

**THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

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

Be it remembered, that on this the 24<sup>th</sup> day of June, 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, Triunfo Gonzalez, Nellie R. Trevino, Monica Alanis, Joyce Currington, Dan Martinez, Robert Tijerina, Joyce Currington, Roberto Gonzalez, Karen Lopez, Ilse J. Avila, Tony Arce, Jr., Leslie Vela, Jose F. Mendoza, Armando Guerra, and Alejandro Barrera, Jr.

**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  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Judge Rathmell commented that he attended the annual continuing education conference and got legislative updates, some of which will be affecting county government state wide. The state approved revenue caps on all counties. Starting in 2020 it will be a requirement that most taxing units hold an election before raising the property tax revenue. This is a blow to the county and will affect the county's ability to provide certain services.

Joyce Currington stated that the Zapata County News has a directory in the newspaper for county offices; she encouraged all county offices to participate.

Roberto Gonzalez, Community Outreach Coordinator, of the Traveling Health Care Team from Texas A&M. Methodist Health Care of San Antonio received a federal grant and TAMIU partnered up and they are now transitioning with Border Region, also via grants. They offer free health screening services for diabetes, obesity, BMI, and hypertension. They will be in various areas of the county and can service up to 60 people per day. Services are for everyone regardless of income.

**ORDER APPROVING INVOICES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices as presented by Triunfo Gonzalez with a correction on page 4; tax reimbursement was \$60,000 less and payment in the amount of \$759,353.59 payable to Brusniak Law, PLLC was voided.

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 Martinez, to approve checks issued in the amount of \$1,709,607.27 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**

Leslie Vela gave a brief report on the Boys and Girls Club of Zapata. They have two new temporary staff members. They broke the record and had 126 kids last week. Leslie Vela was appointed the new CEO Interim. Daily activities include keeping the kids busy with arts and crafts and educational games and exercise. The San Ygnacio kids had fun making playdough. Members of the month are Adrian Garza, Kiveli Hinojosa and Laritza Lopez; and they received Pizza Hut cards for free pizza. Celina Garcia is the employee of the month. First basketball game is this Thursday.

#### **ORDER APPROVING ORDER FOR DISTRIBUTION OF SALARIES AND ROUTINE EXPENSES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve Order for Distribution of Salaries and Routine Expenses (HB 354) 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 ESTIMATE FOR REPLACEMENT OF VIDEO RECORDING EQUIPMENT IN ZAPATA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT ROOM**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve estimate in the amount of \$2,694.00 for the replacement of video recording equipment in the Zapata County Commissioners Courtroom as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

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

#### **ORDER APPROVING ESTIMATE FOR ADA COMPATIBILITY OF BATHROOMS AND DOORS AT TEXAS WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS AND WATERWORKS OFFICES AT ZAPATA COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve estimate for the ADA compatibility of bathrooms and doors at the Texas Workforce Solutions and Waterworks offices at the Zapata County Community Center, estimate for plumbing is \$5,860 and doors are \$3232.95 for a total of \$9,092.95 to be paid out of Non-Department Repairs and Maintenance, 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 PAYMENT TO DEEP SOUTH HAULERS LLC  
FOR WORK DONE AT NUTRITION CENTER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve payment of \$1,300.00 to Deep South Haulers LLC for work done at the Nutrition Center 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 FY2020 TCDRS RATE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the FY2020 TCDRS rate 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.

**ORDER APPROVING ORDER AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF “ZAPATA COUNTY,  
TEXAS CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION, SERIES 2019” AUTHORIZING PAYING  
AGENT/REGISTRAR AGREEMENT AND PURCHASE AND INVESTMENT LETTER**

Motion was Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve an order authorizing the issuance of “Zapata County, Texas Certificates of Obligation, Series 2019”: Authorizing a paying agent/registrar agreement and a purchase and investment letter; and authorizing other matters relating thereto, as requested by Triunfo Gonzalez, County Auditor. (Report attached for the record.)

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

**ORDER DENYING ORDINANCE OF COUNTY OF ZAPATA, TEXAS FINDING,  
AFTER REASONABLE NOTICE AND HEARING THAT AEP TEXAS INC’S  
EXISTING ELECTRICITY RATES AND CHARGES WITHIN THE COUNTY SHOULD  
REMAIN IN EFFECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to deny request by Triunfo Gonzalez, County Auditor, regarding Ordinance of the County of Zapata, Texas finding, after reasonable notice and hearing, that AEP Texas INC’s existing electricity rates and charges within the County should remain in effect.

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

**ORDER APPROVING SAN JUAN SUBDIVISION, PHASE II, BLOCK 1 LOTS 1-4**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve San Juan Subdivision, Phase II, Block 1 Lots 1-4 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 RANCHITOS SAN JOSE SUBDIVISION PLAT,  
BLOCK 1 LOTS 1-5 ON MARU LANE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve Ranchitos San Jose Subdivision Plat, Block 1 Lots 1-5 on Maru Lane as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Subdivision.

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 Martinez, to approve the following line item transfers to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Sheriff's County Jail	10-561-391	Prisoner Medication	\$1,000.00
TO	Sheriff's Regional Jail	10-567-456	Equipment Maintenance	\$1,000.00
FROM	Sheriff's Regional Jail	10-567-335	Computer Expense	\$800.00
TO	Sheriff's Regional Jail	10-567-456	Equipment Maintenance	\$800.00
FROM	Sheriff's County Jail	10-561-394	Prisoner Supplies	\$1,000.00
TO	Sheriff's Regional Jail	10-567-456	Equipment Maintenance	\$1,000.00
FROM	Sheriff's County Jail	10-561-454	Vehicle Maintenance	\$900.00
TO	Sheriff's Regional Jail	10-567-456	Equipment Maintenance	\$900.00
FROM	Sheriff's County Jail	10-561-205	Uniforms	\$1,500.00
TO	Sheriff's Regional Jail	10-567-456	Equipment Maintenance	\$1,500.00
FROM	Sheriff's Regional Jail	10-567-336	Law Enforcement Supplies	\$1,000.00
TO	Sheriff's Regional Jail	10-567-456	Equipment Maintenance	\$1,000.00
FROM	Sheriff's Regional Jail	10-567-337	Prisoner Clothing	\$800.00
TO	Sheriff's Regional Jail	10-567-456	Equipment Maintenance	\$800.00

as requested by Sheriff Alonso M. Lopez, Sheriff'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 Martinez, to approve the following line item transfers to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	County Attorney	10-475-310	Office Supplies	\$2,000.00
TO	County Attorney	10-475-392	Misc. Maintenance Exp.	\$2,000.00
FROM	County Attorney	10-475-454	Inspection Fees	\$2,000.00
TO	County Attorney	10-475-392	Rep. Maint. Supplies	\$2,000.00
FROM	County Attorney	10-475-462	Equipment Rental	\$2,500.00
TO	County Attorney	10-475-392	Misc. Maint. Supplies	\$2,500.00

as requested by Said A. Figueroa, County Attorney.

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 the following line item transfers to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Zapata County Waterworks	80-600-488	Inspection Fees	\$9,000.00
TO	Zapata County Waterworks	80-600-341	Chlorine Chemicals	\$9,000.00

as requested by Carlos Treviño, Jr., Zapata County Waterworks.

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 COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ REGARDING REVIEW OF RSL PROPOSED RATE CHANGES AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to table request by Commissioner Martinez, regarding review of RSL proposed rate changes and take possible action.

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 INSTRUCTING COUNTY TREASURER TO ENFORCE USE OF TIME  
CLOCK BY ALL EMPLOYEES; EMPLOYEES MAY NOT ACCUMULATE COMP  
TIME IN EXCESS OF 200 HOURS AND DOCTOR'S EXCUSE IS REQUIRED FOR  
SICK LEAVE EXCEEDING ONE HOUR**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to instruct County Treasurer to enforce use of time clock by all county employees; employees may not accumulate comp time in excess of 200 hours and a doctor's excuse is required for sick leave exceeding one hour 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(A)(B) Consultation with Attorney.*

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 Mendoza, 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