

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 22nd day of July, 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
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

ABSENT:

Olga M. Elizondo	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
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VISITORS: Romeo Salinas, Said A. Figueroa, Triunfo Gonzalez, Nellie R. Trevino, Monica Alanis, Joyce Currington, Juan J. Meza, Danny Arriaga, Roger Miller, Leslie Vela, Ramona Martinez, Luis Guevara, Jesse Rodriguez, Adriana Figueroa, Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., Alejandro Barrera, Jr., Kelley Heller-Vela, and Ricardo Guevara.

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 placed a call to the Governor's office asking about federal funding for ranches and farmers due to drought conditions in Zapata County.

He also attended a USDA meeting in Hebbronville. There are still \$400,000 in additional grants available from the Las Palmas Grant.

Commissioner Garza asked about the accident at the Wastewater Department involving employee Roberto Ramirez, Mr. Ramirez is in stable conditions.

Commissioner Garza advised the Court that there will be a back to school fishing tournament on August 3 at the Bravo Park.

Nellie Treviño commented that Julie Duran will be having a lemonade stand at the Courthouse rotunda on Friday.

J.J. Meza commented that he attended a meeting and LMC is interested in bringing an emergency room to Zapata. Also, 50 smoke alarms have been installed for Zapata County residents.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve invoices in the amount of \$588,226.72, 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 Garza, to approve checks issued in the amount of \$657,765.91 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. There has been no change in the club structure. They are keeping the kids busy with numerous daily activities. Paint was donated by True Value and the building will be painted.

ORDER APPROVING INSTALLATION AND COST OF MATERIALS FOR 6” WATER LINE IN FALCON SHORES SUBDIVISION

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the installation and cost of materials for a 6” water line in the Falcon Shores Subdivision to remedy the low water pressure issue affecting all residents that reside on both sides of Falcon Shores Drive, to be paid of the new 2019/2020 Capital Outlay line item, as requested by 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 TO CONTINUE LETTER OF CREDIT TO ESTABLISH STAND BY TRUST FUND FOR FINANCIAL ASSURANCE FOR CLOSURE AND POST CLOSURE OF SAN YGNACIO LANDFILL NO. 783 AND CLOSED ZAPATA LANDFILL NO. 1528 AS REQUESTED BY TCEQ

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve to continue the letter of credit to establish stand by trust fund for the financial assurance for the closure and post closure of San Ygnacio Landfill No. 783 in the amount of \$566,445 and closed Zapata Landfill No. 1528 in the amount of \$285,200 as requested by TCEQ, Deborah Wisenski, Financial Analyst 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 INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT/RESOLUTION FOR PROVISION OF EQUIPMENT AND CONSUMABLES BETWEEN ZAPATA COUNTY AND TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve interlocal agreement/resolution for provision of equipment and consumables between Zapata County and Texas Department of Motor Vehicles as requested by Hon. Adriana C. Figueroa, Tax Assessor.

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

ORDER APPROVING TO TRANSFER \$20,000 FROM TOBACCO FUND TO MEDICAL FUND

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve to transfer \$20,000.00 from the Tobacco Fund to Medical Fund 10-543-460 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 TO DENY THE REPLAT OF 357 GONZALEZ STREET INTO LOT 42A INTO 42A AND 42B

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to deny request by Manuel Gonzalez of Premier Engineering regarding review and consideration to replat of 357 Gonzalez Street into Lot 42 into Lot 42A and 42B 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 REVIEW FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve invoice in the amount of \$19,712.50 payable to EJCDC and invoice in the amount of \$14,079.76 payable to Premier Engineering as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. Mr. Gonzalez reported that the project is essentially completed, with the exception of concrete that needs to be poured and sidewalks and road work within plant.

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

ORDER APPROVING INVOICE FOR DESIGN WORK PERFORMED AT COLORADO ACRES

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoice in the amount of \$3,200 for design work for the Colorado Acres 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 BEACON LODGE RIGHT-OF-WAY

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoice in the amount of \$2,935 for the Beacon Lodge right-of-way 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 PENDING INVOICE FOR GOLF COURSE PROJECT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve pending invoices in the amount of \$1,500 for the Golf Course 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 TO TABLE REQUEST BY MANUEL GONZALEZ OF PREMIER ENGINEERING REGARDING REQUEST FOR CHANGE ORDER FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to table request by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering, regarding request for change order for the Wastewater Treatment Plant 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 FDS ZAPATA SUBDIVISION PLAT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve FDS Zapata Subdivision Plat as presented by Kelley Heller-Vela, Melden and Hunt, Inc.

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 Mendoza, to approve the use of the Zapata County Fairgrounds on Wednesday, March 4, 2020 for the Carson & Barnes Circus as requested by John Albert, Carson & Barnes Circus Agent.

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

ORDER APPROVING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR E9-1-1 SAFETY ANSWERING POINT SERVICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the Interlocal Agreement for E9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Point Services as requested by Luis Ortiz, 9-1-1 Program Specialist.

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

ORDER APPROVING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR E9-1-1 AUTOMATIC LOCATION IDENTIFICATION MAINTENANCE

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the Interlocal Agreement for E9-1-1 Automatic Location Identification Maintenance as requested by Luis Ortiz 9-1-1.

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 LIGHT

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

1003 Fresno Street (Zapata townsite, Block 57, Lot 4.)
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 LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Commissioner Pct. 1	10-001-427	Travel	\$1,302.76
TO	Commissioner Pct. 1	10-001-392	Parks	\$1,302.76

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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the following line item transfers to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Auditor's Office	10-495-310	Office	\$715.00
TO	Auditor's Office	10-495-427	Travel	\$715.00
FROM	Auditor's Office	10-495-335	Equipment Rental	\$715.00
TO	Auditor's Office	10-495-427	Travel	\$715.00

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.

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

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Justice of the Peace Pct. 3	10-455-319	Drug Testing	\$500.00
TO	Justice of the Peace Pct. 3	10-455-463	Equipment Rental	\$500.00
FROM	Justice of the Peace Pct. 3	10-455-331	Fuel	\$500.00
TO	Justice of the Peace Pct. 3	10-455-463	Equipment Rental	\$500.00
FROM	Justice of the Peace Pct. 3	10-455-322	Dues	\$500.00
TO	Justice of the Peace Pct. 3	10-455-312	Supplies	\$500.00

as requested by Hon. Fernando Muñoz, Justice of the Peace 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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the following line item transfers to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Wastewater	08-602-311	Postage	\$500.00
TO	Wastewater	08-602-336	Repair & Maintenance	\$500.00
FROM	Wastewater	08-602-341	Chlorine – Chemicals	\$4,500.00
TO	Wastewater	08-602-336	Repair & Maintenance	\$4,500.00
FROM	Wastewater	08-602-589	Equipment	\$625.00
TO	Wastewater	08-602-205	Uniforms	\$625.00

as requested by Eloy Chapa, Jr., Wastewater 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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the following line item transfers to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Constable Pct. 3	10-550-312	Supplies Pct. 3	\$300.00
TO	Constable Pct. 3	10-550-429	Travel Pct. 3	\$300.00
FROM	Constable Pct. 3	10-550-333	Fuel Pct. 4	\$300.00
TO	Constable Pct. 3	10-550-429	Travel Pct. 3	\$300.00
FROM	Constable Pct. 3	10-550-430	Travel Pct. 4	\$200.00
TO	Constable Pct. 3	10-550-429	Travel Pct. 3	\$200.00
FROM	Constable Pct. 3	10-550-313	Supplies Pct. 4	\$200.00
TO	Constable Pct. 3	10-550-456	Repair & Maintenance	\$200.00
FROM	Constable Pct. 3	10-550-457	Repair & Maintenance Pct. 4	\$800.00
TO	Constable Pct. 3	10-550-456	Repair & Maintenance	\$800.00
FROM	Constable Pct. 3	10-550-332	Fuel Pct. 3	\$1,000.00
TO	Constable Pct. 3	10-550-456	Repair & Maintenance	\$1,000.00

as requested by Hon. Eloy Martinez, Constable 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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the following line item transfers to meet department needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Zapata Co. Waterworks	80-600-443	Electricity	\$8,500.00
TO	Zapata Co. Waterworks	08-600-341	Chlorine-Chemicals	\$8,500.00
FROM	Zapata Co. Waterworks	08-600-443	Electricity	\$1,000.00
TO	Zapata Co. Waterworks	08-600-336	Repair and Maint.	\$1,000.00

as requested by Carlos Treviño, Water Plant.

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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the following line item transfers to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Texas A&M AgriLife Ext.	10-665-310	Office Supplies	\$200.00
TO	Texas A&M AgriLife Ext.	10-665-427	Workshops & Travel Exp.	\$200.00
FROM	Texas A&M AgriLife Ext.	10-665-312	Communication & Programs	\$205.00
TO	Texas A&M AgriLife Ext.	10-665-427	Workshops & Travel Exp.	\$205.00
FROM	Texas A&M AgriLife Ext.	10-665-313	Membership Fees	\$10.00
TO	Texas A&M AgriLife Ext.	10-665-427	Workshops & Travel Exp.	\$10.00

as requested by Jesus F. Rodriguez, Texas A&M AgriLife Ext.

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 MARTINEZ,
TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION**

ORDER APPROVING TO START PROCESS AND DEVELOP A POLICY FOR FORMATION OF ZAPATA COUNTY EMPLOYEE SICK LEAVE POOL PROGRAM AND BRING ITEM BACK TO COURT FOR COMMISSIONERS COURT APPROVAL

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve to start a process and develop policy for the formation of Zapata County Employee Sick Leave Pool Program under the parameters as set forth by the Texas Local Government Code, Title 5, Subtitle B, Chapter 157, Subchapter E: Pooling Sick Leave by County Employee, Section 157.072 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.

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

ORDER AUTHORIZING COUNTY ATTORNEY TO BEGIN RESEARCH AND DRAFT COUNTY ORDINANCE PROHIBITING AUTOMOBILE WRECKING AND SALVAGE YARDS FROM OPENING AND ESTABLISHING IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS AND ENFORCE RESTRICTIONS ON EXISTING AUTOMOBILE WRECKING AND SALVAGE YARDS IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to authorize County Attorney to begin the research and draft a county ordinance prohibiting automobile wrecking and salvage yards, from opening and establishing in residential areas and to enforce restrictions on existing automobile wrecking and salvage yards in residential areas 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 551.071/551.072 (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 APPROVING LOCAL POLICY PROHIBITING INSTALLATION OF SPEED HUMPS/BUMPS IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS; EXISTING HUMPS/BUMPS WILL REMAIN THE SAME WITH EXCEPTION OF SCHOOLS, PUBLIC PARKS, AND WORSHIP ZONES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve local policy prohibiting the installation of speed humps/bumps in residential areas; existing speed humps/bumps will remain the same with the exception of (200 feet within) school, public park zones, and worship zones. Implementation of said policy would address concerns brought up by county emergency services departments 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.

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