

**THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF ZAPATA  
IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS**

Be it remembered, that on this the 22<sup>th</sup> day of October, A. D., 2012, 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
	Jose Emilio Vela	Commissioner, Precinct No. 1
	Gabriel Villarreal	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
	Eddie Martinez	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
	Norberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
	Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk

**ABSENT:** Saíd Alfonso Figueroa County Attorney

**VISITORS:** Romeo Salinas, Triunfo Gonzalez, Mario Gonzalez-Davis, Auddy Hernandez, J.J. Meza, Maria I. Gutierrez, Nellie R. Treviño, Joyce Currington, Carlos Treviño, Luis L. Gonzalez, Lilonee Garza, Gus Martinez, Manuel Gonzalez, David Brown, Bill Campbell, Roy Vecchio, Fina Villarreal, Melinda Esquivel, and Gloria Vela.

**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-BONOAN, COUNTY CLERK**

**INVOCATION BY REV. BILL CAMPBELL, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Auddy Hernandez with the Judge's Office announced that there will be a candy give away on Wednesday, October 31, for the children. She encouraged all county officials to dress up. A candy table will be placed outside.

Josefina Villarreal and Melinda Esquivel from SCAN, presented the County Judge and Commissioners' with a plaque of appreciation for their support to SCAN.

Nellie Treviño, Personnel Director, advised the court that she had communicated with the insurance company and she had been told that the Nutrition Center bus which was involved in an automobile accident may be a total loss.

Mrs. Treviño also stated that her children attend South Elementary and are asking for donations for the jamaica.

Judge Rathmell also urged that parents accompany their kids and to try to keep their kids safe.

Commissioner Vela advised the court that TAC's legislative staff will be in Laredo on October 23 to hear what counties are interested in and concerned about as the 83rd legislative session approaches. These regional meetings provide an opportunity for county officials to come together and discuss legislative issues of importance to county government in preparation for the next session. Lunch will be provided free of charge.

#### **ORDER APPROVING INVOICES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices as presented 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.

#### **REPORT ON TAX SALE**

Report by Gus Martinez of Linebarger, Goggan, Blair, and Sampson on the tax sale held on October 2, 2012. Twenty-two properties were placed for tax sale. Three properties did not receive bid. One property was pulled due to Disability Deferral. One property was pulled due to letter of commitment. Three properties were paid prior to sale. Six properties entered into payment agreement, and eight properties were sold. (Report attached for the record..)

#### **ORDER APPROVING STREET CROSSING AT FLORES SUBDIVISION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a street crossing at Flores Subdivision. A connection of Fourth Street to Flores Addition II will minimize crossing unto Hwy 16 avoiding crossing accidents. Process will commence after utilities are installed as requested by Hon. Jose E. Vela, 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 TO SPLIT MONIES INTO FOUR PRECINCTS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve to split \$50,000.00 (10-409-772) into the 4 precincts for maintenance of parks.

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

#### **ORDER AUTHORIZING COUNTY TREASURER TO PAY VALERO FUEL STATEMENT FOR SEPTEMBER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to authorize County Treasurer to pay the Valero fuel statement for the month of September in the amount of \$61,839.40 in order to save \$1,050.43 for prompt payment as requested by 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 CONTRACT FOR WATER BETWEEN CITY OF SAN BENITO AND ZAPATA COUNTY WATERWORKS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a contract for water between the City of San Benito, Texas and Zapata County Waterworks for water rights for the remainder of 2012 as requested by Carlos Treviño, Jr., Water Plant Manager.

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

**ORDER AWARDING CONTRACT AND APPROVING FUNDING FOR CONSTRUCTION OF DITCH FOR INSTALLATION OF WATERLINE AT ZAPATA COUNTY LANDFILL**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to award bid to JRJ Construction, with a bid of \$30,190.00, being the lowest bidder, for construction of a 3,896 linear ft. ditch for the installation of a water line at the Zapata County landfill 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 HIRING OF JOSE E. CONTRERAS AS TREATMENT OPERATOR TRAINEE AT CHIHUAHUA AND ZAPATA TREATMENT PLANT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve hiring of Josue E. Contreras as a treatment operator trainee at the Chihuahua and Zapata Treatment Plant for vacant Slot #8 at a starting salary of \$10.25 per hour as requested by Carlos Treviño, Jr., Water Plant Manager.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TAC TO MANAGE ZAPATA COUNTY LIFE INSURANCE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve TAC to manage the Zapata County Life Insurance at a lower rate of .23 cents per \$100.00 as requested by Nellie R. Treviño, Personnel Director.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REVISION OF RESOLUTION PASSED OCTOBER 22, 2012 AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND GRANT PROGRAM CHANGING REVISED FUNDING REQUEST TO \$293,417.50**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the revision of resolution passed October 22, 2012 authorizing the submission of an application to

the Community Development Fund Grant Program changing the revised funding request to \$293,417.50, which is the new amount agreed by the STDC eight eligible grant participants under the gentlemen's agreement. This is an increase of \$32,601.95 over the original allocated amount as requested by Mario Gonzalez-Davis, Project Coordinator and 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 AWARDING CONTRACT FOR BORING THROUGH WET AREA OF VELEÑO BRIDGE UTILITY RELOCATION PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to award contract to Valley Boring Services, the lowest bidder, with a bid in the amount of \$657,900.00 for 1700 ft of 24" steel case bore, for boring through wet area of the Veleño Bridge Utility Relocation Project as recommended by Premier Engineering.

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

#### **STATUS REPORT ON AT&T INTERNET SERVICE AT ZAPATA COUNTY TECHNICAL ADVANCED EDUCATION CENTER**

Dr. David Brown of the Tech Center reported that Oil and Gas OSEA Certification classes were being offered. Students were funded by the Texas Migrant Council at \$3,000.00 per student. However, there were only three students and they attended classes at TSTC at Harlingen for 8 hours per day for 8 days. Students go to training and are then placed for employment with oil and gas companies.

Dr. Brown also reported on the AT&T connectivity of the Tech Center. He stated that the center's connectivity is compatible with that of higher education centers. Time Warner only offers dedicated lines while AT&T offers faster T1 lines. The center needs fiber optic lines that cannot be provided by Time Warner. Even if service would be provided by Time Warner, they could not provide voice and AT&T would still have to provide voice. AT&T can provide fiber optic circuit for both voice and internet for \$2,000.00 per month. AT&T would like to be at the next commissioners' court meeting to present a slide show of what they have to offer.

Judge Rathmell asked if the internet was necessary since no distance learning is being held. Dr. Brown responded that if internet is disconnected they will not be able to do any computer classes. Tech center hosts Region 1 TEA. County pays custodian and internet. Commissioner Martinez stated that ZISD should contribute.

#### **ORDER APPROVING RENEWAL RATES FOR DENTAL AND VISION PLANS 2013**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the renewal rates for the dental and vision plan 2013, prices will remain the same, as requested by Nellie R. Treviño, Personnel Director.

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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the installation of the following street lights:

- a. 809 Delmar Street - Zapata town site
- b. 2009 Glenn Street - Zapata town site
- c. 200 Guerrero Street - Morales Subdivision (Chihuahua Ranch)
- d. 202 Sixth Street - Flores Addition II

as requested by Hon. Jose E. Vela, Commissioner Pct. 1.

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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the installation of the following street light:

- a. 151 Trinity Lane - Zapata

as requested by Hon. Gabriel Villarreal, 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 RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF “FY 2013 INDIGENT DEFENSE COMMISSION FORMULA GRANT”**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve a resolution in support of the “FY 2013 Indigent Defense Commission Formula Grant” 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 RESOLUTION AND PARTICIPATE IN SOUTH TEXAS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND CONFIRM THE APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM ZAPATA COUNTY TO SERVE ON BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve resolution in support and participate in the South Texas Development Council and to confirm the appointment of Judge Rathmell and Commissioner Martinez as representatives from the County of Zapata to serve on the Board of Directors of the South Texas Development Council for the period of October 1, 2012 - September 30, 2013 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.

**ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, 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.

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JOSEPH RATHMELL, COUNTY JUDGE  
ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

ATTEST:

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MARY JAYNE VILLARREAL-BONOAN  
COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO CLERK  
OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF  
ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS