAUL BURUATO, JR. FROM RECYCLING  
DEPARTMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve transfer of Saul Buruato, Jr., from slot #3 in the Recycling Department to slot #8 in the Environmental Department as requested by Guillermo Saenz, Environmental Department.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TO HIRE JOE JUAREZ AT RECYCLING DEPARTMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve to hire Joe Juarez as temporary employee (probationary period), at the rate of \$8.50 per hour in slot #3 in the Recycling Department as requested by Guillermo Saenz, Environmental Department.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TO TABLE REQUEST BY MANUEL GONZALEZ  
REGARDING REQUEST TO REPLAT J.L. GUEVARA SUBDIVISION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to table request by Manuel Gonzalez regarding request to re-plat J.L. Guevara Subdivision 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 PAYMENT OF INVOICE AND STATUS REVIEW FOR  
CDBG 7216511 – 3<sup>RD</sup>, 4<sup>TH</sup>, AND 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve payment of invoice in the amount of \$90,923.83 payable to RapidHaul, LLC for work performed on the CDBG 7216511 for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> Street Improvements Project as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. Work is 60% complete and asphalt is being removed on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF INVOICE FOR REPLACEMENT OF  
GALVANIZED TANK FOR SAN YGNACIO WATER PLANT PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve payment of invoice in the amount of \$12,673.00 payable to Guzman – Juarez Backhoe Services for replacement of galvanized tank for the San Ygnacio Water Plant Project and approve invoices 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 PAYMENT OF INVOICE FOR FALCON MESA  
PAVING PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve payment of invoice in the amount of \$8,000.00 payable to Premier Engineering for work performed on the Falcon Mesa Paving Project and approve invoices 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 REQUEST FOR USE OF ZAPATA COUNTY PAVILION FOR  
ZAPATA HIGH SCHOOL MARIACHI PROGRAM**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve use of the Zapata County Pavilion for the Zapata High School Mariachi Program on December 1, 2018 as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Mariachi Booster Club.

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

**ORDER APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH USDA/APHIS FEVER TICK  
ERADICATION PROGRAM FOR USE OF COUNTY OWNED LAND**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve agreement with USDA/APHIS Fever Tick Eradication Program for the use of county

owned land on Carla Street between 8<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenues, at no cost to the county, as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge, at no cost to the County. At expiration of contract any structures on the land will belong to the County.

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 LIGHTS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve installation of street light at the following locations:

- a. 206 S. 8<sup>th</sup> Street (E Flores Addition, Block 23, Lot 22)
- b. 390 Gonzalez Street (Falcon Shores Unit, Block 8, Lot 17)

as requested by Hon. Paco Mendoza, Commissioner Pct. 1.

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 approve installation of street light at the following locations:

- a. 316 Military Point
- b. 5414 Mission Lane
- c. 5308 Victoria Lane
- d. 5222 Peña Lane
- e. 5324 McAllen Lane
- f. 5209 Simon Lane
- g. 779 FM 496
- h. N. Laredo Lane

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.

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve installation of street light at the following locations:

- a. 906 Roma Ave.
- b. 1905 Brazos
- c. 1201 Roma Ave.
- d. 405 Roma Ave.
- e. 1307 Juarez
- f. 607 Zapata Ave.
- g. 805 Falcon
- h. 1406 Zapata Ave.

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 RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FY 2019 INDIGENT DEFENSE FORMULA GRANT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a resolution in support of the FY 2019 Indigent Defense Formula Grant 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.

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

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

**NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THE FOLLOWING ITEM DISCUSSED IN  
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

35. To amend the Amusement Redemption Machine (ARM) Ordinance as requested by Hon. Paco Mendoza, Commissioner Pct. 1.

*Closed Session/Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5 Subchapter D, Section 551.071(A)(B) Consultation with Attorney.*

**ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, 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  
OF 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