

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 26th of July 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
Norberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
Joey Solis	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
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: Nellie R. Treviño, Daniel Arriaga, Roger Miller, Karran Westerman, Alejandro Barrera, Jr., Carlos Colina Vargas, and Carlos Ramirez.

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

Fire Chief Daniel D. Arriaga reported that they will continue what they are doing. Overtook testing as the state pulled the plug. However, the state provides the test kits.

Cases are rising because people are not wearing their mask. Those that tested positive do not have the vaccine. They are offered the vaccine, but they don't want it. They cannot be forced, but the option is offered.

One Fire Department employee tested positive and experienced very mild symptoms, he is vaccinated.

The Fire Department administered 42 vaccines, 35 of them were first doses. There has been no Delta variant in Zapata County.

The National Guard comes every Tuesday to the community center. They have all the vaccines. DSHS is vaccinating in San Ygnacio. CVS is vaccinating by appointment. Fire Department is testing on Tuesdays and Thursdays for now.

Judge Rathmell gave the Covid-19 report as follows:

12 + first dose 69.27%
12 + fully vaccinated 59.15%
65 + first dose 83.60%
65 + fully vaccinated 75.08%

Karran Westerman reported on 4th of July fireworks, she was commended for a great show. She is thinking of changing the venue for next year due to 4 wheelers. Judge Rathmell stated that

the Sheriff will be there next year. She has the money to pay fireworks invoice, but wanted to present it before the court.

Joe Pena presented the new uniforms and badges.

Commissioner Mendoza commented that over 700 backpacks were distributed to students via a drive thru event. Included with the distribution was a McDonalds happy meal. It was a very successful event.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve invoices in the amount of \$752,146.03, including a P.O. for work done at Rhoda Maria 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 Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve checks issued in the amount of \$752,146.03, including check for works at Rhoda Maria 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 TO ADVERTISE AND ACCEPT APPLICATION FOR ZAPATA COUNTY AIRPORT MANAGER POSITION

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve to advertise and accept applications for the Zapata County Airport Manager position as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge. Charlie Avaritt will retire at the end of fiscal year. Personnel Director has requirements and job description. Will advertise for two weeks.

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 request engineering services to survey possible removal of a portion of land from the Texas Parks Wildlife Grant funding at the Los Ebanos Golf Course as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

ORDER APPROVING TO RAISE LOCAL LIMIT FOR COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES TO \$50,000

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve to raise the local limit for the competitive procurement of goods and services to \$50,000 to match those of the state of Texas 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 TO EXTEND DEADLINE AND MODIFY FEES FOR RESERVED PLOTS AT ZAPATA COUNTY CEMETERY

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve to extend the deadline to December 31, 2021 and modify fees for the reserved plots at the Zapata County Cemetery as follows: Section 2 - \$150, Section 3 - \$500, if not paid by deadline the plots will go back into circulation, 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 TO REQUEST PROPOSALS FOR GRANT CONSULTING SERVICES RELATED TO U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY CORONAVIRUS LOCAL RECOVERY FUND AWARD

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve to request proposals for grant consulting services related to the U.S. Department of the Treasury Coronavirus Local Recovery Fund Award 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 INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN LUBBOCK COUNTY AND ZAPATA COUNTY FOR REGIONAL PUBLIC DEFENDER FOR CAPITAL CASES FY 2022-2023

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve Interlocal Agreement between Lubbock County and Zapata County for the Regional Public Defender for Capital Cases FY 2022-2023 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 TO TRANSFER \$15,000 FROM TOBACCO FUND FOR REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve request to transfer \$15,000 from Tobacco Fund for repairs and maintenance (10-543-457) as requested by Fire Chief Daniel D. Arriaga.

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

ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF INVOICES FOR WORK COMPLETED AT WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve payment of invoice from Premier Engineering in the amount of \$22,900.00 plus invoice for amount of \$10,000 for amendment; invoice from ACP Construction for \$39,071.47, remaining funds will be used for lab equipment for the Zapata County Wastewater Treatment Plant as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. Requested connections have been made. Issues are being addressed; they are having to add alum; hose has been replaced. Wastewater is chlorinated then dechlorinated and released as fresh into various ponds. This water has also been used to irrigate golf course as needed.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF INVOICES FOR COLORADO
SEWER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve payment of invoice from Premier Engineering in the amount of \$8,000 for the Colorado Sewer Improvement Project as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. Project is by Best Western and will provide sewer system to Best Western, Oso Blanco and Colorado Acres.

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

**ORDER AWARDING CONTRACT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR
MIRAFLORES NEIGHBORHOOD PARK TO PREMIER ENGINEERING**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to award contract for engineering services for the Miraflores Neighborhood Park TPWD Project 46507 to Premier Engineering as requested by Carlos Colina Vargas, Project Consultant.

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

**ORDER AWARDING CONTRACT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR ZAPATA
GOLF COURSE AND NATURE PARK TO PREMIER ENGINEERING**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to award contract for engineering services for the Zapata Golf Course and Nature Park TPWD Project 46091 to Premier Engineering as requested by Carlos Colina Vargas, Project Consultant.

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

**ORDER AWARDING CONTRACT FOR PROGRAM MANAGEMENT
FOR MIRAFLORES NEIGHBORHOOD PARK TO THE
FIRM OF CARLOS COLINA VARGAS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to award contract for program management for the Miraflores Neighborhood Park TPWD Project 46507 to the firm of Carlos Colina Vargas, AICP and Associates, as requested by Carlos Colina Vargas, Project Consultant.

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

**ORDER AWARDING CONTRACT FOR PROGRAM MANAGEMENT FOR ZAPATA
GOLF COURSE AND NATURE PARK TO THE FIRM OF CARLOS COLINA VARGAS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to award contract for program management for the Zapata Golf Course and Nature Park TPWD project 46091, to the firm of Carlos Colina Vargas LLCP and Associates, Carlos Colina Vargas, Project Consultant.

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

ORDER AUTHORIZING FIRM OF CARLOS COLINA VARGAS TO INITIATE SEARCH FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND BIOLOGIST SERVICE FOR ZAPATA GOLF COURSE AND NATURE PARK AND FOR APPRAISAL SERVICES FOR MIRAFLORES NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to authorize the firm of Carlos Colina Vargas, LLC and Associates to initiate search for archaeological survey and biologist services for the Zapata Golf Course and Nature Park and for appraisal services for the Miraflores Neighborhood Park sites as requested by the TPWD, as requested by Carlos Colina Vargas, Project Consultant.

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

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	County Attorney	10-475-454	Vehicle Expense	\$500.00
TO	County Attorney	10-475-392	Misc. Maintenance Exp.	\$500.00
FROM	County Attorney	10-475-427	Travel Expense	\$400.00
TO	County Attorney	10-475-392	Misc. Maintenance Exp.	\$400.00

as requested by Hon. 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 Mendoza, 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	10-319-455	Drug Testing, Pct. 3	\$500.00
TO	Justice of the Peace, Pct. 3	10-455-312	Supplies	\$500.00
FROM	Justice of the Peace, Pct. 3	10-322-454	Dues Pct. 3	\$450.00
TO	Justice of the Peace, Pct. 3	10-455-312	Supplies	\$450.00
FROM	Justice of the Peace, Pct. 3	10-463-454	Equipment Rental Pct. 3	\$1,516.62
TO	Justice of the Peace, Pct. 3	10-455-312	Supplies	\$1,516.62

as requested by Hon. Fernando Munoz, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3.

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 Solis, 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