

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 13th day of August, 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: Juan J. Meza, Nellie. R. Treviño, Monica Alanis, Romeo Salinas, Triunfo Gonzalez, Daniel D. Arriaga, Gabriela I. Gonzalez, Jose L. Murillo, Jose G. Casares, Roger Miller, Ramiro Hernandez, Raymundo Del Bosque, Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., and Joe Peña.

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

Joyce Currington commented that there was a bow and arrow event for the kids.

Judge Rathmell asked Joe Murillo to prepare banners for the county. Mr. Murillo presented a sample to the Court.

Ramiro Hernandez reported that TDA completed the audit report and monies are ready to be reimbursed. After school meals will be provided; Lopeño facility has been prepared. Will be buying pots and pans for the nutrition center with excess funds. Mr. Salinas will contact USDA to possibly transfer to nonprofit organization. The program has been a success.

Commissioner Mendoza stated that the back to school fishing tournament was a great event. School supplies were issued and a raffle was also held.

Judge Rathmell commented on the following issues:

- He attended a water development board meeting, he explained to the board that water levels need to be kept at 270; the water master was advised of this. The judge will follow up on this matter with the water master.
- TDA stopped providing tick eradication boxes to ranchers. He has contacted TDA and the boxes are back in use.

- Our local DPS office is one of the 87 offices being closed. He wrote a letter to state officials regarding the importance of keeping the local office.
- The Laredo landfill was discussed in the STDC meeting. STDC recommended a conformance letter. Our application was never reneged.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, 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 TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve Treasurer's Report 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 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.

TAX / ASSESSOR COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Tax Assessor/Collector's office reported Hotel-Motel tax collections in the amount of \$7,833.59 for year-to-date collections in an amount of \$84,305.86 and tax collections are at a year-to-date rate of 87.40%.

ITEM #10 WAS A DUPLICATE ITEM NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

10. To award engineering services for TxCDBG Falcon Meza Street Improvement Project #7217511 as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

ORDER APPROVING FY2019 CONTRACT BETWEEN OFFICES OF ATTORNEY GENERAL AND ZAPATA COUNTY FOR STATEWIDE AUTOMATED VICTIM NOTIFICATION SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the FY2019 contract between the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) and Zapata County for the Statewide Automated Victim Notification Service (SAVNS) grant program 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 TO TABLE REQUEST BY JUDGE RATHMELL REGARDING
INSTALLATION OF 2 INCH WATER LINE AT BOYS AND
GIRLS CLUB FOR A COMMUNITY GARDEN**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to table request by Judge Rathmell to install a 2 inch water line, paid by the County, at the Boys and Girls Club for a Community Garden.

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

**ORDER ALLOWING COMMISSIONER ELIZONDO TO SEEK POSSIBLE
GRANT FUNDING FOR PRECINCT 2 PARK IMPROVEMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to allow Commissioner Olga M. Elizondo to seek possible grant funding for Precinct 2 park improvement 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 TO RATIFY THE HIRE OF EMILIO SANCHEZ III AT
ZAPATA COUNTY WATER PLANT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to ratify the hiring of Emilio Sanchez III at the Zapata County Water Plant effective June 25, 2018 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 TO PAY RALPH'S REFRIGERATION SERVICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Elizondo, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to pay the amount of \$8,100, out of Royalty Fund, to Ralph's Refrigeration Services for replacement of air conditioner in precinct 4 office 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 TO TABLE REQUEST BY ROMEO SALINAS REGARDING
PURCHASE OF OVEN FOR BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to table request by Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer, regarding purchase of a double decker full size commercial oven for Boys and Girls Club.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF \$19,840.11 FOR REPAIRS DONE TO
ZAPATA COUNTY REGIONAL JAIL**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve payment of \$19,840.11 for repairs done to the Zapata County Regional Jail as requested by Alonso Lopez, County Sheriff.

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

ORDER TO APPROVE AND DEMONSTRATE COMPLIANCE WITH ALL CIVIL RIGHTS REQUIREMENTS AND TO ENSURE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND ACCESS TO ALL BENEFITS FROM TXCDBG PROGRAM (CONTRACT 7216511)

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve and demonstrate compliance with all civil rights requirements and to ensure equal opportunity and access to all benefits from the TxCDBG Program (Contract 7216511), as follows:

- Section 3 Policy
- Excessive Force Policy
- Section 504 Policy against Discrimination based on Handicap and Grievance Procedures
- Section 504 Self-Evaluation Form
- Designation Form for Civil Rights Officer
- Limited English Proficiency Sample Plan
- Citizen Participation Plan-Texas Community Development Block Grant Program
- Resolution Regarding Civil Rights
- Code of Conduct Policy

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.

ORDER AWARDING ENGINEERING CONTRACT ON TXCDBG CONTRACT 7217511 TO PREMIER ENGINEERING

Motion was made Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to award Engineering Contract on TxCDBG Contract 7217511, also known as Falcon Mesa Project, to Premier Engineering 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.

ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER OF ANTONIO SAAVEDRA III FROM PARAMEDIC TO PARAMEDIC/FIREFIGHTER

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve transfer of Antonio Saavedra III from Paramedic at \$12.75 per hour to Paramedic/Firefighter at \$12.94 per hour (Slot #15), effective July 9, 2018. Increase to come from incentive pay as requested by J.J. Meza, Fire Chief.

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 OF STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve payment of invoice in the amount of \$32,252.50 for 3rd, 4th, and 7th Street Improvement Project as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. Project is 10% complete, environmental study was approved as well as release of funds. Mobilization and traffic control are in effect.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF INVOICES AND STATUS REVIEW FOR
ZAPATA COUNTY WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve payment to contractor in the amount of \$504,450 and payment to Premier Engineering and Teracon in the amount of \$16,642.26 for Zapata County Wastewater Treatment Plant Project as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. Temporary equipment is being moved for AEP power. Contractor lost time during rainy days and a revised time schedule will be provided. They are working on top soil and office.

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

ORDER APPROVING PLAT FOR LEO CUELLAR UNIT 1

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve plat for Leo Cuellar Unit 1 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.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THE FOLLOWING ITEM

To approve re-plat of Tract 5-B Cuellar Subdivision as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

**ORDER APPROVING INVOICE AND STATUS ON GOLF COURSE
SEWER LINE REPLACEMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve payment of invoice in the amount of \$1,100.00 payable to Premier Engineering for Golf Course Sewer line replacement project as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. Workers have started staking of sewer lines for said project.

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

**ORDER APPROVING GROUND LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN
ZAPATA COUNTY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE
HEAD START**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve Ground Lease Agreement between Zapata County and the Community Development Institute Head Start, a Colorado nonprofit corporation, with amendment to name, as requested by Jose Casarez, CDI Starr/Zapata HS/EHS Program Director.

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

**ORDER APPROVING USE OF ZAPATA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS BY
CARSON & BARNES CIRCUS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the use of the Zapata County Fairgrounds on February 27, 2019 by the Carson & Barnes Circus as requested by John Alberto, Carson & Barnes Circus.

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 Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the installation of a security light at the following location:

- a. 104 6th Street (E. Flores Addition, Block 19)

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 Mendoza, to approve the installation of a security light at the following location:

- a. M Ramirez in Ramireño, Tx

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 INSTALLATION OF SPEED HUMP

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the installation of a speed hump at the following location:

- a. 705 Juarez Avenue

as requested by Hon. Norberto Garza, Commissioner P ct. 4.

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

ORDER APPROVING LINE-ITEM TRANSFERS

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the following line-item transfers to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE-ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Sheriff’s Regional Jail	010-567-406	Physicians	\$8,000.00
TO	Sheriff’s Regional Jail	010-567-456	Equipment Maintenance	\$8,000.00
FROM	Sheriff’s Regional Jail	010-560-335	Computer Expense	\$3,500.00
TO	Sheriff’s Regional Jail	010-560-454	Vehicle Maintenance	\$3,500.00

as requested by Alonso Lopez, County Sheriff.

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 approve the following line-item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE-ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Commissioner Pct. 2	10-002-428	Travel Pct. 2	\$1,700.00
TO	Commissioner Pct. 2	10-002-392	Parks Pct. 2	\$1,700.00

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.

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the following line-item transfers to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE-ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	District Clerk's Office	10-450-311	Postage/Express/Freight	\$350.00
TO	District Clerk's Office	10-450-427	Workshops/Travel Expenses	\$350.00
FROM	District Clerk's Office	10-450-311	Postage/Express/Freight	\$800.00
TO	District Clerk's Office	10-450-310	Office Supplies	\$800.00

as requested by Hon. Dora Mtz-Castañon, District Clerk.

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 approve the following line-item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE-ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	County Judge's Office	10-400-310	Office Supplies	\$900.00
TO	County Judge's Office	10-400-427	Travel/Workshops	\$900.00

as requested by Roxanna Elizondo, County Judge's Office.

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 approve the following line-item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE-ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	County Judge's Office	10-400-310	Office Supplies	\$300.00
TO	County Judge's Office	10-400-462	Rental/Maintenance	\$300.00

as requested by Monica Alanis, County Judge's Office.

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 approve the following line-item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE-ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	I & A	37-645-330	Fuel & Lubricants	\$3,000.00
TO	Nutrition Center	37-647-336	Raw Food	\$3,000.00

as requested by Rosie Gonzalez, Nutrition Center Director.

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

ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION FOR SOUTH TEXAS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (STDC) GRANT APPLICATION FOR FY 2018-2019 REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the Resolution for the South Texas Development Council (STDC) grant application for FY 2018-2019 Regional Solid Waste Management Program as requested by Martin Saenz, Environmental Department.

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 ITEMS DISCUSSED IN
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

To amend 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.

To amend the RSL Contract as requested by Luis Guevara, RSL Management.

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 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
OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

ATTEST:

MARY JAYNE VILLARREAL-BONOAN,
COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO
CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS
COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS