

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 30th day of January 2023, the Commissioners Court of Zapata County, Texas convened in **SPECIAL 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
Pedro Morales	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Jose A. Solis	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Roberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
Celica A. Rodriguez	Chief Deputy County Clerk

ABSENT:

Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk and Ex Officio Clerk of Commissioners Court
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VISITORS: Roger Miller, Patricia A. Gonzalez, Mike Chapa, Nellie Treviño, Delia Mendoza, Elisa Gutierrez, and Manuel Gonzalez, 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 CELICA A. RODRIGUEZ, CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK
INVOCATION BY REV. ROGER MILLER, COMMISSIONERS COURT CHAPLAIN
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Morales announced that the bird festival will take place this week. People from Laredo will be visiting San Ygnacio and Zapata Thursday through Saturday for bird watching.

Commissioner Garza announced that Texas AgriLife will be hosting a natural resources committee meeting this afternoon at 6:00 p.m. in room 248.

Judge Rathmell announced that IBWC will be hosting 3 meetings regarding grazing leases along the Falcon Reservoir. One on January 31, at 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at Laredo Public Library, February 1, 2023 at 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at Zapata County Museum and February 2, 2023 at 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at Roma Community Center.

Commissioner Garza congratulated the girls who participated in the queen's contest; the winner was Idali Garcia.

REPORT BY LAREDO MEDICAL CENTER

Marco Rodriguez, Chief Financial Officer, and Marco Lozano of Laredo Medical Center were present and announced the CEO is unable to attend due to a conflict. Mr. Rodriguez stated that the clinic is now open 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday. He reported that in 2022, the clinic saw just under 5,000 clinic visits; in 2020 just a bit over 2,000; and 2019 about 3,000. Dr. Corey Fernandez comes in twice a month. Dr. Fernandez volunteered for the season to be the physician on the sidelines for all the home games. They offer lab and x-ray services. When asked if there were plans to increase the number of services, they responded that they would work with the indigent care service director and see what they notice may be needs for the community and see how they can assist with providing that service. When asked if they had plans of opening 24 hours, they responded that they can see what the needs of the community are. Judger Rathmell stated that it would be wonderful if we could have a doctor once a week instead of twice a month. They will reevaluate and perhaps another position could come and offset the weeks that Dr. Fernandez is not here. Commissioner Mendoza asked if they could revisit specialists coming in as well as hours of operation and more doctors more often, that would help our community a lot. They are renegotiating a 5-month extension on the lease. No report submitted for the record.

ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT TO J & C INVESTMENTS FOR FENCING AT SAN YGNACIO WATER PLANT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve payment in the amount of \$8,730.00 to J & C Investments for fencing at the San Ygnacio Water Plant as requested by Hon. Joseph 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 VICTOR HERNANDEZ FOR REPAIRS DONE AT INDIGENT OFFICE

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve payment in the amount of \$1,300.00 to Victor Hernandez for repairs done at the Indigent Office as requested by Hon. Joseph 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 MOVE COMMISSIONERS' COURT MEETING FROM FEBRUARY 13, 2023 TO FEBRUARY 10, 2023

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve to move Commissioners' Court meeting from the February 13, 2023 to February 10, 2023 as requested by Hon. Joseph 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 THE HIRING OF TWO CLERK POSITIONS SLOT #2 AND SLOT #3 AT THE OLGA V. FIGUEROA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve to hire Maria Winkler and Eduardo Ramon in Slot #2 and Slot #3 at the Olga V Figueroa Public Library at \$10.00 per hour as requested by Honorable Joseph 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 PURCHASE OF LAPTOP COMPUTER
FOR COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 2**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis to approve the purchase of a laptop computer for the Commissioner, Pct. 2 from Dell in the amount of \$1,383.60 from Non-Department Computer Hardware as requested by Hon. Pedro Morales, Commissioner Pct. 2.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PROVISION OF \$527,618 IN IGT FOR
LAREDO MEDICAL CENTER FOR THE DY12 UC ADVANCE IGT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve provision of \$527,618 in IGT for Laredo Medical Center for the DY12 UC Advance IGT due February 1, 2023 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 PAYMENT TO DOGGETT FREIGHTLINER OF
SOUTH TEXAS, LLC FOR REPAIRS TO PRECINCT #2
PETERBILT GRAPPLE TRUCK**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve the payment to Doggett Freightliner of South Texas, LLC for repairs to the Precinct #2 Peterbilt Grapple Truck in the amount of \$12,244.00 from line item 010-45640-409. 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 APPROVING PURCHASE OF COMPUTER MONITOR
FROM TECHNOLOGY FUND FOR JP PRECINCT #1**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the purchase of a computer monitor in the amount of \$407.39 from the Technology Fund for Justice of the Peace Precinct #1 as requested by Hon. Judge Anna Guerra, Justice of the Peace Pct. 1.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PURCHASE OF DESKTOP COMPUTER
FOR INDIGENT PROGRAM**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve the purchase of a Desktop computer for the Indigent Program from Dell in the amount of \$1,252.70 from Non-Department Computer Hardware as requested by Patricia Gonzalez, Indigent Program Director.

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF INVOICES AND UPDATE ON
CARDINAL AND CRANE STREETS CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve payment of invoice in the amount of \$44,000 to contractor and invoice in the amount of \$1,000 to Premier Engineering for work done on Cardinal and Crane construction as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

Update: Contractor has completed clearing and grubbing of 50 ft. right-of-way and 30% of subgrade preparation. Traffic control measures are set up. No report submitted for the record.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF INVOICE AND
UPDATE ON EOC PLANS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve invoice in the amount of \$5,000 to Premier Engineering for work on EOC plans as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

Update: Adjustments were made to the training room to accommodate for meetings. No report submitted for the record.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF INVOICE AND UPDATE ON
ZAPATA COUNTY BOAT RAMP PLANS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve payment of invoice in the amount of \$2,500 to Premier Engineering for work done on Zapata County Boat Ramp plans as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

Update: Working on getting water and sewer details for new restroom, mainly water flow and accessibility, also getting approval for archeological services.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF INVOICE AND REVIEW ON
LOS EBANOS GOLF COURSE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve payment of invoice in the amount of \$5,000 for work done on Los Ebanos Golf Course 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.

Mr. Gonzalez reviewed Los Ebanos Golf Course and stated that they already have an alignment chosen for the trails and they are looking at putting a culvert at a low water crossing area; there is a pond on either side and a gas line. They are waiting for an okay from the oil and gas company. Commissioner Garza asked if it was a trail for people and bicycles. Trail will be at least 10 ft. wide to allow bicycles while people are walking; trail will be tied to the Bravo Park. No report for the record.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/QGOfK0gYbxc?feature=share>

**ORDER APPROVING USE OF SOFTBALL FIELDS IN PRECINCT 1
AND PRECINCT 4 FOR 1ST ANNUAL U.S. BORDER PATROL
EXPLORER SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve the use of the softball fields in precinct 1 & precinct 4 on March 4, 2023 for the 1st annual U.S. Border Patrol Explorer Softball Tournament as request by Charles Zepeda, U.S. Border Patrol.

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

ORDER APPROVING LINE-ITEM TRANSFER

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve the following line-item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE-ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Nutrition Center Congregate C1	038-33664-647	Raw food	\$974.81
TO	Nutrition Center Congregate C2	038-33664-648	Non-food consumable	\$974.81

as requested by Berta Lopez, Nutrition Center Director.

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 Mendoza, 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