

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 10th day of August A. D., 2015, 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
Olga M. Elizondo	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Eddie Martinez	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Norberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk

VISITORS: Triunfo Gonzalez, Romeo Salinas, Nellie R. Treviño, Brian Martinez, Maria I. Gutierrez, Roger Miller, Juan J. Meza, Marisol Ramirez, Corando Barrera, Betty M. Lopez, Zaragoza Rodriguez IV, Juan H. Navarro, Myrna Bustamante, Delia Mendoza, Luis L. Gonzalez, Ray Del Bosque, Ramon E. Montes, Florence Chambers, Yanira Salinas, Zaragoza Rodriguez III, Connie Chevin, Tammy Rodriguez, Mine Arambula, and Rebeka Longoria.

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**

COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Elizondo thanked Raymond Bruni for donating the caliche for Aguilares Road.

Judge Rathmell, received a call from Robert Gonzalez regarding the Guadalupe and Lilia Martinez fund. They will be contributing to the Jump Start Program. They have contributed approximately 1.2 million dollars.

Marisol Ramirez approached the Court regarding volunteering at the animal control. She stated that 50 animals have not been adopted. She would run animal campaign for shelter for the adoption of pets.

**ORDER APPROVING COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES OF
JUNE 8 AND 22 AND JULY 13, 2015**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve Commissioners Court Minutes of June 8 and 22, and July 13, 2015 as presented by Hon. 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.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices as presented by Triunfo Gonzalez. Commissioner Vela stated that salaries may not be paid with purchase orders.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of Commissioner Garza, Martinez, and Elizondo. Commissioner Vela voted against. Motion carried.

ORDER APPROVING TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Elizondo, 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 Garza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve checks issued 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

Luis L. Gonzalez, Tax Assessor/Collector, reported collections of Motel-Hotel Tax in an amount of \$14,883.66 for a year to date collection of \$191,930.58. Tax collections were \$115,444.17 with YTD collections at 91.48%.

FERNANDO HERNANDEZ RECOGNITION FOR RETIRING AFTER 35 YEARS OF SERVICE TO ZAPATA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fernando Hernandez was recognized for retiring with 35 years of service at the Zapata County Fire Department as requested by Nellie R. Treviño, Personnel Director.

ORDER TO TABLE CONVEYANCE OF RAMIREÑO WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION TO ZAPATA COUNTY

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to table request by Judge Rathmell regarding conveyance of the Ramireño Water Supply Corporation to Zapata County. Jeff Snowden reported that income is generated from water haulers in the area.

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

**ORDER APPROVING ZAR RODRIGUEZ AS TEXAS A & M AGRILIFE
EXTENSION CANDIDATE RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNTY EXTENSION
AGENT – AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES POSITION SERVING
ZAPATA COUNTY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve Zar Rodriguez as the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension candidate recommendation for the County Extension Agent - Agriculture and Natural Resources position serving Zapata County effective September 1, 2015 as requested by Ruben Saldaña, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension.

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

ORDER SETTING 2016 SHERIFFS' AND CONSTABLES' FEES

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the setting of the 2016 Sheriffs' and Constables' fees at their current rates 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 ANNUAL INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR E911 PUBLIC
SAFETY ANSWERING SERVICES BETWEEN CITY OF LAREDO AND ZAPATA
COUNTY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the annual Interlocal Agreement for E911 Public Safety Answering Services between the City of Laredo and Zapata County 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 CREATION OF G/L ACCOUNT NUMBER 10-370-915
(RETIREES HEALTH INSURANCE) TO PROPERLY RECORD INCOME
COLLECTED FROM COUNTY RETIREES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the creation of income G/L account number 10-370-915 (Retirees Health Insurance) to properly record income collected from County retirees 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 PURCHASE OF DIGITAL CAMERA FOR JUSTICE OF THE
PEACE PRECINCT 1 FROM TECHNOLOGY FUND**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the purchase of a digital camera, in the amount of \$948.95, for the Justice of the Peace Precinct 1 office from the Technology Fund (62-582-392) as requested by Hon. Anna M. Guerra, Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1.

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

ORDER AWARDING ZAPATA COUNTY HEALTH INSURANCE TO TAC BEING THE LOWEST BIDDER

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to award the Zapata County Health Insurance to TAC, being the lowest bidder, as per Request for Proposal 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 THE 2015-2016 HOLIDAY, COMMISSIONERS COURT AND PAY CALENDAR

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the 2015-2016 Holiday, Commissioners Court, and Pay calendar 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 PURCHASE OF INCENTIVES FOR EMPLOYEES WHO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN HEALTHY COUNTY PROGRAMS WITH MONIES FROM EMPLOYEE REWARDS REFUND

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the purchase of incentives for employees who actively participate in the Healthy County Programs with monies from Employee Rewards Refund 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 TO TRANSFER \$10,000 FROM TOBACCO FUND (37-800-352) TO FIRE DEPARTMENT MEDICAL SUPPLIES (10-543-460) FOR PURCHASE OF MEDICATIONS

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve to transfer \$10,000 from the Tobacco Fund (67-800-352) to Fire Department Medical Supplies (10-543-460) for the purchase of medications as requested by Chief Juan J. Meza, Fire Chief.

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

ORDER APPROVING USE OF LITTLE LEAGUE FIELD IN PRECINCT 4 AND USE OF LIGHTS ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS FROM 5:30 PM – 9:30 PM FOR YOUTH BASEBALL PROGRAM

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the use of the Little League Field in Precinct 4 and the use of lights on Tuesdays and Thursdays, for a total of 32 days, from 5:30 PM - 9:30 PM for a youth baseball program

organized by John Lane as requested by Ramiro Hernandez and authorize Commissioner Garza to negotiate days of use.

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

**ORDER APPROVING ALL NIGHT USE OF ALREADY APPROVED FIELDS
FOR ANNUAL CLASH OF THE CLASSES TOURNAMENT AUGUST 21
THROUGH AUGUST 22 AND USE OF D.J. MUSIC UNTIL
MIDNIGHT ON AUGUST 21 AND 1 AM ON AUGUST 23**

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the all night use of already approved fields for the Annual Clash of the Classes tournament on Friday, August 21st through Saturday, August 22nd and the use of D.J. music until midnight on the 21st and 1 A.M. on the 23rd as requested by Corando Barrera, Clash of the Classes Chair.

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

THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

24. Discussion and possible action to consider continuing opposition to the renewal permit for the J. Moss Investments (JMI) Land Treatment Facility, the potential hiring of professional services, and to set a budget for expenses as requested by Hon. Joseph Rathmell, County Judge.

ORDER APPROVING CONSENT ITEMS

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the reinstallation of a speed hump at the following address:

a. 2106 Alamo Street

as requested by Hon. Olga Elizondo, Commissioner Pct. 3.

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 Vela, to approve the installation of a street light at the following address:

b. 5120 Mission Lane

as requested by Hon. Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Pct. 3

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 Vela, to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
FROM	County Clerk	10-403-484	Elections	\$2,500.00
TO	County Clerk	10-403-462	Equipment Rental	\$2,500.00

as requested 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.

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the following line item transfer to correct over budget funds:

	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
FROM	Non-Department	10-409-444	Electricity	\$20,000.00
TO	Non-Department	10-409-445	Water	\$20,000.00
FROM	Non-Department	10-409-336	Supplies General	\$500.00
TO	Non-Department	10-409-465	Repairs	\$500.00
FROM	Non-Department	10-409-336	Supplies General	\$1,500.00
TO	Non-Department	10-409-431	Supplies General	\$1,500.00

as requested 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.

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Vela, to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
FROM	Juvenile Probation	10-570-512	Juvenile Detention	\$2,000.00
TO	Juvenile Probation	10-570-427	Workshop & Travel	\$2,000.00
FROM	Juvenile Probation	10-570-512	Juvenile Detention	\$1,000.00
TO	Juvenile Probation	10-570-310	Office Supplies	\$1,000.00

as requested by Sandy J. Pippin-Gomez, Chief Probation Officer.

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 Vela, to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
FROM	Aviation	10-667-457	Fuel Purchase	\$4,500.00
TO	Aviation	10-667-458	Contract Service	\$4,500.00

as requested by Charles Avaritt, Airport Manager.

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 Vela, to approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
FROM	Zapata Co. Waterworks	80-600-443	Electricity	\$3,000.00
TO	Zapata Waste Water	08-602-121	Sewer Plant Overtime	\$3,000.00

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 RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATE IN THE SOUTH TEXAS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND CONFIRM APPOINTMENT OF JUDGE RATHMELL AND COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ AS REPRESENTATIVES FROM COUNTY OF ZAPATA, TEXAS TO SERVE OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SOUTH TEXAS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Motion was made by Commissioner Vela, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a Resolution to Support and Participate in the South Texas Development Council and confirm the appointment of Judge Rathmell and Commissioner Martinez as representatives from the County of Zapata, Texas to serve on the Board of Directors of the South Texas Development Council for the period of October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015 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.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GARZA,
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ,
TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY JUDGE RATHMELL REGARDING CONTINUING OPPOSITION TO RENEWAL PERMIT FOR J. MOSS INVESTMENTS (JMI) LAND TREATMENT FACILITY

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to table request by Judge Rathmell regarding the discussion and possible action to consider continuing opposition to the renewal permit for the J. Moss Investments (JMI) Land Treatment Facility, the potential hiring of professional services, and to set a budget for expenses. *[Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).*

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.

JOSEPH RATHMELL, COUNTY JUDGE
ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

ATTEST:

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