

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 8th day of May 2023, 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
Pedro Morales	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Jose A. Solis	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Roberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk and Ex Officio Clerk of Commissioners Court

VISITORS: Nereida Garza, Roger Miller, Fanco Ben Yisrad, Karran Westerman, Ralph Treviño, Joe Peña, Mario Alaniz, Adolfo Gonzalez, Jr., Delia Mendoza, Raymundo Del Bosque, Daniel D. Arriaga, Melissa Cigarroa, Anissa Calderon, Ruby Perez, and Abe Rodriguez.

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, COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO
CLERK OF COMMISSIONERS COURT**

**INVOCATION BY REV. ROGER MILLER, COMMISSIONERS COURT CHAPLAIN
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

COMMUNICATIONS

Judge Rathmell stated that lake levels are up and saw new water intake and problems that come with low lake levels.

Judge Rathmell added that we lost Retired Commissioner Garza, and retired Zapata County employees Rolando Villarreal, and Boto Botello. Sent condolences to their families.

Commissioner Solis stated that the pony league kicked off last week. He added that playground equipment in Siesta Shores Park is being assembled. Golf Course is open.

Commissioner Morales stated that the 5 de Mayo celebration took place in San Ygnacio, they had vendors and entertainment.

Sheriff Del Bosque stated that Border Patrol will meet with the judge and commissioners regarding Title 42.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve invoices from April 1, - May 4, 2023 in the amount of \$846,646.00 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 Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, 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 Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve invoices from April 1, - May 4, 2023 in the amount of \$846,646.00 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 \$9,291.95 for the month of April with a year-to-date total of \$67,892.94. Net collections were \$145,445.69 with 2022 tax collections at a rate of 86.58%.

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

ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT TO MARTINEZ ELECTRIC, LLC

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve payment to Martinez Electric, LLC in the amount of \$4,686.28 for the repairs at the Falcon Nutrition Center as requested by Hon. Paco Mendoza, Commissioner, Pct. 1.

ORDER APPROVING FEES

11 to review operations at the San Ygnacio sewage pond including possible rate increase as requested by Ralph Treviño, Water Plant Director. **Mendoza/Garza... as recommended by Water Plant Director Septic Tank Waste Disposal.....**

ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER OF \$25,000 FROM TOBACCO FUND TO REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by commissioner Morales, to approve to approve a transfer of \$25,000.00 from Tobacco Fund line item 67-800-43800 to Repair & Maintenance line item 10-543-43430 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.

ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY JOE PEÑA TO APPROVE AND SIGN MASTER SITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to table request by Joe Peña to approve and sign Master Site Communications System Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between City of Austin, Tx and Zapata County, TX.

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

ORDER TO APPROVE AND SIGN INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN COUNTIES AND CITIES ASSOCIATED WITH OPERATION LONE STAR FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve and sign Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between counties and cities associated with Operation Lone Star for Law Enforcement Services as requested by Joe Peña, 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 USE OF SHOW BARN FOR PROSPECT SHOW

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the use of the show barn on December 9, 2023 and December 10, 2023 for the Prospect Show as requested by Mario Alanis, Show Member.

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

REVIEW PROGRESS OF CARDINAL AND CRANE STREETS

Manuel Gonzalez of Premier Engineering reported on progress of Cardinal and Crane Streets. They are ready to put in prime coat and hot mix, waiting for weather to improve. (No report for the record.)

17. to review progress of Flores Drainage as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

ORDER APPROVING REPLAT OF LOTS 23 AND 24 FALCON ESTATE SUBDIVISION

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve replat of Lots 23 and 24 Falcon Estate Subdivision 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 THE FOLLOWING STREET LIGHTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the following street lights:

- a. 707 Medina Avenue
- b. 706 Falcon Avenue
- c. 715 Falcon Avenue
- d. 914 Roma Street

as requested by Hon. Roberto Garza, Commissioner Pct. 4.

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 Solis, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the following line item transfers to meet budget requirements:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Nutrition – C2	038-648-42420	Repairs and Maintenance	\$1,000.00

TO	Nutrition – C2	038-648-42616	Supplies Consumables	\$1,000.00
FROM	Nutrition – C1	038-647-42610	General Supplies	\$408.00
TO	Nutrition – C1	038-647-42616	Supplies Consumables	\$408.00
FROM	Nutrition – C1	038-647-43430	Repairs & Maintenance	\$500.00
TO	Nutrition – C1	038-647-42616	Supplies Consumables	\$500.00

as requested by Bertha Lopez, Nutrition Center Director.

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 Solis, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the following line item transfer to meet budget requirements:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Zapata Co. Water plant	080-600-43440	Rentals	\$13,400.00
TO	Zapata Co Water Plant	080-600-42610	General Supplies	\$13,400.00

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.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER SOLIS,
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MENDOZA,
TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:51 A.M.**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER SOLIS,
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MENDOZA,
TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION AT 12:08 P.M.**

**NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THE FOLLOWING ITEM DISCUSSED IN
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

19. Update on Border Wall litigation as requested by Carlos Flores, Attorney.

**NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THE FOLLOWING ITEM DISCUSSED IN
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

24. Discussion and possible action to take legal action against Zapata County Treasurer Romeo Salinas for failure and/or refusal to execute a lawful order of the Zapata County Commissioners Court as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge. Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.071, consultation with attorney.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, 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