

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

Be it remembered, that on this the 26th day of August, A.D., 2019, 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, Said A. Figueroa, Triunfo Gonzalez, Nellie R. Trevino, Monica Alanis, Juan J. Meza, Danny Arriaga, Roger Miller, Celeste Zapata, Rosa M. Gonzalez, Alejandro Barrera, Jr., Sammy Luera, Joyce Currington, Jesse Rodriguez, Raymundo Del Bosque, Jr., Rinaldo Belmares, and Joseph 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

Judge Rathmell commented on the storm of Saturday which caused considerable damage to many of the county's buildings and also around town, including broken waterlines and water damage to our buildings. Even our flags blew away.

J.J. Meza stated that they worked until very late. The nursing home continued to operate on a generator, however, the air conditioning does not work.

Commissioner Elizondo stated that only one tree was knocked off in her precinct. Her daughter also got married during the storm.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve invoices in the amount of \$1,876,580.83, 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 Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve checks issued in the amount of \$1,875,577.02 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.

REPORT ON BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF ZAPATA

No one was present to present report.

PRESENTATION ON INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PROJECT

Antonio M. Fernandez III of Earth Tech Resources, PBC, Inc., addressed the court and will draft resolution and order to move forward to begin negotiating for permits for construction of international bridge. The bridge would be constructed using private funding at no cost to the tax payers.

PRESENTATION OF ZAPATA NORTH ELEMENTARY AS TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION HEALTHY SOUTH TEXAS RECOGNIZED CAMPUS

Jesus Rodriguez, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent, presented Zapata North Elementary as a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Healthy South Texas recognized campus.

ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST TO APPROVE 2020 SHERIFFS' AND CONSTABLES' FEES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to table request by Judge Rathmell regarding approval of 2020 Sheriffs' and Constables' fees.

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

ORDER APPROVING PROPOSAL BY ABELARDO MENDOZA FOR REPAIR OF DIP VAT

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the proposal in the amount of \$1,880.85 by Abelardo Mendoza, for the repair of a sliding gate at dip vat and fabricate and weld stairs in tank as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

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

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THE FOLLOWING ITEM

To look into request by lion member Aurelio Villarreal to waive or discount rental of the pavilion on September 7, 2019 as requested by Hon. Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Pct. 3.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THE FOLLOWING ITEM

To clarify and approve the schedule of brush grapple use for each precinct as requested by Hon. Olga M. Elizondo, Commissioner Pct. 2. Brush grapple will stay in its respective precinct.

ORDER APPROVING USE OF TECHNOLOGY FUND TO PAY FOR NEW COMPUTER FOR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE IN PRECINCT 4

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the use of the Technology Fund to pay for a new computer in the amount of \$1,373.35 for Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4 as requested by Hon. Ramon Benavides, Justice of the Peace Pct. 4.

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

ORDER DENYING PURCHASE OF ABANDONED WATER PIPE CROSSING UNDERNEATH VELEÑO BRIDGE

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to deny the purchase of the abandoned water pipe that crosses underneath the Veleño Bridge to cross a fiber optic cable through the pipe as requested by Daniel Chapa, SmartCom Director.

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

ORDER DENYING PERMISSION TO ALLOW SAM'S CLUB TO SET UP BOOTH AT ZAPATA COUNTY COURTHOUSE TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERSHIP

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to deny permission to allow Sam's Club to set up a booth at the Zapata County Courthouse to recruit new membership as requested by Yanira Gonzalez, Sam's Club.

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 Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo to approve the following line item transfers to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	County Judge's Office	10-400-130	Postage	\$900.00
TO	County Judge's Office	10-400-400	Indigent Defense	\$900.00
FROM	County Judge's Office	10-400-462	Rental/Maintenance	\$53.00
TO	County Judge's Office	10-400-400	Indigent Defense	\$53.00

as requested by Roxana 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 Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Non-Department	10-409-311	Postage/Express	\$1,964.00
TO	County Judge	10-400-462	Rental/Maintenance	\$1,964.00

as requested by Roxana 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 Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Environmental Dept.	10-595-330	Fuel	\$5,000.00
TO	Environmental Dept.	10-595-484	Equipment Rental	\$5,000.00

as requested by Guillermo Saenz, Environmental Dept.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Rosa Gonzalez approached the Court and complained about her neighbor, Javier Del Bosque, who has chickens that killed her cat. She will be advised by County Attorney after court adjourns.

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

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

ORDER AUTHORIZING COUNTY ATTORNEY TO MAKE COUNTER OFFER FOR PURCHASE OF LOS EBANOS GOLF COURSE, INC.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to authorize County Attorney to make counter offer for possible purchase of Los Ebanos Golf Course, Inc. and consider the two options offered by majority shareholder, Mr. Renato Ramirez as requested by Hon. Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Pct. 3. *Closed Session/Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071/551.072 (A) (B) Consultation with Attorney/Real Property.*

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

ORDER REASSIGNING SLOT #16 FROM SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO COURTHOUSE SECURITY

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to reassign slot #16 from Sheriff's Office to Courthouse Security, as requested by Nellie R. Treviño, Personnel Director. *Closed Session/Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071/551.074 (A) (B) Consultation with Attorney/Personnel Matters.*

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