

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 12th day of December 2022, 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
Jose A. Solis	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Norberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
Celica A. Rodriguez	Chief Deputy County Clerk

ABSENT:

Olga M. Elizondo	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of Commissioners Court

VISITORS: Hector Lopez, Jr., Roger Miller, Delia Mendoza, Joseph Peña, 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 CELICA A. RODRIGUEZ, CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK
INVOCATION BY REV. ROGER MILLER, COMMISSIONERS COURT CHAPLAIN
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

COMMUNICATIONS

Judge Rathmell stated that funding for Siesta Shores Water District will be awarded this Friday.

Swearing in ceremony will be at the Courthouse at 12:00 a.m., friends and family are welcome.

State representative Ryan Guillen is here this morning.

Covid-19 report:

2,596 positive cases

1,700 probable cases

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices from November 11 – December 9, 2022, in the amount of \$1,321,826.50, 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 TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve Treasurer's Report 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 CHECKS ISSUED

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve checks issued from November 11 – December 9, 2022, in the amount of \$1,321,826.50, 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.

TAX / ASSESSOR COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Tax Assessor/Collector's office reported Hotel-Motel tax collections in the amount of \$7,043.48 for the month of November with a year-to-date total of \$16,408.71. Total collections were \$4,547,700.63. Tax collections are at a rate of 60.09%.

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTIONS REPORT

Jimmy Gonzalez with Linebarger presented the 2021-2022 Delinquent Tax Collections Report.

PRESENTATION OF TDA FORM A1024 CDBG SECTION 3 GOALS AND CONCEPTS AS RELATED TO THE CDBG PROGRAM AND GRANT CONTRACT NUMBER CFC21-0191

Kendra M. Busse Rocha with GrantWorks made a presentation of TDA Form A1024 CDBG Section 3 Goals and Concepts as related to the CDBG Program and Grant Contract Number CFC21-0191.

ORDER APPROVING TO REQUEST PROPOSALS FOR REPAIRS TO SAN YGNACIO WATER PLANT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded Commissioner Solis, to approve to request proposals for repairs to the San Ygnacio Water Plant roof, including trim and painting of office building 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 COMPENSATE COUNTY EMPLOYEES FOR WORK DONE WITH OPERATION LONE STAR

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Judge Rathmell, to approve to compensate county employees for work done with Operation Lone Star based on legal advice by County Attorney as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

Discussion: Sheriff Del Bosque will be traveling to Austin to get clarification. Commissioner Mendoza would like for someone from the state to come and explain. County Attorney Figueroa finds compensation to be legal.

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

ORDER APPROVING TO HIRE PREMIER ENGINEERING TO SURVEY COUNTY OWNED LOT ADJACENT TO SAN YGNACIO WATER PLANT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve to hire Premier Engineering to survey county owned lot adjacent to San Ygnacio Water Plant as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TO MOVE REGULAR ZAPATA
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve to move Regular Zapata County Commissioners Court meeting scheduled for December 27, 2022 to December 22, 2022 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 TO APPROVE
TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN ZAPATA COUNTY AND
ALTAMIRA SOLAR, LLC.**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve to table request by Judge Rathmell to approve tax abatement agreement between Zapata County and Altamira Solar, LLC.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT FOR REPAIR AND MATERIALS OF THE
BOUNDARY FENCE AT ZAPATA COUNTY SHOOTING RANGE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve payment for the repair and materials of the boundary fence at the Zapata County shooting range. Labor cost is \$4,500 and materials cost is \$2,227.25, to be paid out of non-department 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 INVOICES FOR PRECINCT 1 DRAINAGE PROJECT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve invoices for the Pct. 1 drainage project in the amount of \$4,549.50. Mr. Gonzalez will bring estimate to complete project, 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 COMMISSIONER MENDOZA TO
APPROVE COST OF MATERIALS AND LABOR TO REPLACE
FALCON SENIOR CITIZENS NUTRITION CENTER ROOF**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve to table request by Commissioner Mendoza to approve cost of materials and labor to replace the Falcon Senior Citizens Nutrition Center roof.

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

**ORDER APPROVING THE RENAMING OF ZAPATA COUNTY PLAZA TO
“JUDGE HECTOR FIDEL LOPEZ COUNTY PLAZA”**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve the renaming of the Zapata County Plaza to the "Judge Hector Fidel Lopez County Plaza" in honor of the late, Judge Lopez, over 28 years of public service to Zapata County as Justice of the Peace Precinct 1 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 USE OF TECHNOLOGY FUND FOR PRINTER LEASE

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the use of the Technology Fund for the printer lease expenses for the year that is billed quarterly in the amount of \$2,330.00 as requested by Judge Fernando Munoz, 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.

**ORDER APPROVING TO GO OUT FOR BIDS FOR INSTALLATION OF 6 FEET
CHAIN LINK FENCE FOR ZAPATA COUNTY PROPERTY LOCATED ADJACENT
TO SAN YGNACIO WATER PLANT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve to go out for bids for the installation of a 6 feet chain-link fence with 3 tier barbed wire top for the Zapata County property located adjacent to the San Ygnacio water plant (504 Trevino Street) as requested by Ralph Trevino, 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 DONATION FROM GREATER HOUSTON COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION FOR SIESTA SHORES PRECINCT 3 PARK**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve donation from Greater Houston Community Foundation for the Siesta Shores Precinct 3 Park, General Ledger account number 010-15230-000 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 HIRE ISIDRO RAMIREZ AT
ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve to hire Isidro Ramirez in Slot #11 at \$10.00 hour at the Environmental Department as requested by Guillermo Saenz, Environmental Director.

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

ORDER APPROVING PURCHASE OF SHIELD FROM GRANT #4683601

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve purchase of shield from Grant# 4683601 for a total of \$150,000.00 as requested by Joe Pena, 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 PAYMENT TO SABLE PUMPS FOR REPAIRS TO
LIFT STATIONS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve the payment to Sable Pumps invoice #531 in the amount of 24,750.00 for repairs on Lift Station #31 and invoice #532 in the amount of \$ 24,250.00 for repairs on Lift Station #18 due to damages during May flooding claim# PR20221968-1, to be paid from line-item #010-48240-409 as requested by Nellie Trevino, Personnel Director.

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

**ORDER TO ALLOW ZAPATA ISD JROTC TO USE ZAPATA COUNTY
COMMUNITY CENTER FOR ARCHERY CLASS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to allow the Zapata ISD JROTC to use the Zapata County Community Center on January 23, 2023 for an Archery Class as requested by Nellie Trevino, Personnel Director.

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

**ORDER TO ALLOW ZAPATA RYDERS CLUB TO USE FRONT OF COURTHOUSE
TO HOLD CHRISTMAS BIKE/RUN/WALK EVENT ON CHRISTMAS DAY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to allow the Zapata Ryders Club to use the front of Courthouse to hold a Christmas bike/run/walk event on Christmas Day. Monies will be used for the Christmas Gifts as requested by Nellie Trevino, Personnel Director.

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

ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT TO GUZMAN JUAREZ BACKHOE SERVICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoice in the amount \$6,012.00 payable to Guzman Juarez Backhoe Service for work completed on the Flores Drainage project and approve invoices 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.

**REVIEW OF PLAT ON 6th AVENUE/ CARLA STREET NORTH EAST OF
SOUTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Mr. Manuel Gonzalez presented preliminary plat for 6th Avenue/Carla Street North East of South Elementary School. Proposed Parcel #1 (3-acre tract) property will be split in half. Will present final plat at the next meeting.

**ORDER APPROVING AWARD FOR ARCHEOLOGICAL SERVICES FOR TXCDBG
CFC21-0191 MEDINA ADDITION DRAINAGE PROJECT TO INTEGRATED
ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve award for archeological services for TxCDBG CFC21-0191 Medina Addition drainage project to Integrated Environmental Solutions as requested by Kendra M. Busse Rocha, Grantworks.

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

**ORDER APPROVING GRANT ADMINISTRATION & ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICE AGREEMENT FROM CARL ESSER, ESSER & ESSER
COMPANY CONSULTING LLC**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve Professional Grant Administration & Environmental Service Agreement from Carl Esser, Esser & Company Consulting LLC for Zapata County CDBG Grant Agreement No. CFC 22-0086 San Ygnacio Water Improvement Project, pending review by County Attorney as requested by Carl Esser, Esser & Company Consulting LLC.

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 CARLOS COLINA VARGAS TO APPROVE
CONTRACTS FOR GRANT ADMINISTRATION SERVICES FOR MIRAFLORES
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK, FALCON LAKE RAMP SITE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
AND FEMA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to table request by Carlos Colina Vargas to approve contracts for grant administration services with Carlos Colina Vargas, AICP & Associates for the following projects Miraflores Neighborhood Park, Falcon Lake Ramp Site Improvements Project and FEMA Emergency Operations Center Project as requested by Carlos Colina Vargas, Consultant.

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

ORDER APPROVING INSTALLATION OF STREET LIGHTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve installation of the following street lights:

- a. 607 Elm Street
- b. 441 Falcon Shores Drive
- c. 201 4th Street

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 RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
OPERATION IRON SHIELD FY2023**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a resolution in support of Operation Iron Shield FY2023.

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