

Kleberg County Commissioners' Court Minutes



Amended Special Session On Monday, September 15, 2025, 1:30 P.M.

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this the 15th day of September, 2025 the Commissioners' Court of Kleberg County, Texas, met in Amended Special Session in the Courthouse Annex, of the Law Enforcement Center, 1500 E. King, Kingsville, Texas with the following present:

Kleberg County Commissioners Court:

Hon. Rudy Madrid, Co. Judge
David Rosse, Commissioner Pct. #1
Chuck Schultz, Commissioner Pct. #2
Jerry Martinez, Commissioner Pct. #3
Marcus Salinas, Commissioner Pct. #4
Salvador "Sonny" Barrera, III, County Clerk

Also present were:

Kira Talip- Sanchez, Co. Attorney
Melissa Green, Co. Auditor
Priscilla A. Cantu, Co. Treasurer, NP
Delma Trevino, Chief Deputy Clerk
Janie Espindola, Deputy Clerk

COURT WAS OPENED and called to order by Judge Madrid to consider the following agenda items, Commissioner Schultz gave the invocation and Commissioner Martinez led the Court in the Pledge of Allegiance of the United States and Texas.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Joe Cisneros III, 1201 Aaron, Corpus Christi, Texas (361-232-0232 or 361-889-9991), representing the American Red Cross and a member of its Board of Directors, addressed the Court. The Red Cross Coastal Bend Chapter serves 19 counties in the region and operates with five paid staff members, with the remainder of personnel being volunteers. The organization responds to at least 65 major disasters annually, including hurricanes, wildfires, floods, and home fires. Upon notification of a disaster, the Red Cross mobilizes volunteer teams from each county served. Additionally, the Chapter offers a program to install fire alarms in homes upon request. Mr. Cisneros requested Kleberg County's support for the Red Cross.

Robert Arguijo, P.O. Box 91, Riviera, Texas 78379, (361-296-5662), representing the Riviera Cemetery Board, addressed the Court. Mr. Arguijo requested that the road leading to the Riviera Cemetery be repaired, noting that it is in very poor condition from the highway to the cemetery entrance. He also stated that the lights in the JP 3 building are very dim and need to be replaced for safety reasons.

Fire Chief Ron Pray, presented an award to Mark Escamilla, Fire Station Chief at the Ricardo Fire Station. On August 24, 2025, Mr. Escamilla took immediate action to save the life of a 1½-year-old child who was found unresponsive in a swimming pool. By performing CPR, he successfully revived the child, preserving their life.

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AGENDA ITEM #1

In The Matter Of Discussing And Acting On Approving Payment Of Bills.

The above matter coming on for consideration, a motion was made by Commissioner Schultz and seconded by Commissioner Martinez approving to pay the bills as presented. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously and so ordered.

Bills

AMG Printing & Mailing--\$770.00
American Red Cross--\$1,961.58
Animal Medical Center--\$389.99
Priscilla A Cantu--\$571.50
Ferguson Enterprise, LLC--\$2,444.30
Julissa Gutierrez--\$307.52
Harrel-Kingsville Pharmacy--\$5,869.82
Lopes Upholstery--\$575.00
McKesson Medical Surgical--\$916.46
ODP--\$326.75
Quill Corporation--\$2,980.39
Quill Corporation--\$428.74
Quill Corporation--\$423.54
Ramos Refrigeration & A C--\$7,850.00
US Foodservice Inc.--\$2,841.12
US Foodservice Inc.--\$1,749.15
US Foodservice Inc.--\$2,464.15

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AGENDA ITEM #2

In The Matter Of Discussing And Acting On Budget Line Item Transfers.

The above matter coming on for consideration, a motion was made by Commissioner Rosse and seconded by Commissioner Martinez to approve the budget line-item transfers as presented. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously and so ordered.

Budget Line-Item Transfers

CCAP

010-695-325 to 010-695-497--\$30,000.00

District Attorney's Office

042-484-486 to 042-484-103--\$34,000.00
042-484-486 to 042-484-140-- \$300.00

District Court Expense

010-435-408 to 010-435-494--\$1,218.00

Human Services

058-637-452 to 058-637-454--\$183.00
058-637-453 to 058-637-454--\$500.00
058-637-497 to 058-637-454--\$2,564.00
058-637-459 to 058-637-354--\$200.00
058-637-481 to 058-637-354--\$50.00

Jail 512

010-512-453 to 010-512-450--\$1,101.10
010-512-453 to 010-512-450-- \$358.00
010-512-332 to 010-512-352--\$78.72

Juvenile Probation

017-570-486 to 017-570-343--\$583.98
017-570-486 to 017-570-497--\$406.25
017-570-486 to 017-570-499--\$1,788.56

Kleberg County Attorney Task Force

108-548-420 to 108-548-195--\$3,000.00
108-548-397 to 108-548-195--\$1,000.00
108-548-343 to 108-548-195--\$3,000.00

Kleberg Public Library

010-650-439 to 010-650-497--\$1,564.30

Non-Dept

010-409-202 to 010-409-430--\$800.00
010-409-400 to 010-409-204--\$1,272.80
010-409-435 to 010-409-453--\$378.76

Records Mgmt 038

038-403-493 to 038-403-104--\$1,149.00
038-403-426 to 038-403-104--\$14.66
038-403-426 to 038-403-201--\$88.47
038-403-426 to 038-403-203--\$181.36

Sheriff's Office

253-560-139 to 253-560-157--\$242.72
253-560-139 to 253-560-201--\$522.27
253-560-139 to 253-560-202--\$3,538.25
253-560-139 to 253-560-203--\$932.67

253-560-139 to 253-560-573--\$5,255.91
253-560-195 to 253-560-573--\$11,980.21
253-560-499 to 253-560-573--\$1,272.76
253-512-104 to 253-560-573--\$30,100.91
253-512-201 to 253-560-573--\$2,288.79
253-512-202 to 253-560-573--\$7,553.90
253-512-203 to 253-560-573--\$5,045.78
253-512-204 to 253-560-573--\$659.13

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AGENDA ITEM #3

In The Matter Of Discussing And Acting On Approving Budget Amendments.

The above matter coming on for consideration, a motion was made by Commissioner Schultz and seconded by Commissioner Salinas to approve the budget amendments as presented. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously and so ordered.

Budget Amendments

Energy Project Fund

210-660-669--\$2,422.47

Gomesa Grant

079-661-412--\$1,050.00

Grant D272

116-600-403--\$13,102.29

Jail 512

010-512-453--\$3,636.50
010-512-435--\$904.50
010-512-426--\$761.20
010-512-404--\$1,422.50
010-512-442--\$2,132.72

KSO Chapter 59

034-352-300--\$96,085.26
034-360-034--\$11.09
034-512-497--\$81,833.56
035-352-302--\$17,797.50
035-360-035--\$5.03

KSO Impound Wrecker

035-512-497--\$2,528.57

Sheriff

010-560-422--\$263.50
010-560-314--\$5.96
010-560-341--\$20.00
010-560-330--\$6,804.36
010-560-454--\$3,150.00
010-560-195-- \$1,298.56
010-560-121--\$2,104.00

Total Transfer Expense

010-700-088--\$300,000.00
010-700-106--\$20,000.00

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AGENDA ITEM #4

In The Matter Of Discussing And Acting On Presentation By Concerned Citizens Regarding The Status Of URI Kingsville Dome Mine.

Teo Saenz, 148 E. CR 2170, Kingsville, Texas 78363, addressed the Court regarding the restoration project at a local site. Mr. Saenz requested that the Court write to the TCEQ to obtain a detailed status report, emphasizing the need to protect the public and take a proactive approach. He provided a list of contacts he has reached out to regarding this matter, noting that no action has been taken. Additionally, he submitted a report from URI stating that groundwater restoration is complete, but raised concerns about the accuracy of the data. He noted that URI has not submitted an application for amendment and questioned whether stability sampling has been previously collected. Mr. Saenz recommended organizing a plan to continue monitoring URI and ensuring TCEQ is made aware of the company's non-compliance.

Dewey Hubert, 639 E. CR 628, Riviera, Texas 78379, addressed the Court regarding the need for clarification on stipulations of what actions are permitted under an agreement filed in December 2004. He stated that, in practice, URI has not complied with the terms of the agreement.

Commissioner Rosse suggested scheduling a workshop on this matter and requested that a representative from TCEQ be present to discuss the situation. Judge Madrid stated that he will coordinate with Senator Hinojosa and meet with TCEQ in person to address the issue. He also indicated that he will seek reimbursement of legal fees, as the restoration has not been completed as required, and confirmed that he will follow through on this matter.

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AGENDA ITEM #5

Presentation By Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc.

John Loera and Gabriel Ramirez, engineers with Civil and Environmental Consultants, Inc. (CEC), introduced themselves and their company to the Court. CEC is an employee-owned firm with 33 offices nationwide. Both Mr. Loera and Mr. Ramirez are experienced engineers with expertise in water and wastewater systems, water wells, water treatment facilities, TCEQ permits, water sampling, stormwater management, parks and recreational sites, and various types of water treatment plans.

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AGENDA ITEM #6

In The Matter Of Discussing And Acting On Receiving Bids For The Mitigation, Assistance, Resiliency & Recovery Center (MARRC) Baffin Bay, Texas.

The above matter coming on for consideration, a motion was made by Commissioner Rosse and seconded by Commissioner Salinas approved the bid submitted by RXDX, LLC. Craig Forsythe, Division Manager for ICE, oversaw the bid opening on Friday, September 12, 2025, and provided his recommendation for contract award. ICE will supervise the project. RXDX submitted a bid of \$1,270,000.00, while the only other bid received was from G&S Property Services for \$1,599,000.00. Judge Madrid confirmed that the contract price would remain fixed, which Mr. Forsythe assured would not be an issue. The Judge requested that a shower be added to the design plans and encouraged the company to hire from the local workforce. Ray De La Garza, Kleberg County Director of Maintenance, will serve as the project coordinator. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously and so ordered.

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AGENDA ITEM #7

In The Matter Of Discussing And Acting On Adopting The Budget For FY 2025-2026 .

The above matter coming on for consideration, a motion was made by Commissioner Schultz and seconded by Commissioner Salinas to adopt the budget for FY 2025-2026. County Auditor Melissa Green presented the Court with a proposed budget and a budget with adjustments for the Road & Bridge and General Fund. The proposed budget totaled \$44,610,527.93, while the adjusted budget totaled \$42,888,276.90, reflecting a difference of \$1.7 million from the bond fund. Judge Madrid thanked staff for their work on the budgets. An additional \$20 million in taxable revenue was noted, with any excess ad valorem funds to be allocated appropriately. Kleberg County will pursue a \$19 million grant to construct a nursing school. A roll call vote was taken:

- Commissioner Salinas – yes
- Commissioner Martinez – yes
- Commissioner Schultz – yes
- Commissioner Rosse – yes
- Judge Madrid – yes

The motion carried unanimously and was so ordered

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AGENDA ITEM #8

In The Matter Of Discussing And Acting On Ratifying The Property Tax Increase As Reflected In The FY 2025-2026 Budget.

The above matter coming on for consideration, a motion was made by Commissioner Schultz and seconded by Commissioner Martinez to ratify the Property Tax increase as reflected in the FY 2025-2026 Budget. Kleberg County will not be raising taxes. While the Kleberg County Appraisal District is increasing taxes, it is a separate entity and not part of the County. A roll call vote was taken:

- Commissioner Salinas – yes
- Commissioner Martinez – yes
- Commissioner Schultz – yes
- Commissioner Rosse – yes
- Judge Madrid – yes.

The motion carried unanimously and was so ordered.

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AGENDA ITEM #9

In The Matter Of Discussing And Acting On Setting The 2025 TAX Rate , No Split Payment, No Discounts Ad Granting \$12,000 Over 65 Exemption.

The above matter coming on for consideration, a motion was made by Commissioner Schultz and seconded by Commissioner Martinez to approve setting the 2025 TAX Rate. Roll call vote was taken:

- Commissioner Salinas-yes
- Commissioner Martinez-yes
- Commissioner Schultz-yes
- Commissioner Rosse-yes
- Judge Madrid-yes

Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously and so ordered.

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AGENDA ITEM #10

In The Matter Of Discussing And Acting On Approving The 2025 Tax Roll.

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AGENDA ITEM #11

In The Matter Of Discussing And Acting On Approval Of A Resolution Designating Authorized Signatories For Contractual Documents Pertaining To Local Hazard Mitigation Plans Program (LMHPP) General Land Office (GLO) For Contract No. 22-130-010-D780.

The above matter coming on for consideration, a motion was made by Commissioner Rosse and seconded by Commissioner Martinez to approve a resolution designating Authorized Signatories for Contractual Documents pertaining to local Hazzard Mitigation Plans Program (LMHPP) General Land Office (GLO) for contract No. 22-130-010-D780. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously and so ordered.

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AGENDA ITEM #12

In The Matter Of Discussing And Acting On Approval Of A Resolution Authorizing Kleberg County To Apply For Assistance Under The Economic Development Administration (EDA) FY 2025 Disaster Recovery Grant Program.

The above matter coming on for consideration, a motion was made by Commissioner Schultz and seconded by Commissioner Rosse to approve a resolution authorizing Kleberg County to apply for assistance under the Economic Development Administration (EDA) FY 2025 Disaster Recovery Grant Program. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously and so ordered.

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AGENDA ITEM #13

In The Matter Of Discussing And Acting On Approval For The County Judge To Advertise For RFP, For The FY 2025 EDA Disaster Recovery Grant Program.

The above matter coming on for consideration, a motion was made by Commissioner Rosse and seconded by Commissioner Martinez to approve County Judge, Rudy Madrid to advertise for RFP, for the FY EDA Disaster Recovery Grant Program. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously and so ordered.

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AGENDA ITEM #14

In The Matter Of Discussing And Acting On Approval For The County Judge To Designate Ricardo, Riviera, Baffin Bay and FM Rd 1355 As Colonias.

The above matter coming on for consideration, a motion was made by Commissioner Rosse and seconded by Commissioner Schultz to approve the County Judge to designate Ricardo, Riviera, Baffin Bay and FM 1355 as Colonias. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously and so ordered.

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AGENDA ITEM #15

In The Matter of Discussing And Acting On Approval Of Payment To G&S Property Services, In The Amount Of \$32,340.00 For Ditch Cleaning Work On County Road 1040.

The above matter coming on for consideration, a motion was made by Commissioner Schultz and seconded by Commissioner Martinez to approve payment to G&S Property Services in the amount of \$32,340.00 for ditch cleaning work on County Road 1040. Funding for the project will be provided from the Gomesa Grant. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously and was so ordered.

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AGENDA ITEM #16

In The Matter of Discussing And Acting On Approval Of Payment To Frank Hinds, In The Amount Of \$1,877.00, For Work On A SCAGG At Sea Wind.

The above matter coming on for consideration, a motion was made by Commissioner Rosse and seconded by Commissioner Salinas to approve payment to Frank Hinds, in the amount of \$1,877.00 for work on a SCAGG at Sea Wind. Funding for the project will be provided from the Gomesa Grant. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously and was so ordered.

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AGENDA ITEM #17

In The Matter of Discussing And Acting On Approval Of A Bad Boy Lawnmower From TAMUK, In The Amount Of \$4,500.00.

The above matter coming on for consideration, a motion was made by Commissioner Schultz and seconded by Commissioner Salinas to approve a Bad Boy Lawn Mower from TAMUK in the amount of \$4,500.00. The funding will be provided from the Gomesa Grant Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously and so ordered.

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• Conduct Any Other Business Necessary For The Proper Functioning Of County Business

- Contact was made with Tim Richardson to obtain the plans previously prepared for the EPA and DRIP grants; these plans were never utilized as the grants were not pursued. Comprehensive information has been gathered regarding septic systems in Riviera, Ricardo, and Baffin Bay, as well as all local water treatment facilities. Discussions have included the possibility of converting septic systems to sewer lines. Grant applications have been submitted for \$20 million and \$25 million, and with the recent release of funds from the Deepwater Horizon (DP Oil Spill), an additional \$250 million grant is being pursued. While the full amount may

not be secured, obtaining \$50 million would achieve objectives similar to the smaller grants. Coordination has been made with the office of Congressman Vicente Gonzalez to assist in advancing this effort. Baffin Bay ranks at the top of the state ranking board, and Tim Richardson has strongly advocated on the County's behalf. Consideration is also being given to the allocation and use of existing Gomesa funds.

- Water quality continues to be a significant concern, particularly for the citizens of Baffin Bay, who expressed strong opposition when there were concerns about potential impacts to the water. Securing these funds will provide substantial support for the Bay and will involve collaboration with the Heart Institute Research. Currently, the City of Kingsville, along with other companies, discharges approximately 2 million gallons of treated septic water into Baffin Bay.


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Pursuant to the authority granted under Government Code, Chapter 551, the Commissioner's Court may convene a closed session to discuss any of the above agenda items. Immediately before any closed session, the specific section of Government Code, Chapter 551 that provides statutory authority will be announced.

With No Further Business At Hand To Be Considered By The Court At This Time, Adjournment Was Had.



Rudy Madrid, County Judge

ATTEST:


Salvador "Sonny" Barrera, III
County Clerk
Kleberg County, Texas

