THE STATE OF TEXAS \* COMMISSIONERS COURT

COUNTY OF KENEDY \* OF KENEDY COUNTY, TEXAS

On the 1st day of June, 2021, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., a special meeting of the Commissioners Court of Kenedy County, Texas, was held in the Kenedy County Courthouse.

**Commissioners present:**

Louis E. Turcotte, III County Judge

Joe Recio, Commissioner, Precinct No. 1

Israel Vela, Jr., Commissioner, Precinct No. 2

Sarita Armstrong-Hixon, Commissioner, Precinct No. 3

Gumecinda "Cindy" Gonzales, Commissioner, Precinct No. 4

**Also present:**

Veronica Vela, County & District Clerk

Leo Villarreal, Administrative Assistant

Jose E. Mendietta, Fire Chief

Chuck Burns

\ Sandra G. Burns

Lonnie Allen Brown

Judge J. A. Garcia

Sue Ann Garcia

Mary Mora

JP Patti Fain

Gilbert San Miguel, Sheriff’s Dept.

Allison Strauss, County Attorney

Thomas Denney, Chief Appraiser

JP Cecilia Schulz

Ruben Hernandez, Maintenance Supervisor

**Absent**:

Ramon Salinas, County Sheriff

Cynthia Salinas, County Treasurer

Irma Longoria, County Tax Assessor/Collector

Jennifer, County Treasurer’s Office

**CALL TO ORDER**

Judge Louis E. Turcotte, III called the meeting to order.

1. **Executive Session: Pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.074; Select and Appoint the County Judge to Take Effect Upon Judge Turcotte’s Resignation.**

Judge Louis E. Turcotte, III announced to the Commissioners Court of the need to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.074 regarding selection and appoint the County Judge to take effect upon his resignation.

  Commissioner Joe Recio moved and Commissioner Gumecinda “Cindy” Gonzales seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the Commissioners Court adjourn to Executive Session at 10:00 o’clock a.m. pursuant to Tex. Gov’t Code, Section 551.074 to consult regarding selection and appoint the County Judge to take effect upon Judge Turcotte’ resignation.

1. **Discuss & Act on Matters Discussed in Executive Session.**

The Commissioners’ Court returned to Open Session at 10:15 o’clock a.m.

Commissioner Joe Recio moved and Commissioner Israel Vela, Jr. seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed the item discussed in Executive Session was that Chuck Burns be appointed County Judge upon Judge Louis E. Turcotte, III’s resignation.

1. **Receive and Accept Judge Turcotte’s Resignation.**

Judge Louis E. Turcotte, III presented the Commissioners Court his resignation effective June 1, 2021.

Commissioner Gumecinda “Cindy” Gonzales moved and Commissioner Joe Recio seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that Judge Louis E. Turcotte, III’s resignation effective June 1, 2021, be accepted. The Commissioners Court proceeded to thank Judge Louis E. Turcotte, II for his 35 years of service, dedication and commitment to Kenedy County.

1. **Discuss & Act on Appointing the Selected County Judge Appointed in Executive Session.**

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon informed the Commissioners Court that it was necessary to announce and appoint the person selected during Executive Session as County Judge.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Joe Recio seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that Charles “Chuck” E. Burns be appointed County Judge of Kenedy County, Texas effective June 1, 2021. Veronica Vela, County Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Charles “Chuck” E. Burns and Charles E. Burns proceeded to sign the Oath of Office and Statement of Officer.

1. **Discuss & Act on Opening and Renting the Sam Noble Park to the General Public.**

Judge Charles E. Burns and Commissioner Joe Recio informed the Commissioners Court that the Sam Noble Park should be opened and rented to the general public commencing June 1, 2021.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Joe Recio seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the Sam Noble Park be opened and rented to the general public on the existing park hours and rental on the existing terms and fees commencing June 1, 2021.

1. **Discuss & Act on Renewal of Windstorm and Hail Insurance. ($26,965.73 due June 1, 2021)**

Judge Charles E. Burns informed the Commissioners Court that the County’s Windstorm and Hail Insurance needed to be renewed for the amount of $26,965.73 which was due on June 1, 2021.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Joe Recio seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the County’s Windstorm and Hail Insurance be renewed for the amount of $26,965.73.

1. **Discuss & Act on Opening and Accepting Proposals for Engineering Services for the Texas Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program.**

Judge Charles E. Burns informed the Commissioners Court that the Engineering Services for the Texas Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program needed to be opened and accepted; that only one proposal had been received and that was from LNV-Ardurra.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Joe Recio seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that LNV-Ardurra’s proposal be accepted as presented.

1. **Discuss & Act on Scoring the Engineering Proposals for the Texas Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program.**

Judge Charles E. Burns informed the Commissioners Court that engineering proposals for the Texas Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program needed to be scored.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Joe Recio seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that this item be tabled, due to only receiving one proposal from one applicant.

1. **Discuss & Act on Adopting Resolution Designating an Engineering Provider to Include all Eligible Activities for the Texas Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program for Application and Project Implementation.**

Judge Charles E. Burns informed the Commissioners Court that the Resolution Designating an Engineering Provider to Include All Eligible Activities for the Texas Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program for Application and Project Implementation needed to be adopted as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF KENEDY COUNTY, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PROVIDER CONTRACT FOR THE TEXAS HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE (HMA) PROJECT FUNDED THROUGH THE TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENTS (TDEM) AND/OR TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD (TWDB).

WHEREAS Kenedy County seeks assistance in pre-award and post-award engineering services, if awarded an HMA Mitigation Grant;

WHEREAS in order to identify qualified and responsive providers for these services, a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process for engineering services has been completed in accordance with Texas HMA requirements;

WHEREAS the proposal received by the due date have been reviewed to determine the most qualified and responsive provider for professional services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

Section 1. That LNV-Ardurra be awarded a contract to provide Texas HMA Application and project-related professional engineering services for the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Program; and

Section 2. That any and all contracts or commitments made with the above-names service providers are dependent on the successful negotiation of a contact with the service provider.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Israel Vela, Jr. seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the below Resolution be adopted as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF KENEDY COUNTY, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PROVIDER CONTRACT FOR THE TEXAS HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE (HMA) PROJECT FUNDED THROUGH THE TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENTS (TDEM) AND/OR TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD (TWDB).

WHEREAS Kenedy County seeks assistance in pre-award and post-award engineering services, if awarded an HMA Mitigation Grant;

WHEREAS in order to identify qualified and responsive providers for these services, a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process for engineering services has been completed in accordance with Texas HMA requirements;

WHEREAS the proposal received by the due date have been reviewed to determine the most qualified and responsive provider for professional services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

Section 1. That LNV-Ardurra be awarded a contract to provide Texas HMA Application and project-related professional engineering services for the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Program; and

Section 2. That any and all contracts or commitments made with the above-names service providers are dependent on the successful negotiation of a contact with the service provider.

1. **Discuss & Act on Awarding the Construction for Contract for CDBG Contract #7219220.**

Judge Charles E. Burns and Mary Mora informed the Commissioners Court that the contract for CDBG Contract #7219220 needed to be tabled because the LNV Engineer needed additional time to check the contractor’s references.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Joe Recio seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that this item be tabled.

1. **Discuss & Act on Awarding the Construction Contract for CDBG Contract #7219075.**

Judge Charles E. Burns and Mary Mora informed the Commissioners Court that the contract for CDBG Contract #7219075 needed to be tabled because the LNV Engineer needed additional time to check the contractor’s references.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Joe Recio seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that this item be tabled.

1. **Adjournment**.

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners’ Court, Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Israel Vela, Jr. seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the Kenedy County Commissioners Court be adjourned at 10:30 o'clock a.m.

/s/ Charles E. Burns

Charles E. Burns, County Judge

/s/ Veronica Vela

Veronica Vela, County Clerk