

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 25th of January 2021, 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
Jose A. Solis	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: Nellie R. Treviño, Joyce Currington, Roger Miller, Ralph Treviño, Daniel D. Arriaga and Raymundo Del Bosque.

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 stated that he is working with Fire Chief Danny Arriaga and reported that they have obtained Moderna Covid-19 vaccines. Local clinics will vaccinate tier one persons who have registered and first responders. Two hundred additional vaccines have been obtained; Mary Plattner has 300 doses. Gateway, DSHS are also working with the Fire Department; LMC and Daniel's Pharmacy will also have vaccines.

Fire Chief Danny Arriaga stated that Region 8 was allotted 10,000 vaccines, Zapata will receive approximately 750.

Pope Gonzalez added that Veterans must register with the VA to get vaccinated.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve invoices in the amount of \$882,936.98 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 \$882,936.98, 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.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB REPORT
(No one present to give report.)

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF OUTSTANDING INVOICES APPROVED
OCTOBER 26, 2020 FROM TOBACCO FUND DUE TO DELAY IN RELEASE OF
COVID-19 FUNDS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to pay outstanding invoices approved on October 26, 2020, in the amount of \$35,426.50 from the Tobacco Fund due to a delay in the release of Covid -19 Funds as requested by Fire Chief Daniel D. Arriaga, Fire Department.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REQUEST TO TRANSFER \$20,000 FROM TOBACCO FUND
TO REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE AMBULANCE 10-543-457**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve request to transfer of \$20,000.00 from Tobacco Fund to Repair and Maintenance Ambulance 10-543-457 as requested by Fire Chief Daniel Arriaga, Fire Department.

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

9. To consider a proposal to create four Airborne Infection Isolation rooms at the Zapata County Regional Jail as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

**ORDER APPROVING PROJECT SITE FOR SUBMISSION TO 2021-2022 TXCDBG
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve Cardinal Street and Crane Street, Precinct 3, as the selected project site for submission to the 2021-2022 TxCDBG Community Development 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 TO TABLE REQUEST BY JUDGE RATHMELL FOR SELECTION OF
PROJECT FOR SUBMISSION TO 2021-2022 TXCDBG COLONIA CONSTRUCTION
FUND PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to table request by Judge Rathmell regarding selection of a project for submission to the 2021-2022 TxCDBG Colonia Construction 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 PAYMENT TO ZAPATA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR BASS CHAMPS FISHING TOURNAMENT HOST FEE AND OTHER EXPENSES

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve payment to the Zapata County Chamber of Commerce for the Bass Champs Fishing Tournament host fees and hotel room fees in the total amount of \$4,299.90 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 CREATION OF NEW CSI TECHNICAL ASSISTANT POSITION TO BE ADDED TO DEPARTMENT 402 FUND 10; TO BE FUNDED FROM CORONA RELIEF FUND MONIES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve the creation of a new CSI Technician Assistant position to be added to Department 402 Fund 10 at the rate of \$15.00 per hour plus benefits; will advertise position for 2 weeks. Salary to be funded from the Corona Relief Fund monies allocated to Zapata County 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 TO TABLE REQUEST BY HON. PACO MENDOZA REGARDING REVIEW AND CONSIDER MODIFYING CURRENT ZAPATA COUNTY CEMETERY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to table request by Hon. Paco Mendoza regarding review and consider modifying current Zapata County Cemetery policies and procedures 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 INVOICES FOR IMELDA'S TUXEDO FOR AMOUNT OF \$344.00 FOR PURCHASE OF MASKS

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve invoices for Imelda's Tuxedo for the amount of \$344.00 for the purchase of masks to be paid from line item 10-004-310 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 ALLOWING HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT AND IT DEPARTMENT TO ENROLL IN THE 2021 TAC CERTIFIED CYBERSECURITY TRAINING COURSE TO FULLY REQUIREMENTS SET IN THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE TO REMAIN IN COMPLIANCE WITH TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION RESOURCES (DIR)

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to allow Human Resources Department and IT Department to enroll in the 2021 TAC Certified Cybersecurity Training Course to fulfill requirements set in the Texas Government Code 2054.519 and to remain in compliance with Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) as requested by Nellie R. Treviño, Human Resources Director.

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

**ORDER APPROVING HIRING OF BARDEMAR CANTU AS
WATER PLANT OPERATOR**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the hiring of Baldemar Cantu as Water Plant Operator, Slot #11 at \$16.10 per hour, effective February 1, 2021, as requested by Ralph Treviño, Water Plant Director.

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

ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER OF MARK CHAPA TO DISTRIBUTION SLOT #22

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve the transfer of Mark Chapa to Distribution, Slot #22 at \$9.48 per hour, effective January 25, 2021, as requested by Ralph Treviño, Water Plant Director.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER OF RODOLFO GUERRA, DISTRIBUTION
SLOT #20 TO WATER PLANT MAINTENANCE SLOT #27**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the transfer of Rodolfo Guerra, Distribution, Slot #20 at \$9.48 per hour to Water Plant Maintenance, Slot #27 at \$11.87 per hour, effective February 8, 2021 as requested by Ralph Treviño, Water Plant Director.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER OF JESUS GONZALEZ, JR., DISTRIBUTION
SLOT #6 TO WATER PLANT OPERATOR IN TRAINING SLOT #31**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve the transfer of Jesus Gonzalez, Jr., Distribution, Slot #6 at \$9.55 per hour to Water Plant Operator in training Slot #31 at \$9.98 per hour effective, January 25, 201 as requested by Ralph Treviño, Water Plant Director.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AND GO OUT FOR BIDS FOR
ZAPATA COUNTY LIBRARY ROOF REPAIRS AND ALLOW MANUEL GONZALEZ
OF PREMIER ENGINEERING TO PREPARE SPECIFICATIONS FOR PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve request proposals and go out for bids for the Zapata County Library roof repairs and allow Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering, to prepare the specifications for the project as requested by Nellie R. Treviño, Human Resources Director.

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

ORDER APPROVING REPAIRS/CONSTRUCTION OF DRAINAGE CHANNEL OF FLORES DRIVE

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve repairs /construct drainage channel of Flores Drive for a cost of \$26,400 for material and labor to be paid out of the fund balance. Property has been acquired and ready for repairs 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 APPLICATION TO TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT (TPWD) FOR FUNDING UNDER BOATING ACCESS PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENTS AT ZAPATA COUNTY RAMP PARK AND AUTHORIZE FIRM OF CALOS COLINA-VARGAS TO PREPARE APPLICATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve an application to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) for funding under the Boating Access program for improvements at the Zapata County Ramp Park and authorize the firm of Carlos Colina-Vargas to prepare the application and supporting documentation as requested by Carlos Colina-Vargas, Grant Writer.

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

ORDER APPROVING SUBMISSION AS APPLICATION FROM ZAPATA COUNTY TO TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT (TPWD) FOR GRANT FROM AGENCY'S BOAT RAMP SITE AND AUTHORIZE FIRM OF CALOS COLINA-VARGAS TO PREPARE APPLICATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the submission as application from Zapata County to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) for a grant from that agency's boat ramp site; and authorize the firm of Carlos Colina-Vargas to prepare the application and supporting documentation as requested by Carlos Colina-Vargas, Grant Writer.

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

ORDER APPROVING \$25,000 FOR A COVID-19 RAPID TESTING MACHINE (GENEXPERT XPRESS SYSTEM) FROM TOBACCO FUND

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve \$25,000.00 for a Covid-19 rapid testing machine (GeneXpert Xpress System) or similar from the Tobacco Fund as requested by Sheriff Ray Del Bosque, Zapata County Sheriff's Office.

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

ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION FOR GRANT OPERATION STONEGARDEN OPSG #3672904 FOR FY2020

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve resolution for grant Operation Stonegarden OPSG #3672904 for FY2020 for \$324,675.00 for overtime as requested by Sheriff Ray Del Bosque, Zapata County Sheriff's Office.

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

**NO ACTION ON THE FOLLOING ITEM AS IT WAS A REPEAT OF
ITEM #27 ABOVE**

29. to approve the purchase of Covid-19 testing machine from Tobacco Fund as requested by Hon. Sheriff Ray Del Bosque, Zapata County Sheriff's Office.

**ORDER APPROVING TO GO OUT FOR BIDS FOR CONVERSION OF THREE
NEGATIVE PRESSURE CELLS AT REGIONAL JAIL**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve to go out for bids for the conversion of 3 negative pressure cells at the regional jail as requested by Hon. Sheriff Ray Del Bosque, Zapata County Sheriff's Office.

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

ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION FOR GRANT OPSG

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve resolution for grant OPSG as requested by Hon. Sheriff Ray Del Bosque, Zapata County Sheriff's Office.

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.

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