

**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 November, 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: Monica Alanis, Romeo Salinas, Triunfo Gonzalez, J.J. Meza, Nellie R. Trevino, Daniel D. Arriaga, James Farrell, Jr., Gabriela I. Gonzalez, Roel Gonzalez, Jr., Roger Miller, Luis Daniel Villarreal, Jose F. Mendoza, Liliana Rodriguez, Armando Pacheco, Jason Delattre, Victor Villarreal, Dan King, Manuel Gonzalez, Joyce Currington, Martin Contreras, and Esperanza Cruz.

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

Commissioner Elizondo commented that the Veteran's event in San Ygnacio was a success. A monument was unveiled honoring veterans from San Ygnacio and Ramireño

Judge Rathmell commented that Zapata veterans were honored as well.

Karran Westerman thanked Commissioner Elizondo, Raymond Bruni, Sheriff Lopez, Chief Del Bosque, and Commissioners' Court for participating in San Ygnacio veterans events.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

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

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 Garza, 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.

TAX / ASSESSOR COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Tax Assessor/Collector's office, reported Hotel-Motel tax collections in the amount of \$12,473.31, last fiscal years total collections were \$111,087.41 and tax collections were collected at the rate of 23.61%.

PRESENTATION BY LUIS VILLARREAL OF EQUIPMENT OFFERED BY ANDERSON EQUIPMENT

Luis Villarreal of Anderson Equipment made a presentation of equipment offered by the company. He was here last week to demonstrate paving equipment. He will return with another piece of equipment after hunting season is over. If the County is interested in the equipment demonstrated he offered a 1-year warranty. Commissioner Garza prefers a different model. The paver and mower cost approximately \$15,000 to rent per month.

ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT FOR REPAIRS DONE TO AMBULANCE OF ZAPATA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve payment for repairs done to ambulance of Zapata County Fire Department in the amount of \$19,810.28 from the tobacco fund 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 FIRE TRUCK AND RESCUE TRUCK FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve purchase of 2019 Freightliner with equipment (pumper and rescue truck) from Municipal Fire being the lowest bidder with a bid of \$494,041.80, to be paid out of the FY2019-2020 budget 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 COMPENSATION FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES THAT WORKED FILLING SAND BAGS

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve \$1,853.02 as the total compensation for the county employees that worked to filling the sand bags 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 PAVING IN FALCON MESA AS THE NEXT PROJECT FOR CDBG 2019-2020 FUNDING CYCLE

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve paving in Falcon Mesa as the next project for the CDBG 2019-2020 funding cycle 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 SEEKING PROCURMENT OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR CDBG 2019-2020 FUNDING CYCLE

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve to seek the procurement of professional services for the CDBG 2019-2020 funding cycle 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 RENTAL OF PAVER AS NEEDED

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by commissioner Garza, to approve rental of paver as needed as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge. (Price of mower tractor is \$161,489.92.)

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

ORDER APPROVING USE OF OSWALDO & JUANITA RAMRIEZ EXHIBIT HALL FOR COWBOY FAST DRAW ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS CIRCUIT SHOOTOUT EVENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the use of the Oswaldo & Juanita Ramirez Exhibit Hall for the Cowboy Fast Draw Association of Texas Circuit Shootout event that will take place on Saturday, January 12, 2018, pending approval by County Attorney. Monies collected will be used for the Shoot for the Stars Scholarship Fund, as requested by Hon. Paco Mendoza, Commissioner Pct. 1. This event is free to the public and the County is not responsible for incidentals or accidents.

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

ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT FOR NEW A/C UNIT INSTALLED AT MAIN BUILDING OF BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the payment of \$5,000 for new a/c/ unit installed at the main building of the Boys and Girls Club of Zapata County, to be paid out of Building Maintenance fund, 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.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THE FOLLOWING ITEM

17. authorizing Commissioner Olga M. Elizondo, Precinct 2, to conduct the process of procuring services of a prequalified grant administrator and an engineer as necessary for preparing Zapata County's application for a grant from 2019-2020 funding cycle of the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program, and for providing the professional services necessary for the implementation of the project the requested grant may fund as requested by Hon. Olga M. Elizondo, Commissioner Pct. 2.

ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF LA PAZ MUSEUM IN SAN YGNACIO TO ZAPATA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (ZCISD)

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve to transfer control of the La Paz Museum in San Ygnacio to the Zapata County Independent School District (ZCISD) 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 DESIGNATION OF TRIUNFO GONZALEZ AS LABOR STANDARDS OFFICER (LSO) FOR TxCDBG GRANT

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the designation of Triunfo Gonzalez as Labor Standards Officer (LSO) for TxCDBG Grant 7215085 (Truman Phelps) 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 REPLAT OF J.L. GUEVARA SUBDIVISION

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the replat of the J.L. Guevara Subdivision, pending approval by engineer and County shop supervisor, 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 INVOICES AND STATUS REVIEW FOR ZAPATA COUNTY WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoice in the payable to Terracon in the amount of \$10,142.50, invoice payable to EDCJC in the amount of \$215,143.74, and invoice payable to Premier Engineering in the amount of \$14,079.76 for Zapata County Wastewater Treatment Plant Project as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. The project has been inspected, some concrete is being removed and re-poured as some of the concrete was not up to standards.

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

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES FOR 3RD, 4TH, AND 7TH STREET IMPROMENT PROJECT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve invoice in the amount of \$800 payable to Premier Engineering and invoice in the amount of \$61,766.72 payable to RapidHaul, LLC for 3rd, 4th and 7th Street Improvement Project 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 INVOICE FOR GOLF COURSE SEWER LINE PROJECT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoice in the amount of \$3,347.50 payable to Guzman Backhoe Services for the Golf Course Sewer Line Project 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 CHANGE ORDER OF TxDOT UTILITY RELOCATION VELENO BRIDGE PROJECT

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve change order of TxDOT Utility Relocation Veleño Bridge Project as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. Existing line is underwater, they are trying to keep said line above water to be able to connect and avoid leaks and problems.

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 LIGHT

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

- a. 2402 Delmar
- b. 2211 Lincoln Street
- c. 1005 Miraflores
- d. 104 Trinity

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 ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

ORDER APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT AUTHORIZED AND GOVERNED BY CHAPTER 312 OF THE TEXAS TAX CODE WITH LAS LOMAS WIND ENERGY, LLC

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve a Tax Abatement Agreement authorized and governed by Chapter 312 of the Texas Tax Code with Las Lomas Wind Energy, LLC, subject to addendum provided to the court, and any matters incident thereto as requested by Juan Cruz and Fortunato G. Paredes, J. Cruz and Associates. A donation will be made to the Boys and Girls Club of Zapata.

Closed Session/Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5 Subchapter D, Section 551.071(A)(B) Consultation with Attorney and 551.0725, Commissioners Court: Deliberation regarding contract being negotiated.

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

ORDER APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT AUTHORIZED AND GOVERNED BY CHAPTER 312 OF THE TEXAS TAX CODE WITH VAQUERO WIND ENERGY, LLC

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve Tax Abatement Agreement authorized and governed by Chapter 312 of the Texas Tax Code with Vaquero Wind Energy, LLC, subject to addendum provided to the court, and any matters incident

thereto as requested by Juan Cruz and Fortunato G. Paredes, J. Cruz and Associates. A donation will be made to the Zapata Museum of History.

Closed Session/Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5 Subchapter D, Section 551.071(A)(B) Consultation with Attorney and 551.0725, Commissioners Court: Deliberation regarding contract being negotiated.

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

ORDER APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT AUTHORIZED AND GOVERNED BY CHAPTER 312 OF THE TEXAS TAX CODE WITH ZAPATA WIND ENERGY, LLC

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve Tax Abatement Agreement authorized and governed by Chapter 312 of the Texas Tax Code with Zapata Wind Energy, LLC, subject to addendum provided to the court, and any matters incident thereto as requested by Juan Cruz and Fortunato G. Paredes, J. Cruz and Associates. A donation will be made to the Olga V. Figueroa Library.

Closed Session/Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5 Subchapter D, Section 551.071(A)(B) Consultation with Attorney and 551.0725, Commissioners Court: Deliberation regarding contract being negotiated.

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
OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

ATTEST:

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