

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

Be it remembered, that on this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April A. D., 2013, 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
	Saíd Alfonso Figueroa	County Attorney
	Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk

**VISITORS:** Romeo Salinas, Triunfo Gonzalez, Auddy Hernandez, Nellie R. Treviño, Brian J. Martinez, Juan J. Meza, Maria I. Gutierrez, Roger Miller, Jorge Flores, Mike Chapa, Carlos Treviño, Jr., Jose Luis Hernandez, Joyce Currington, Sean Kamber, Diana C. Villarreal, Luis Lauro Gonzalez, Delia Mendoza, Marisa Ramirez, Eddie Gracia and Rex A. Costley.

**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. ROGER MILLER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ORDER APPROVING MINUTES OF MARCH 11, 2013 AND  
MARCH 25, 2013**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve the Minutes of **March 11, 2013**, and **March 25, 2013**, as presented by Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan, County Clerk.

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

### **MONTHLY REPORT OF ZAPATA FAMILY MEDICAL CLINIC**

Mr. Sean Kamber of Laredo Medical Center presented Commissioners Court with the monthly report for March 2013. Patient numbers continue to be consistent and continue to increase. The clinic will be implementing electronic medical records by the end of May.

Commissioner Martinez mentioned that he had received complaints regarding the restrooms; restrooms are needed in the lobby area. Janitors only work four hours per day, however, the rotation will be changed.

### **REPORT BY JOE HERNANDEZ, BORDER KNIGHTS SECURITY**

Mr. Joe Hernandez, Owner of Border Knights Security, introduced his business and offered security services to the County. The office is currently located at the apartments on Madison Drive. Mr. Hernandez stated that his company has previously provided security services at the Jalapeño Festival, Vaquero Festival and Rattlesnake Round-up.

### **MONTHLY REPORT BY ZAPATA COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR**

Luis Lauro Gonzalez, Zapata County Tax Assessor/Collector, reported Hotel/Motel Tax in the amount of \$17,339.77. A grand total of \$68,881.75 has been collected for the current fiscal year (October - 2012 - March 2013). A current year's tax collections are at 92% average.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Nellie Ramirez, Personnel Director, advised the court that TCDRS will be here April 10-11 for individual sessions.

### **ORDER APPROVING INVOICES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices as presented by Triunfo Gonzalez, County Auditor. Commissioner Vela commented that three invoices payable to Zapata Quick Lube have been cancelled.

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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve checks issued as requested by Hon. Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer. Including a check for the Falcon Mesa Colonia Project in the amount of \$15,000.00.

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 Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve Treasurer’s Report as presented 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 TO TABLE REQUEST BY COUNTY JUDGE TO CHOOSE AN OPTION GIVEN BY TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN REGARDS TO ARROYO VELEÑO BRIDGE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, to choose option three. Commissioner Villarreal rescinded his motion and opted for option four, Commissioner Garza seconded the motion. Motion died.

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to table the request made by County Judge to choose an option given by the Texas Department of Transportation in regards to the Arroyo Veleño Bridge.

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

**ORDER APPROVING FOUR-WAY STOP AT INTERSECTION OF FALCON SHORES DRIVE AND MARTINEZ / SANCHEZ STREET**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve a Four-Way stop at the intersection of Falcon Shores Drive and Martinez / Sanchez Street in the newly settled Veleño Estates Subdivision 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 AMEND PERSONNEL POLICY REGARDING RETIREE HEALTH BENEFITS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Villarreal, to approve to amend Personnel Policy regarding retiree health benefits 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 TO TABLE REQUEST BY CHARLIE AVARITT, AIRPORT MANAGER AND MARIO GONZALEZ-DAVIS, PROJECT COORDINATOR REGARDING CONTRACTING BRANNON CORP. TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WITH DESIGN AND FAA DETERMINATION AND PERMITTING TO ALLOW THE REPLACEMENT OF THE NORTH END AIRPORT PROPERTY FENCE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to table request by Charlie Avaritt, Airport Manager and Mario Gonzalez-Davis, Project Coordinator, regarding contracting Brannon Corp. to provide engineering and technical assistance with design and FAA determination and permitting to allow the replacement of the north end airport property fence. A new temporary 8 foot deer proof fence will be installed as per the agreement with the Ramirez Family, who will provide additional property required to meet the instrument approach parameter.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REPORT PROVIDED BY FLORES AUDITING PLLC REGARDING AN APPROVED AUDIT FOR SPECIAL ACCOUNT NUMBER 109 8977**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the report provided by Flores Auditing PLLC regarding an approved audit for special account number 109 8977 approved on October 2012 as requested by Jorge Flores, Flores Auditing, PLLC.

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

**ORDER APPROVING AMENDMENT OF ARM ORDINANCE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the amendment of the ARM Ordinance to increase fee from \$500 to \$1,000 per machine with a \$250.00 late fee, application must be done before June 1, application done after June 30 will be assessed the \$250.00 late fee. Effective date of increase is April 25, 2013 as requested by Brian Martinez, Zapata County Judge's Office.

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 RIO GRANDE REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP (RGWPG) (REGION M) REQUEST**

Motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve resolution in support of the Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Group (RGWPG) (Region M) request that United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission and the United State Department of State to pursue through appropriate Minute Orders and formal agreements whereby Mexico (1) in the short term agrees to make up current five (5) year cycle annual deficits, restore the Unites States 78,000 acre-feet used to mitigate salinity in the lower Rio

Grande and institute correct accounting of water at Fort Quitman, Texas, as 100% United States water and (2) in the long term that Mexico formalizes a compliance program under the 1944 Treaty to annually set aside water in sufficient amounts, as a priority allocation to the United States from the named tributaries in Mexico to ensure Mexico's full compliance with the 1944 Treaty as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

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 GARZA,  
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER VILLARREAL,  
TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GARZA,  
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER VELA,  
TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION**

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$12,000.00,  
FOR THREE LAWSUITS FILED AGAINST FORMER ZAPATA COUNTY  
EMPLOYEES WHILE SERVING ON THE CACST BOARD**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve payment, in an amount not to exceed \$12,000.00, for three lawsuits filed against former Zapata County employees while serving on the CACST Board as requested by Nellie R. Treviño, Personnel Director. *Executive Session in requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters).*

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

**NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON REQUEST BY COUNTY JUDGE REGARDING  
REVIEW ON WHETHER ZAPATA COUNTY EMPLOYEE MANUAL POLICIES  
WERE VIOLATED BY ZAPATA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES IN  
REGARDS TO RECORDING AND POSTING VIDEOS ONLINE**

No action was taken regarding the review on whether any Zapata County Employee Manual policies were violated by Zapata County Fire Department employees in regards to the recording and posting of videos online as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

*Executive Session in requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters).*

**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